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Yenching Academy
of Peking University
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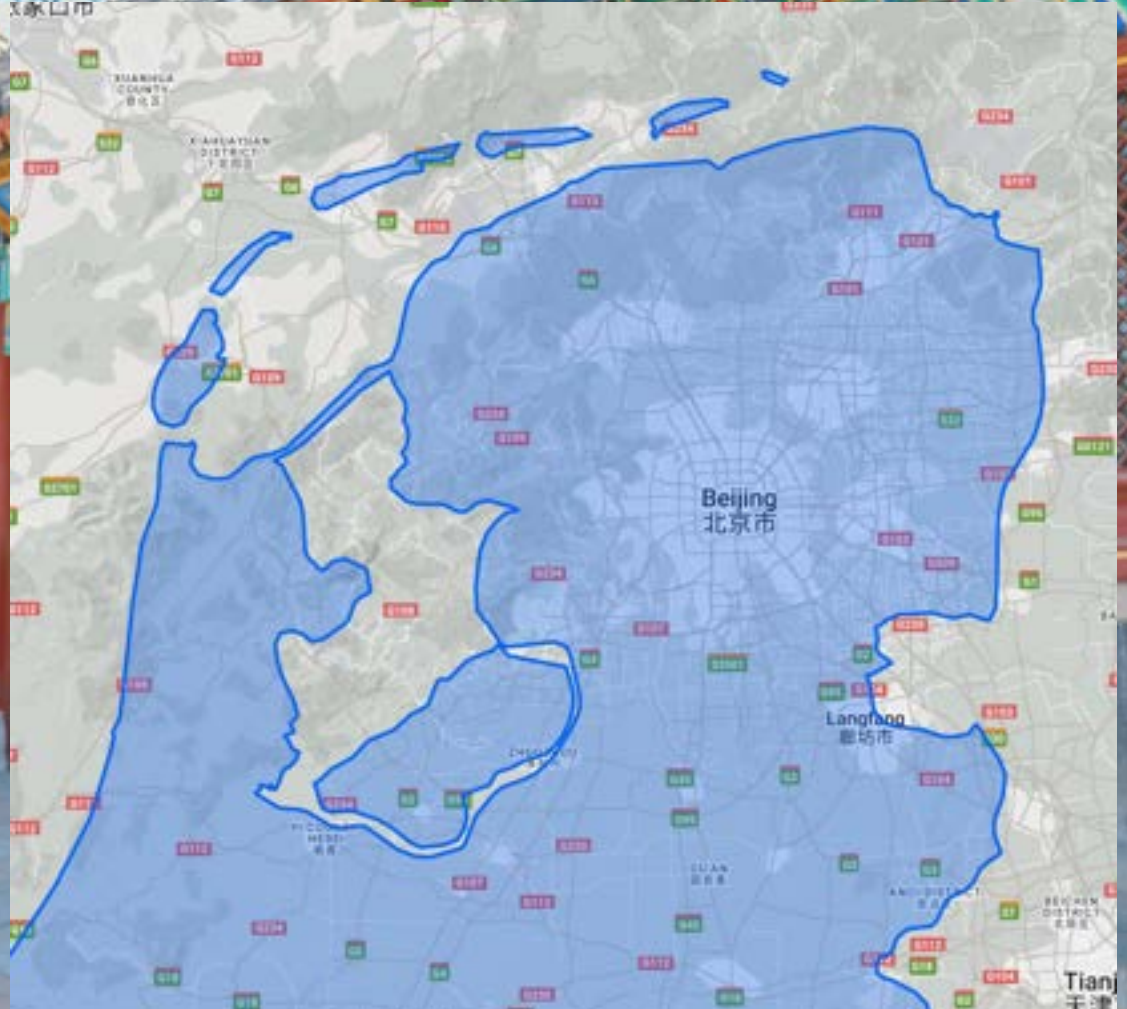
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Peking

- Capital and seat of central government
- 21.8 million residents
- 16.410 km² (NL = 41.865 km²)
- Over 90 universities and colleges





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C-9 League

- Peking University
- Tsinghua University
- Fudan University
- Shanghai Jiaotong University
- Harbin Inst. of Technology
- Nanjing University
- Xi'an Jiaotong University
- Zhejiang University
- U. of Science and Tech China





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Rankings of some C9 Universities



University rankings	
Global – Overall	
ARWU World ^[35]	101-150 (2025)
CWUR World ^[34]	88 (2025)
CWTS World ^[38]	72 (2024)
QS World ^[36]	=119 (2026)
Reuters World ^[37]	71 (2019)
THE World ^[34]	=73 (2025)
USNWR Global ^[39]	56 (2025-26)
Global – Law	
QS Law ^[40]	25 (2025)
THE Law ^[41]	21 (2025)
Global – Liberal arts	
ARWU Social science ^[42]	27 (2024)
QS Arts & Humanities ^[43]	=46 (2025)
QS Politics ^[44]	17 (2025)
THE Arts and Humanities ^[45]	21 (2025)



Global – Overall	
ARWU World ^[76]	18 (2025)
QS World ^[77]	14 (2027)
QS Employability ^[78]	6 (2022)
THE World ^[79]	12 (2024)
THE Reputation ^[80]	8 (2025)
USNWR Global ^[81]	6 (2026–27)
Regional – Overall	
ARWU Asia ^[82]	1 (2023)
QS Asia ^[83]	3 (2023)
QS BRICS ^[84]	1 (2019)
THE Asia ^[85]	1 (2023)
THE Emerging Economies ^[86]	2 (2022)
USNWR Asia ^[87]	1 (2026–27)
National – Overall	
BCUR National ^[88]	1 (2023)
QS National ^[89]	1 (2019)
THE National ^[90]	1 (2023)
USNWR National ^[91]	1 (2026–27)



BCUR National ^[23]	Domestic	5
Wu Shulian National ^[24]	Domestic	7
CUAA National ^[25]	Alumni	4
QS National ^[26]	General	3
THE National ^[27]	General	3
QS Asia (Asia version) ^[28]	General	5
THE Asia (Asia version) ^[29]	General	7
ARWU World ^[30]	Research	41
QS World ^[31]	General	26
THE World ^[32]	General	36
USNWR World ^[33]	General	49



University rankings	
Global – Overall	
ARWU World ^[34]	22
QS World ^[35]	13
THE World ^[36]	13
THE Reputation ^[37]	11
USNWR Global ^[38]	19
Regional – Overall	
ARWU Asia ^[39]	2
QS Asia ^[40]	1
QS BRICS ^[41]	2
THE Asia ^[42]	2
THE Emerging Economies ^[43]	1



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Peking University



11,694 Faculty members



46,113 Full-time students
+
4,369 International students



51 Schools and departments

10 National key laboratories





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Yenching Academy of Peking University

- ❑ A center for the study of China and its role in the world, with the full support of Peking University's unparalleled resources.
- ❑ Offering a 2-year Master's degree program in China Studies.
- ❑ A magnet for outstanding young scholars and future leaders; people eager to connect, learn, and lead.
- ❑ A model of interdisciplinary study in the humanities and social sciences.
- ❑ A catalyst for international dialogue.

2-year Master's Degree Program in China Studies



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Master's in China Studies



- ❑ A full fellowship residential program in China Studies. For international students, 12-month full fellowship with the possibility of a one-year extension. Chinese students (including those from the Chinese regions of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan) are required to stay in Beijing for 2 years.
- ❑ A full range of courses is offered in English; therefore, Chinese proficiency is not required for admission.
- ❑ Students may attend classes in other PKU departments taught in English or Chinese.
- ❑ Interdisciplinary coursework includes core and elective courses, field studies, language study, and thesis writing.
- ❑ Graduates receive Peking University diplomas noting their research areas in China Studies.

2-year Master's Degree Program in China Studies



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Scholarship

All admitted students receive the Yenching Fellowship for the first academic year, which covers:

- ☐ Tuition
- ☐ Accommodation in the Yenching Academy House
- ☐ A monthly stipend
- ☐ One round-trip travel stipend
- ☐ Basic medical insurance

Students who maintained a good academic standing, and plan to stay in Beijing during their second academic year can apply for the second-year Yenching Fellowship. Additional funding, in the form of research or teaching assistantships, can also be applied.





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Research Areas

Students are free to choose elective courses from any research area. Yenching Scholars are required to write a thesis under the supervision of a thesis advisor within their chosen area of research:

- ☐ **China Studies (Economics and Management)**
- ☐ **China Studies (History and Archaeology)**
- ☐ **China Studies (Law and Society)**
- ☐ **China Studies (Literature and Culture)**
- ☐ **China Studies (Philosophy and Religion)**
- ☐ **China Studies (Politics and International Relations)**



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Curriculum Introduction (2022-2023)

Core Courses:

- ☐ China in Transition I & II
- ☐ Field Study
- ☐ Topics in China Studies Lecture Series
- ☐ Academic Writing

Required Courses:

- ☐ Required Chinese Language Course (for international students)
- ☐ Required First Foreign Language Course (for Mainland Chinese, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwanese students)
- ☐ Required Politics Course (for Mainland Chinese students)

General Elective Courses :

- ☐ Quantitative Reasoning
- ☐ Qualitative Research Method
- ☐ Critical Thinking and Academic Writing
- ☐ Leadership Development

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Sample of Major Elective Courses

Politics and International Relations	Economics and Management	Law and Society
<i>Theory and Practice of Chinese Foreign Policy</i>	<i>Introduction to Chinese Economy and Development</i>	<i>Contemporary Chinese Society</i>
<i>Cultural Dimensions of China's Foreign Relations</i>	<i>China and the World Economy: A Macroeconomic Perspective</i>	<i>The Legal Dynamics of Chinese Commerce and Society</i>
<i>Chinese Perspective on Global Migration</i>	<i>The Economic Thinking of Chinese Entrepreneurs</i>	<i>Women in Contemporary China</i>
<i>Reforms in China: Theory and Policy</i>	<i>International Trade</i>	<i>Understanding Social Inequality: China and the World</i>
<i>Chinese Politics in Historical Perspective (Taught in Chinese)</i>	<i>Rural China Studies (Taught in Chinese)</i>	<i>China and International Law</i>
<i>Retrospect and Prospect of International Development Cooperation in China</i>	<i>China in the World Economy: Han Dynasty to the Present</i>	<i>Chinese Population</i>
	<i>China's Economic Reform and Development</i>	<i>Chinese Frontier Societies: A Socio-historical Approach</i>

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Sample of Major Elective Courses

History and Archaeology	Philosophy and Religion	Literature and Culture
<i>Development of Chinese Civilization</i>	<i>Chinese World Views</i>	<i>Reading Classical Chinese Literature</i>
<i>Ethnographies of Modern Education: China and Beyond</i>	<i>Critical Conceptions for Chinese Thoughts</i>	<i>Contemporary Chinese and American Fiction in Comparative Perspective</i>
<i>Formation of Chinese Civilization</i>	<i>Chinese Classics and Thought: Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism</i>	<i>Cultural History of 20th Century China: Shanghai 1920-1935, Film, Fiction, History</i>
<i>History of the Field: Sinology and China Studies from a Global Perspective</i>	<i>Selected Readings from the Confucian Classics (Taught in Chinese)</i>	<i>Guided Readings in the Classics of Ancient Chinese Literature (Taught in Chinese)</i>
<i>Modern Chinese History</i>		<i>Art of China</i>
<i>Cultural Heritage in China</i>		

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Academic Advisors

140 Academic Advisors from 24 schools/departments at Peking University

Economics and Management	Law and Society	Politics and International Relations	History and Archaeology
Guanghua School of Management	Law School	School of International Studies	School of Archaeology and Museology
School of Economics		School of Government	Department of History
College of Urban and Environmental Sciences	Department of Sociology	School of Foreign Language	School of Foundational Education Health Science Center
National School of Development	College of Urban and Environmental Sciences	Department of Physical Education	School of Arts
Graduate School of Education	Graduate School of Education	School of Economics	School of Foreign Language
School of Government	School of Life Sciences	Law School	College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture
College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture		Literature and Culture	Philosophy and Religion
Population Research Institute	School of Government	School of Arts	Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
School of Psychological and Cognitive Sciences	Population Research Institute	Department of Chinese Language and Literature	Department of History
Department of Sociology	School of Psychological and Cognitive Sciences	School of Journalism and Communication	School of Government
College of Environmental Sciences and Engineering	Guanghua School of Management	School of Foreign Language	School of Psychological and Cognitive Sciences
School of Advanced Agricultural Sciences		Department of Sociology	School of Arts
			School of Economics
			School of Foreign Language
			School of Foundational Education Health Science Center

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Fall Field Study



▲ Students acquire first-hand experience about Chinese history, culture, and modern economic development through lectures by renowned scholars, and a week-long trip* in Sichuan (四川) and Chongqing (重庆).



*Field study destination may vary year to year.

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Career Development



The Career Development service at Yenching Academy strives to enhance Yenching Scholars' career prospects and help them improve their academic and professional skills.

▲ Yenching Academy Career Day – panel on the topic of “International Talents Working in China”.

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After Graduation

Further Education

- ☐ Brown University
- ☐ Columbia University
- ☐ Georgetown University
- ☐ Harvard University
- ☐ King's College London
- ☐ New York University
- ☐ Princeton University
- ☐ SOAS, University of London
- ☐ Stanford University
- ☐ University College London
- ☐ University of Cambridge
- ☐ University of Chicago
- ☐ University of Hong Kong
- ☐ University of Oxford
- ☐ Yale University

Employment



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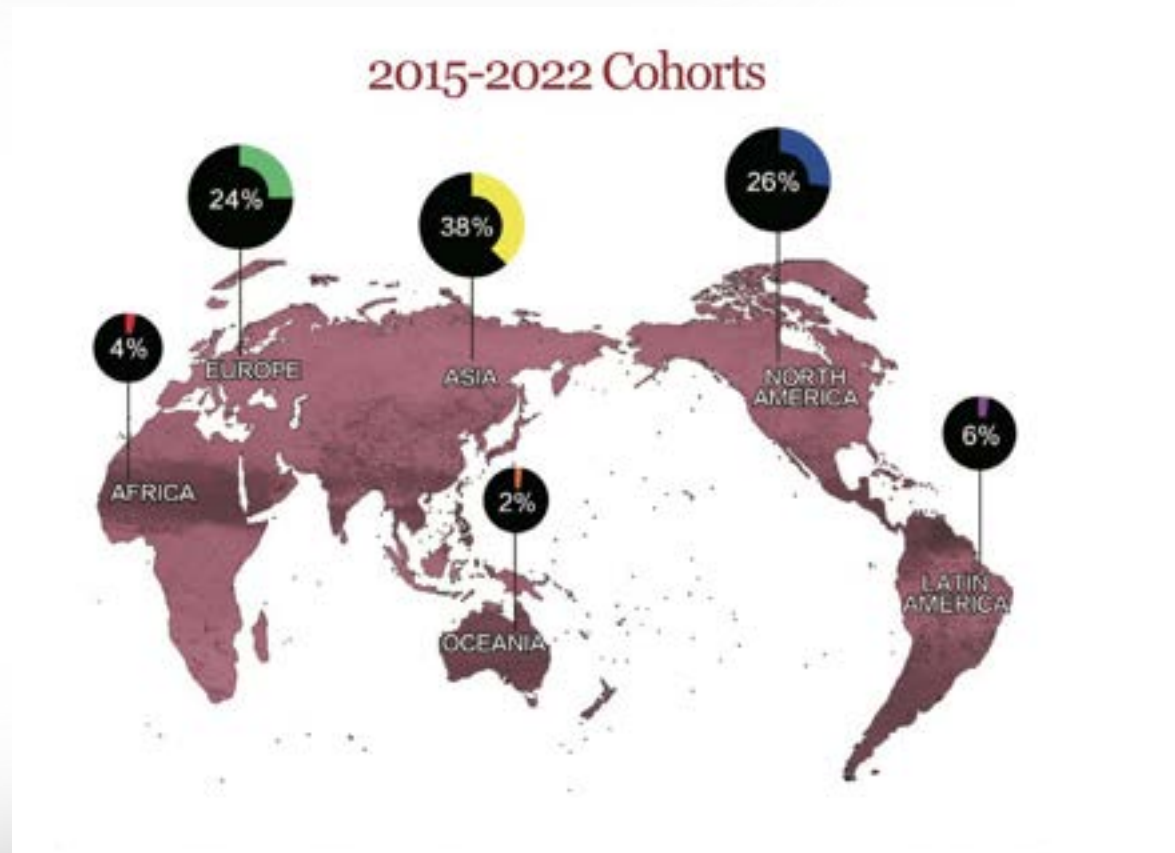
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2015-2022 Yenching Scholars

- Total of 859 scholars from 82 countries and regions



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2015-2022 Yenching Scholars

- ❑ Scholars from 348 universities, top 18 universities with the highest number of YCA admissions are:

University	No. of Admissions
Peking University	40
University of Oxford	31
Harvard University	28
University of Cambridge	27
The University of Chicago	20
Sun Yat-Sen University	20
Stanford University	19
The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)	19
Renmin University of China	16
Princeton University	15
Yale University	15
University of Cape Town	15
KU Leuven	13
Zhejiang University	12
Leiden University	12
School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London (SOAS)	11
Columbia University	11
University of International Business and Economics	11



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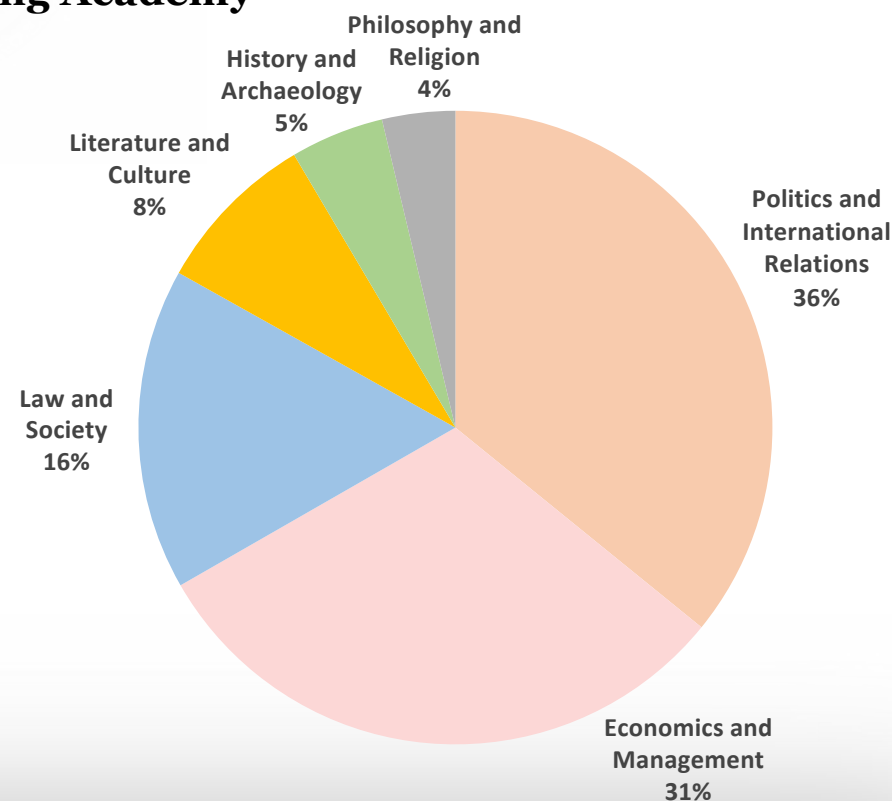


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2015-2022 Yenching Scholars

Research areas chosen at the Yenching Academy

Research Area	No. of Scholars
Politics and International Relations	308
Economics and Management	265
Law and Society	141
Literature and Culture	72
History and Archaeology	41
Philosophy and Religion	32





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Scholars from Leiden University

14 Scholars from 9 Cohorts

Cohort	Major(s) at Leiden University	Research Area at YCA
2015	Major: Korean Studies Minor: Journalism and New Media	History and Archaeology
2015	International Studies (specialization - East Asia)	Politics and International Relations
2015	International Studies (specialization - East Asia with Korean language)	Law and Society
2015	Major: Political Science Minor: International Studies	Politics and International Relations
2016	International Studies	Politics and International Relations
2016	World Politics	Politics and International Relations
2016	China Studies	Economics and Management
2017	International Studies	Politics and International Relations
2017	International Studies	Politics and International Relations
2019	World Politics	Politics and International Relations
2020	Earth, Energy and Sustainability	Law and Society
2021	International Studies	Politics and International Relations
2023	Global Challenges	Politics and International Relations
2023	International Studies, East Asian Studies	Politics and International Relations
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Applicants

A prospective Yenching Scholar has:

- ❑ Minimum of a Bachelor's degree in any field or currently enrolled on a degree program awarded no later than August 31 of the year in which they wish to enroll.
- ❑ An outstanding academic record
- ❑ A record of extracurricular achievement, community engagement, social responsibility, and leadership potential
- ❑ Demonstrated interest in exploring diverse cultures
- ❑ Strong interest in interdisciplinary study of China
- ❑ Well-articulated rationale for how the Yenching Academy program will enhance his/her career
- ❑ English proficiency

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Application for International Candidates

Timeline:

- ❑ YCA application portal is open.

Required documents:

- ❑ Online application at yenchingacademy.netapply.cn
- ❑ Certificate of English proficiency (IELTS 7.0 / TOEFL 100 / Cambridge 185) for students whose native language is not English or who were not enrolled in an English-taught degree program
- ❑ Diploma(s) or Certificate(s) of Enrollment
- ❑ Transcript from Bachelor's (and Master's) degree programs
- ❑ Personal statement in English (maximum 750 words)
- ❑ Statement of Research Interest (maximum 1500 words, excluding citations)
- ❑ Resume
- ❑ Two academic letters of recommendation (from associate professors or professors only)

Internal Leiden Application Procedure

Application process

1. Prepare application materials

First prepare the following materials:

- Completed [Yenching Academy application form](#).
- Personal statement written in English (max. 750 words).
Include a personal introduction and the reasons why you wish to be a Yenching Scholar. The name of the document must be 'Your full name + Personal Statement'.
- Statement of research interest (max 1500 words excluding citations).
- Curriculum Vitae.
- Copy of your current Leiden University transcript(s).
- Copy of any other university diplomas/transcripts.
If your university documents are not issued in English or Chinese, also include a certified English translation.
- English test result: for required scores and exemption criteria see 'Eligibility requirements' above.



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Yenching Academy Admissions

For Yenching Academy admissions enquiries, please contact

yca-admissions@pku.edu.cn

中文网站: yenching.pku.edu.cn

English Website: yenchingacademy.pku.edu.cn

Twitter: @PKUYCA

Facebook and Instagram: [yenchingacademy](https://www.facebook.com/yenchingacademy)

LinkedIn: Yenching Academy of Peking University

WeChat: 北京大学燕京学堂



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Alternatives

[Schwarzman Scholar](#) (Tsinghua University)

[Master in China Studies](#) (Zhejiang University's International Business School)

