

# Guangzhou Chinese Accounting Study Tour 2011

Studying @ Sun Yat-sen University

China is one of the fastest emerging economies in the world, with average growth rates of about 10% in the past two decades. In 2011, it became the world's second largest economy, second only to the United States.

The Guangzhou Study Tour began in 2006. In the years since, the Department, fully aware of the growing importance of the China market, has initiated various exchange programmes and study tours designed to equip our students with

the China accounting knowledge they need to remain at the forefront of the accounting industry.

Founded in 1924 by Dr Sun Yat-sen – one of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's great leaders – Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU) is a vibrant community of scholarship and learning characterised by its revolutionary spirit. SYSU's mission is to advance knowledge and educate students in the arts, science, technology, and other academic areas that will best serve the nation and the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



On 23 December 2010, 40 AC undergraduate students departed from Hong Kong on the Guangzhou Study Tour. Located in Guangdong Province, SYSU has four campuses with a total area of 6.17 square kilometres, surrounded by beautiful scenery with trees and lawns, ideal for study and research.

The Guangzhou Study Tour is a three-credit-bearing course that covers China accounting, China taxation and corporate governance practices in China. During the study tour, students resided in and attended

lectures at SYSU, the most prestigious university in southern China, where they joined a group of elite SYSU students to exchange ideas on the most relevant international and Chinese accounting and taxation issues. This opportunity certainly broadened their vision and raised their awareness of the topical issues in China's accounting sector.

The study tour included a number of company visits, offering students an invaluable opportunity to meet the management personnel of Chinese companies and to gain first-hand information.

## Firm Visits and Sightseeing in Guangzhou

Guangzhou ranks as China's third largest city after Shanghai and Beijing. It is also the largest city in southern China and functions as the transportation hub of the region, attracting a large amount of foreign investment, particularly from heavy industries such as automobile manufacturing.

Our students were honoured to have the opportunity to visit the manufacturing facilities of Dongfeng Nissan, one of the most successful and largest automobile joint ventures in China. They were also well-received by the representatives of BDO China Li Xin Da Hua CPA Co Ltd, one of China's biggest audit firms, which ranks just behind the Big Four. The representatives of both companies shared their valuable insights into their industries with our students.

Study tour participants also managed to spend some time visiting Guangzhou's famous attractions and sampling its fascinating nightlife. "It was a truly eye-opening trip. We visited a number of the leading enterprises of our country, learnt from the greatest scholars and witnessed how the economic miracle has facilitated the development of China," concluded one of our undergraduate students.

