

# CET GAP YEAR

INTENSIVE ARABIC, CHINESE,  
ITALIAN, & JAPANESE

# WHY GAP WITH CET?

**Because your language skills grow by leaps and bounds.** CET gap programs offer college-level intensive language instruction in a supportive and caring environment. The result is remarkable gains in your language skills, potentially completing college language requirements or testing into a higher level. Community engagement opportunities, including volunteering, provide plenty of chances to use your new language skills in real-world settings.

**Because CET has been running intensive language programs for 35+ years.** We have provided academically rigorous language instruction since our first program opened in Beijing in 1982. Our success in China inspired other programs around the world, and you benefit from this experience. You learn alongside CET college students with tried-and-true instructors committed to strengthening your language skills in and out of the classroom.

**Because we've got the support you need.** Going overseas, especially for the first time, requires synching up a lot of moving parts. We make the process simple and straightforward. Our online application process and pre-departure resources take you through preparations one step at a time. And once on site, our overseas staff ensure you have the tools you need to live independently in a new culture and maximize your experience abroad.

**Because CET programs change more than just your gap year.** Maybe a fluent sentence confidently rolls off your tongue after weeks of struggling in class. Maybe a class assignment inspires a career path you had never considered before. Maybe a late-night chat with your roommate gets you re-reading a book you haven't picked up in years. At a CET program, it's not just about what you learn while abroad. It's about seeing where that learning takes you once you're back home.

# CHOOSE YOUR GAP PROGRAM

## GAP AT CET BEIJING

- Available Fall, Spring, or Summer
- Learn a full year of Chinese in one term
- Live in a dorm with a Chinese roommate

## GAP AT CET SIENA

- Available Fall or Spring
- Study Italian and volunteer in Siena
- Live in a homestay with an Italian family and another student

## GAP AT CET JAPAN

- Available Fall or Spring
- Learn a full year of Japanese in one term
- Live in an apartment or sharehouse with CET and Japanese roommates

## GAP AT CET JORDAN

- Available Fall, Spring, or Summer
- Study Arabic and volunteer in Amman
- Live with a Jordanian roommate, meet weekly with your language partner



# GAP AT CET BEIJING

This program was **beyond helpful to my language skills, personal growth**, and increasing my sense of responsibility, all of which have been and will continue to be **essential in my journey to college**.

— Clara Grillo, Gap at CET Beijing, Summer 2019

## ACADEMICS IN THE SPRING OR FALL

### INTENSIVE CHINESE LANGUAGE

266 hours. 17 credits.

- Small group lecture
- Small group drill and discussion
- One-on-one practice
- One-on-two drill
- Advanced students' curriculum includes electives in Chinese Newspaper Reading, Business Chinese, and Classical Chinese.





## Dates, Fees, Credits

### SPRING 2020

Application Deadline: 11/1/19

Arrival Date: 2/12/20

Departure Date: 5/31/20

### FALL 2020

Application Deadline: 5/1/20

Arrival Date: 8/26/20

Departure Date: 12/13/20

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PROGRAM LENGTH: 16 weeks

PROGRAM FEE: \$12,590

OPTIONAL COLLEGE CREDIT: 17

LANGUAGE PLEDGE: Full-time

PREREQUISITE: None

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## LOCAL ROOMMATES & STAFF SUPPORT

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- You live in a dorm on our centrally-located campus with a Chinese college student. Your Chinese roommate helps you maintain your language pledge and teaches you to navigate Beijing like a local.
- Meet weekly with other gap students and your Resident Director to ask questions and process your experience. Your RD can help with everything from setting up your local phone to coping with the language pledge and understanding Chinese culture.

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## ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS

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- Visit a new city with CET each term. You might see the Terra Cotta soldiers in Xi'an or walk the city wall in Nanjing.
- Explore the vibrant city of Beijing, from the art and antique markets to the Summer Palace and Tian'anmen Square.

Try to become good friends with a roommate or two. **Speaking Chinese every day with a Chinese person my age** helped my Chinese improve as much as my actual classes.

— Will Schwarzer, Carleton College, Fall 2018



# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Get to know some of the staff who will support your experience abroad. These and other on-site staff will be there to guide you through your entire term and ensure you have someone to go to when you have questions about your assignments, need to see a doctor, or want to explore a new part of the city.

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## BEIJING

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### ZHU LI, DIRECTOR OF CHINA PROGRAMS



Zhu Li has taken on many roles with CET: first as a teacher in the early 1990s, then as Academic Director in Beijing in 2004, and now as Director of China programs. The author of numerous publications and the recipient of many teaching awards, Zhu Li brings to the program superior teaching skills, and has trained countless Chinese language teachers over the years. She has also served as Chinese instructor in the US, China, and Germany, and has taught all levels and aspects of

Chinese language. Gap students benefit from Zhu Li's teacher training and support of the instructors that you will interact with on a daily basis.

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## SIENA

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### VICTORIA VAN LUIT, CET SIENA PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Victoria grew up in California and studied at the University of California San Diego. In 1998, she participated in a UCSD study abroad program in Siena, an experience that changed her life. Victoria has been in Siena ever since, marrying her Italian husband and raising their two daughters, and working in study abroad. She has worked at the UC Siena Study Abroad Center and Dante Alighieri Siena. Victoria has a keen understanding of student cultural adjustment and other issues

related to living abroad. She is committed to making CET Siena a profound study abroad experience for gap students.

# GAP AT CET SIENA

Saying I made the right decision is an understatement. I truly cannot express how grateful I am for the CET Siena program. I made **lifelong relationships with my host mom, teachers, and friends**, and I look forward to my return to Siena one day.

— Stephanie Schor, Vanderbilt University, Spring 2018

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## ACADEMICS IN THE SPRING OR FALL

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### INTENSIVE ITALIAN LANGUAGE

105 hours. 6 to 8 credits.

- All levels, beginning to advanced.

### INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

45 hours. 3 credits. Taught in English.

- Core course focuses on theory, knowledge, and skills needed to negotiate intercultural situations with a focus on Sienese and Sicilian contexts.
- Includes 4-day Traveling Seminar to Sicily.





## Dates, Fees, Credits

### SPRING 2020

Application Deadline: 10/1/19

Arrival Date: 1/22/20

Departure Date: 5/9/20

### FALL 2020

Application Deadline: 5/1/20

Arrival Date: 9/2/20

Departure Date: 12/19/20

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PROGRAM LENGTH: 15 weeks

PROGRAM FEE: \$15,590

COLLEGE CREDIT: 9-11

LANGUAGE PLEDGE: None

PREREQUISITE: None

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## HOMESTAYS & VOLUNTEERING

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- Live in a homestay with an Italian host and at least one other student. While homestay compositions vary, each family is vetted and shares a desire to help you practice your Italian and explore Sienese culture.
- Spend 2 to 3 afternoons each week volunteering at a local organization. You might participate in food preparation and service at a local soup kitchen or plan activities to assist migrant and refugee young people.

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## ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS

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- As part of the *Intercultural Communication* course, you take a Traveling Seminar to Sicily. Discuss stereotypes in Italian and Sicilian media. Meet with an anti-mafia group. Take a guided hike around Mount Etna.
- Explore Tuscany on your own. Bike through the countryside, relax in the hot springs, or visit the nearby towns of Montepulciano and Arezzo.

All of the teachers and staff of CET are some of the most helpful people I have met. It is clear that they **care about the students and want them to succeed.**

— Owen Little, University of Virginia, Spring 2018

# GAP AT CET JAPAN

It's a unique experience, being in a completely different culture. I **learned so much about everyday life in Japan**, such as how to use public baths, manga cafés, convenience stores, and more.

— Jeff Hart, Brandeis University, Fall 2018

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## ACADEMICS IN THE SPRING OR FALL

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### INTENSIVE JAPANESE LANGUAGE

188 hours. 12 credits.

- Explore Osaka with *Japanese in Daily Life* and gain experience with day-to-day tasks like navigating the train system.
- Use your *Language Project* to interview local residents about your chosen topic. You could choose anything from how high schoolers view LGBTQ issues to music trends in Japan.
- Curriculum includes 8 hours of one-on-one instruction.

### OPTIONAL ELECTIVE

Taught in English or Japanese at Osaka Gakuin University.

Hours vary. 1.5 or 3 credits each.

- Japanese Business Culture & Practices
- Power of Japanese Pop Culture
- Japanese Technology Companies
- Japan's Environmental Issues
- The Performing Arts & Fine Arts in Japan





## Dates, Fees, Credits

### SPRING 2020

Application Deadline: 10/1/19

Arrival Date: 1/13/20

Departure Date: 5/17/20

### FALL 2020

Application Deadline: 5/1/20

Arrival Date: 8/22/20

Departure Date: 12/20/20

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PROGRAM LENGTH: 17-18 weeks

PROGRAM FEE: \$15,590

OPTIONAL COLLEGE CREDIT: 12-15

LANGUAGE PLEDGE: Limited

PREREQUISITE: None

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## LOCAL ROOMMATES & SUPPORT STAFF

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- Live with a Japanese roommate and other CET students in an apartment or sharehouse. Your housing provides you the quiet of a residential neighborhood and the benefit of quick train access to the rest of the city.
- Meet weekly with on-site staff and other gap students to process your experience, get tips on living with a Japanese roommate, and learn more about life in Japan.

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## ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS

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- The program takes you on an overnight trip to an off-the-beaten path destination. Go to Kagawa and learn to make pottery. Or to Mie and see the Ise Grand Shrine.
- Explore the downtown area of Dotonbori: shop at the Pokémon Center, enjoy a karaoke night, and take a selfie in front of the Glico running man.

The trips are great in that they give us the rare opportunity to actually **explore Japan and explore what we've learned in the classroom.**

— Sarah Bradbury, Lewis & Clark College, Spring 2019

# GAP AT CET JORDAN

During my time in Jordan, I gained an extremely strong **command of both dialect and Modern Standard Arabic**. I would not have been able to advance my language skills or gain this level of cultural understanding without CET.

— Talia Inbar, Tufts University, Spring 2018

## ACADEMICS IN THE SPRING OR FALL

### MODERN STANDARD ARABIC

105 hours. 6 credits.

- All levels, from novice to advanced.

### JORDANIAN DIALECT

56 hours. 3 credits.

### OPTIONAL LANGUAGE ELECTIVE

45 hours. 3 credits.

- Living Language: Jordanian Dialect in Popular Culture
- Living Language: Modern Standard Arabic in Practice

## TAKE A YEAR OF ARABIC IN JUST ONE SEMESTER

You cover one year of university-level Arabic in a semester. To make sure these gains are on the record, you take an Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI). Your OPI scores will add credibility and shine to a college application or résumé.



## Dates, Fees, Credits

### SPRING 2020

Application Deadline: 11/1/19

Arrival Date: 1/19/20

Departure Date: 5/7/20

### FALL 2020

Application Deadline: 5/1/20

Arrival Date: 9/6/20

Departure Date: 12/18/20

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PROGRAM LENGTH: 15 weeks

PROGRAM FEE: \$12,590

OPTIONAL COLLEGE CREDIT: 9-12

LANGUAGE PLEDGE: Limited

PREREQUISITE: None

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## LOCAL ROOMMATES & VOLUNTEERING

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- You live in an apartment with a local roommate, fully embracing Jordanian life, culture, and ways of doing things. You are walking distance from campus, supermarkets, restaurants, and cafés.
- Spend 2 days every week volunteering at a local organization. You might organize sports events for youth in the community or create resources to support survivors of domestic violence.

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## ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS

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- Take an overnight excursion that includes the Dead Sea, an early morning tour of Petra, a jeep ride through the red cliffs of Wadi Rum, and a fireside lecture about Bedouin culture.
- In Amman, try your hand at Arabic calligraphy, learn to cook Jordanian dishes, or meet with a member of the Jordanian Parliament.

I came to CET Jordan with zero Arabic experience and I am **leaving with more than just a new language**—I am leaving with a new outlook on world issues pertaining to the Middle East.

— Rolando Hernandez, American University, Spring 2019



# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Get to know some of the staff who will greet you once abroad. These and other on-site staff will be there to guide you through your entire term and ensure you have someone to go to when you have questions about your homework, need to see a doctor, or want to explore a new part of the city.

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## JORDAN

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### MANAL YOSEF, CET JORDAN ACADEMIC DIRECTOR



Manal Yosef has over a decade of experience teaching Arabic as a foreign language at CET, the Arabic Flagship Overseas program, the Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA) program, and the University of Damascus. As Academic Director, Manal manages all issues related to Arabic curricula, including developing syllabi, overseeing language instruction and the language partner program, and conducting teacher training seminars. Gap students benefit from the ways

Manal infuses Arabic language-learning into all areas of the program. You'll learn Arabic in class, of course, but also during a cooking class at your apartment and on the bus to Wadi Rum.

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## JAPAN

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### MALIKA WATSON, CET JAPAN RESIDENT DIRECTOR



Malika oversees daily life in Osaka for CET Japan students. She handles housing, excursions, and day-to-day logistics, and is trained in emergency prevention and management. Malika studied at CET Japan in the Spring of 2012 and then worked at CET headquarters in the US from 2015 to 2017. She supports gap students as they integrate into Japanese culture. She is part of a team in Osaka that also includes several academic staff who support all classroom-related activities.

# SAFETY & SUPPORT **ABROAD**

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## FOCUS ON **HEALTH & SAFETY**

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CET has decades of experience and a strong track record with risk and crisis management. We rely on careful planning and preparation, overseas staff with local knowledge and contacts, professional resources in the US and abroad, and regular review of and communication about potential issues. In each location, we have identified appropriate medical facilities and all students are covered by comprehensive health and medical evacuation insurance included in the program fee. As part of our commitment to the health and safety of students, we recognize that communication with parents is critical. CET staff are available 24/7 through an on-call system to provide support should any health, safety, or security concerns arise during the program.

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## GAP **STUDENT SUPPORT**

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Gap students participate in their programs alongside CET college students, with shared coursework and extracurricular activities. The cohort of gap students is housed together, if possible, and has weekly meetings to address and process the unique needs of this group. These meetings may cover such topics as cultural adjustment, volunteer placement support, and college planning.



[cetacademicprograms.com](http://cetacademicprograms.com)





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## FULL-TIME, BILINGUAL, ON-SITE STAFF

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Each CET program is staffed by full-time, year-round professionals familiar with the location and fluent in the local language. Resident Directors, Academic Directors, faculty, language teachers, student life coordinators, and others are available to assist and support students during their entire experience, from in-country orientation through the end of the program and beyond.

The program staff were **more than helpful**. They were always **incredibly kind and comforting**, and you could always tell they wanted what was the best for the students. After this summer, the program staff felt like my second family.

— Kassidy Orrender, CET Jordan, Western Kentucky University, Summer 2018

# LET'S GET STARTED

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## ELIGIBILITY & INCLUSION

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Students who have received a high school diploma but have not yet matriculated into a college or university degree program are eligible for CET Gap programs. Students must also be 18 years old or older at the time of program participation (or earlier, in some cases, due to visa requirements). We believe in making study abroad accessible to all students. We recruit and actively support academically qualified students of all races, religions, origins, abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations.

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## ADMISSIONS

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CET Gap students are motivated high school graduates who are interested in focusing on language acquisition during a challenging and rewarding gap experience for a semester, an academic year, or a summer. CET advisors are available to assist you in determining the best fit for your goals. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis until the final application deadline. Applications are generally expected to have a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

The online application includes submission of:

- An application form including short essays
- An official high school transcript
- Transcripts for any college-level courses taken
- One letter of recommendation from a teacher or professor
- A short phone interview with a CET staff member

**START AN APPLICATION** at [www.cetacademicprograms.com/gap-year](http://www.cetacademicprograms.com/gap-year)

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## CET SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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We are committed to increasing access to study abroad for gap students. CET has a financial assistance pool for students who demonstrate family financial need.

**It's easy to apply.** Fill out the financial assistance application in your online account. Ask a parent or guardian to submit the required financial information. You will receive notification about financial assistance shortly after your program application has been reviewed.

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## COLLEGE CREDIT & TRANSCRIPTS

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CET recognizes that gap students have a range of motivations and interests regarding college credit and documentation of college-level work completed. Your preferences may be influenced by a college or university you plan on attending and their policies about allowing students to enroll in credit-bearing programs and the potential for transferring that credit.

To address these various needs, CET offers a variety of options:

### FOR ARABIC, CHINESE, AND JAPANESE

- You can elect the no-credit option and receive a certificate of completion jointly issued by CET and the local host university.
- You can elect the college credit option in which courses taken, total contact hours, and grades earned are recorded on an official transcript issued by University of Minnesota for an additional fee.
- Please note that if you elect the no-credit option, you will not be able to change that decision once the program begins or at any later date.

### FOR ITALIAN

- For the program in Siena, CET partners with University of Virginia and all gap students receive an official transcript from UVA listing courses taken, total contact hours, and grades earned.
- Credit transfer to other US colleges and universities is at the discretion of each institution. CET works with many colleges across the country--check with the admissions or study abroad office to ask about credit transfer as you are applying or once you have been accepted. Upon request, CET will send the certificate of completion, or University of Minnesota or University of Virginia will send an official copy of the transcript to the college you designate.

# OTHER GAP OPTIONS WITH CET

## HIGH SCHOOL/PRE-COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAMS

Gap students are eligible for CET pre-college summer programs immediately after they graduate from high school.

- INTENSIVE LANGUAGE PROGRAMS:
- › Toulouse, France
  - › Florence, Italy
  - › Osaka, Japan
  - › Amman, Jordan
  - › Málaga, Spain

- GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES PROGRAMS:
- › Shanghai, China
  - › Havana, Cuba
  - › Toulouse, France
  - › Dublin, Ireland
  - › Osaka, Japan
  - › Amman, Jordan
  - › Hamilton, New Zealand
  - › Málaga, Spain
  - › Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Learn more at [cetacademicprograms.com/high-school](http://cetacademicprograms.com/high-school).

## CHINA FIELDWORK SEMESTER

Gap students are also eligible for the China Fieldwork Semester, a spring semester program for high school and gap students in Xizhou, China. This project-based program immerses students into life in rural southwestern China. Spend your semester on three major projects to help you study the land, meet the people, and understand the community. Learn more at [cetacademicprograms.com/gap-year](http://cetacademicprograms.com/gap-year).

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## WHO IS CET?

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CET Academic Programs is a study abroad organization that has been developing and operating innovative educational programs abroad since 1982. Originally “China Educational Tours,” CET began operations in Beijing, and today offers a varied portfolio of semester, summer, and customized programs for college, high school, pre-college, and gap year students around the world. Known for strong academics, professional program management, and supportive student services, CET strives to integrate students into their host communities, adopt environmentally conscientious practices, and promote diversity and inclusion across all programs.

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