Comparative Research between Chinese Garden and Western Gardens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module number:</th>
<th>Credits:</th>
<th>Term:</th>
<th>Frequency:</th>
<th>Duration:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010232</td>
<td>5 RUB credits</td>
<td>3rd term RUB students</td>
<td>2 hours per week</td>
<td>17 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<th>Kind of course:</th>
<th>Contact hours:</th>
<th>Self-study:</th>
<th>Number of participants:</th>
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<tr>
<td>lecture and Seminar</td>
<td>34 hours</td>
<td>150 hours</td>
<td>30</td>
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Preconditions to participate: none

Learning outcome:
The course will help students to identify relevant theories and acquire experience about traditional Chinese culture and aesthetics of space in general. Thus, they will recognize the trends of modern Chinese and Western gardens. As in the Chinese cultural understanding urban gardens reflect basic approaches and design principles, this course will support the students’ intercultural interpretation competences and will help to understand some of the driving forces and accordingly the inherent peculiarities and constraints of Chinese and Western landscape architecture.

Knowledge: Beyond the scope of one country, comparison study of Chinese and Western gardens concerns the relationship between garden and other knowledge areas, e.g. history, culture, art, geography. Students gain knowledge of modernization of Chinese urban landscapes.

Competences: It mainly through the re-understanding of changes and research frontiers of gardens in the world, guides students to compare different regional culture and garden styles, discuss relationships between the garden and geographical differences, and compare gardens with other disciplines of art. Students are able to obtain further understanding of the formation and development of gardens in different time periods and regions, as well as analyze creatively the natural, historical, geographical and artistic factors which provide a useful basis for the development of gardens. Students reflect on the mutual vice-versa influences of the two cultural understandings of gardens. Students are trained in methods of comparison.

Skills: Students are further trained in teamwork, analysis of documents, interviewing and field work.

Contents:
With a focus on topics of comparison of garden culture and art, this course will give lectures on a series of different topics about the theory and research methods of comparison, in-depth analysis of evolutions of Chinese and western traditional gardens, comparison of different gardens, the transition of modern gardens worldwide, and the development direction of contemporary gardens in global context.
The last two classes will be seminar for students to present and discuss their most interested themes in the scope of comparison of gardens. Firstly, the Chinese and western gardens are introduced. Secondly, some theories of comparison are given. Thirdly, the similarities and differences of Chinese and western gardens are discussed. Finally, the motivations of the formation and twist in the development of Gardens are interpreted.

Teaching methods:
team work in intercultural groups: analysis of literature, pictures, documents and statistics, interviews, field trip

Modes of assessment:
quality of presentations and final papers, regularly attending in discussion

Conditions for granting credit points:
quility of presentations and final papers, minimal 90% attending rate in all discussions

Weight of the mark for the final score:
The weight of the mark equals the CP of the module.

Person in charge for the module: Prof. Xiangpin Zhou
Teaching staff: Prof. Yunfeng Jin, Prof. Xiangpin Zhou

Other information: