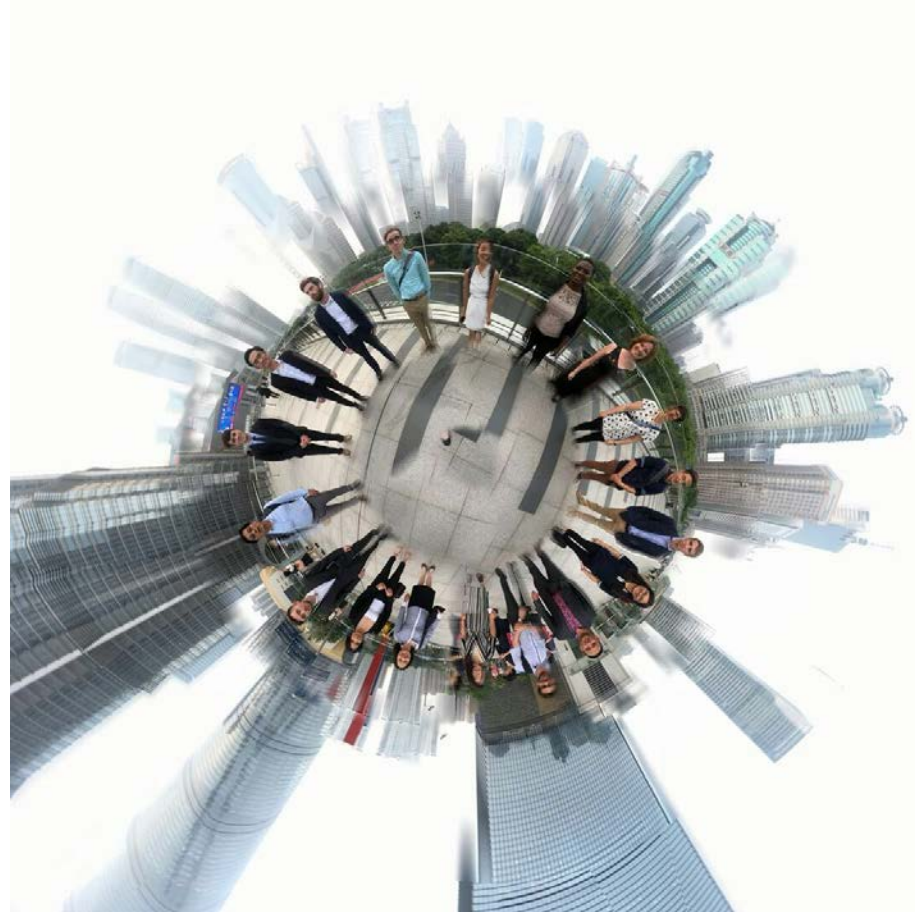


Understanding the China Dream Practicum



Purpose

This trip allowed us to answer research questions related to China's rise and more specifically answer questions related to the China Dream.

The China Dream was thought up recently as a means of charting China's success and giving the country broad goals for what that success entails. Much like the American Dream it can mean something different for everyone you meet.

What we came to understand is that the people we asked all had similarities and differences depending on their current state in life.



Destinations?

We went to six different locations in China to gain an understanding of what the China Dream means to people from all walks of life.

1. Beijing
2. Shanghai
3. Suzhou
4. Dali
5. Kunming
6. Shenzhen



Who did we visit?



- Universities
 - i.e. Renmin University, Peking University
- Private companies
 - Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Microsoft
- State-Run Organizations
 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- NGO's

What did we find?

While I believe that because of our diverse backgrounds everyone came to understand the China Dream differently, what we can all agree on is that the Chinese people want prosperity and success for their country.

To my understanding, from a security studies perspective, this takes the form of being strong again. During our time in China this was said multiple times and is inherent in government rhetoric. This requires looking to China's long history of being a major power.

At the end of the day, what does powerful end up looking like? We never got a straight answer, mainly because they didn't know either.

