Graduate and Advanced Education

The 2018-19 academic year was a time of significant growth and progress for graduate and advanced education at NYU Shanghai.

As inscribed in the university’s official Mission statement, NYU Shanghai has affirmed that it “will develop master’s, PhD, and non-degree programs in a variety of impactful academic and professional disciplines. Students in such programs will acquire a world-class education and become future leaders dedicated to advancing the global good in their chosen fields.”

For the first time ever, NYU Shanghai was invited by the NYU Office of the Provost to elect a representative to serve on the NYU Graduate Programs Committee. Under NYU by laws, representation on the GPC is open to “each college, school, and portal campus that delivers graduate education.” Thus, the invitation was a meaningful recognition of the significant gains that have been made in graduate education at NYU Shanghai. Following the invitation, Professor Tansen Sen was elected by a January vote of all faculty to a three-year term. During his tenure on the GPC, Professor Sen will work closely with Provost Joanna Waley-Cohen and Assistant Dean of Graduate and Advanced Education Eric Mao to continue the development of graduate-focused initiatives at NYU Shanghai.

Master’s Programs

In August 2019, NYU Shanghai announced the creation of the new Institute for Cities and Real Estate in Emerging Markets in partnership with the NYU School of Professional Studies. The Institute will offer short-term executive training programs in Shanghai beginning in the Spring of 2020 and plans are also underway to launch an Executive Master of Science in Real Estate degree entailing coursework in Shanghai, New York, and other NYU global network sites in the coming years. The institute marks yet another milestone for the growth and development of NYU Shanghai, and its graduate program offerings.
In August 2019, NYU Shanghai announced a new joint Master of Arts program in Interactive Media Arts with the Tisch School of the Arts. The new one-year degree focuses on the production, application, and understanding of interactive media for creative expression and critical engagement. Stemming from a collaboration between NYU Shanghai IMA and Tisch Interactive Telecommunications (ITP), the program involves 2 online semesters in the Fall and Spring paired with 3 global residencies - at NYU Shanghai and NYU New York over two summers plus a rotating third NYU global site, to be NYU Berlin in the program’s inaugural year.

The program is designed for highly motivated self-directed students of any nationality including teachers, artists, creatives, policy-makers and other working professionals. Its unique “Low Residency” format allows students to pursue the program with limited sacrifice to employment opportunities.

Each international and diverse cohort will share a unique global experience exploring the intersection of emerging media and humanistic values, participating in a workshop-style approach to learning, and engaging in the design and development of interactive projects that involve the creative use of software, hardware and digital media. Upon graduation, students will receive an NYU-granted MA degree, recognized by the Chinese Ministry of Education.

For more information and to learn how to apply, please visit the program site at https://itp.nyu.edu/lowres/. Applications for the inaugural cohort to enroll in Summer 2020 will be accepted beginning in September 2019.
An outstanding inaugural cohort of 48 students was enrolled across NYU Shanghai’s newest master’s programs, the **MS in Data Analytics & Business Computing** (28 students) and **MS in Quantitative Finance** (20 students), being jointly offered with the NYU Stern School of Business. Orientation activities and the first day of classes in the one-year programs took place during the week of June 3 at NYU Stern and were reported on at the following link - https://www.stern.nyu.edu/experience-stern/tales-in-possible/master-possible-inaugural-classes-ms-quantitative-finance-and-ms-data-analytics-and-business. Following the summer, the students will arrive in Shanghai to complete their Fall and Spring semesters before graduating in May 2020.

In total, 329 applications were submitted to the programs. The 48 students, of whom roughly half are male and half female, came from 35 different undergraduate schools, representing Australia, Canada, China, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and the United States. One quarter of the students have prior work experience, averaging 3 years, in industries ranging from accounting, banking, communications, education, entertainment, finance, life sciences, and renewable energy.
On April 13, school leadership, faculty, and senior business executives from around China and Asia convened for the inaugural NYU Shanghai - NYU Stern advisory board meeting. Among the companies represented at the meeting were: Capula Investment Management, Chailease Group, DiDi, Jinde Fund, KKR, Oasis Investment Management, Ping An, Standard Chartered Bank, Tandll Capital Management, VIPKid, Wells Fargo, Xin Tian Fund Management, XY Investments, and ZhenFund. Members of the NYU Shanghai - NYU Stern advisory board have committed to supporting the MS programs in various ways. The board meeting was reported on at the following link - https://stern.shanghai.nyu.edu/en/experience/news/nyushanghai-nyusternnetworkingreception.
NYU Shanghai’s collaborative program with the NYU Silver School of Social Work which enables Master of Social Work students to spend a year in Shanghai continued its upward trajectory. In May, the program’s third class, of 11 students, graduated in New York City.

Applications for Fall 2019 admission rose 30 percent over the previous year. The incoming fifth cohort, made up of 25 students from China, Hong Kong, Singapore, and the United States, extends the program’s unbroken streak of setting new enrollment highs in each successive year. A part-time track which enables students to pursue the NYU Shanghai portion of the program on a part-time basis (over two years, instead of one) has also been created.

In addition to their on-campus coursework, MSW students completed more than 8000 hours of off-campus fieldwork at local agencies and social organizations during the 2018-19 academic year. These included: Fudan International School, Essential Learning Group, LIH Olivia’s Place, Shanghai Mental
Health Center, and Shanghai Children’s Medical Center, among many others. Their service exemplifies the university’s steadfast commitment to making a contribution to the social development of Shanghai.

Through various activities, the program also contributed to the life of NYU Shanghai’s broader academic community. These included:

- An October 30 roundtable symposium on intersections between the world of finance and poverty alleviation and sustainable development (reported on here - https://shanghai.nyu.edu/news/financial-means-social-ends)
- Co-sponsorship with the Pacific Education Advocacy Research & Learning Institute of a conference on opportunities and challenges relating to Chinese students abroad
- A Spring semester undergraduate service learning course focusing on migrant families in China taught by MSW Program Director Qingwen Xu (reported on here - https://shanghai.nyu.edu/is/and-city-nyu-shanghai-reaches-out-migrant-worker-communities)
- Facilitation of a two-week, Summer graduate study away course offered by NYU Silver at NYU Shanghai about human services and social work in China
- A course on social work offered by Professor Minchao Jin as part of NYU SPS at NYU Shanghai’s High School Academy
NYU Shanghai’s joint MA in TESOL with the NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development admitted its second cohort, made up of 20 students, joining last year’s inaugural cohort, which had 16 students. As a two-year program, the two cohorts will overlap during the 2019-20 academic year. All together, the 36 students hail from a wide range of local schools, both domestic and international; educational institutions, both public and private; and represent all levels of English instruction, from kindergarten to high school, adult learners to online platforms.

During the academic year, the program promoted collaboration between NYU Shanghai and the local education community through various exchanges, visits, teacher trainings, and public professional development workshops attended by several hundreds of people all together. These included:

- Two custom half-day training sessions for teachers from Changning District conducted by NYU Shanghai Professor and TESOL Program Director Kentei Takaya
- A keynote speech on developing bilingualism delivered by NYU Steinhardt Professor and TESOL Program Co-Director Robin Harvey at a May 28 conference focusing on early childhood education held at NYU Shanghai
- Invited lectures at Kunshan International School, Ouhai High School (Wenzhou), and the affiliated high school of the University of Shanghai for Science and Technology, among others
- Four on-campus professional development workshops conducted by current TESOL students
- A booth at China’s largest annual TESOL conference, held in Hangzhou during July 2019

A selection of these activities were featured here - https://shanghai.nyu.edu/news/tesol-meets-teachers-and-students-and-outside-shanghai.
Students in all of NYU Shanghai’s joint master’s programs are taught by faculty of both NYU Shanghai and our New York partner schools, and receive New York University degrees, issued in New York, with diplomas that feature the names of both NYU Shanghai and our New York partners. Upon graduation, students in these programs have status as alumni of both NYU Shanghai and our New York partners.

**Doctoral Programs**

NYU Shanghai launched two new PhD programs, in Mathematics and in Transportation Planning & Engineering. The Mathematics program was announced on December 6 and made possible through a partnership with the NYU Graduate School of Arts and Science (GSAS) and NYU Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences. The Transportation program was announced on February 22 and made possible through a partnership with the NYU Tandon School of Engineering and NYU Department of Civil & Urban Engineering. Both programs were highlighted in news features published at the following links -


Combined, NYU Shanghai now offers opportunities for PhD study and research in 7 disciplines, with the others being Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Neural Science, and Physics. In all of the programs, enrolled students are advised by and work directly with NYU Shanghai faculty, conducting their research on campus, and funded by the NYU Shanghai Doctoral Fellowship program. Upon graduation, students earn a PhD degree awarded by New York University.

Since the first cohort of PhDs was admitted in Fall 2015, total enrollment has grown to 25 students, with 3 in Chemistry, 7 in Computer Science, 1 in Mathematics, 10 in Neural Science, 3 in Physics, and 1 in Transportation. NYU Shanghai’s PhD students continue to make important contributions across the university. Apart from their research and papers published, several this year served as teaching assistants in undergraduate courses.

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On October 10, Assistant Dean of Graduate and Advanced Education Eric Mao was appointed to a seat on the NYU Doctoral Affairs Committee representing NYU Shanghai.

On October 25, NYU Shanghai hosted for the first time ever a PhD Open House that brought together faculty, current students, and prospective students to engage in dialogue about all of NYU Shanghai’s doctoral programs. The successful event was attended by more than 70 people and reported on at the following link - https://shanghai.nyu.edu/news/nyu-shanghai-hosts-first-ever-phd-open-house-0.
On April 24, for the first time ever, NYU Shanghai sent a post-doctoral associate, Linmin Zhang, to the NYU Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Research Showcase in New York City. The showcase is NYU’s premier doctoral research event of the year, featuring presentations from eight of the university network’s top scholars. Linmin’s accomplishment was profiled at the following link - https://shanghai.nyu.edu/news/nyu-shanghai-sends-first-post-doctoral-associate-nyu-research-showcase.

Research Fellowship Programs

NYU Shanghai hosted 28 research fellows through the NYU Shanghai Graduate Dissertation Fellowship and NYU Provost Office Global Research Initiatives Fellowship programs. Fellows consisted of master’s students, PhD students, and faculty from the Washington Square campus who visited NYU Shanghai for various lengths of time, from as short as one month to as long as the entire academic year. Schools in New York represented by the fellows were FAS, Gallatin, GSAS, SPS, Steinhardt, Stern, and Tisch.

Research fellows helped to stimulate NYU Shanghai’s academic community. During their residencies, they worked directly with NYU Shanghai faculty, joined seminars, and frequently lent their unique perspectives on areas not already represented on campus.

Notable projects this year included: a study of Chinese millennials who have undertaken humanitarian roles in Kenya, a history of Chinese political elites, empirical research on Chinese collaboration and negotiation practices in the business world, a novella whose protagonist is based in China, and a look at how food consumption and food recipes have changed in China over time.

Other Academic Programs

Over the course of the academic year, NYU Shanghai hosted and provided support for several other academic programs which collectively brought more than 300 graduate students to campus. These programs included the following:

- Shanghai modules of the following NYU Stern programs: Executive MBA - New York City, Executive MBA - Washington D.C., Master of Science in Business Analytics, Master of Science in Global Finance, and TRIUM Global Executive MBA
- NYU School of Law in Shanghai (Spring semester 2019 program)
- A two-week, J-term course offered by NYU Steinhardt about cross-cultural counseling
- A two-week, Summer course offered by NYU Wagner about urbanization and sustainable development
A three-day executive program offered by the London School of Economics at NYU Shanghai