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Degree Education Programs Sponsored by Ministry of Commerce PRC

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# China Agricultural University

2023 Master of Management

(Rural Development and Management Studies)

## *Application Guide*

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2023

## **1. Program Introduction**

### **1.1 Basic Situation**

#### **1.1.1 Brief Introduction**

The Degree Education Programs, founded in 2008, is sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China using the foreign aid of the Chinese government. The program is designed to foster the high-end, inter-disciplinary talent working in the applied fields of politics, economy and trade, foreign affairs, agriculture, science, education, culture, health, energy, transportation, and public administration, building intellectual capacity and facilitating the economic and social development of the recipient countries. This program offers one-year and two-year master programs as well as three-year doctoral programs. These programs provide financial support to governmental officials, research fellows, and senior managerial personnel to come to China to receive the master or doctor education which are fully conducted in English. Admission requirements include a bachelor's degree and relevant working experiences so as to understand the courses timely and sufficiently, and decent physical conditions, essential for the high-compact curriculum needed for the degrees.

The program plays a more and more important role in the economic and trade cooperation and development between China and the home countries of the students, and is highly valued by the government of the host country.

From 2015, under the support of Ministry of Commerce of China, the College of Humanities and Development Studies under China Agricultural University started the Master of Management Program on "Rural Development and Management Studies" (two-year program). The aim of this program is to equip the students with the international perspectives and advanced approaches for development research, management, and practices. This program has played a unique role in adjustment of agricultural structure, reform of rural industrial structure, rural revitalization, poverty alleviation and sustainable utilization of resources in China through its education, research, and practice activities.

Since 2008, this program started to recruit the international Master and Doctoral students. By the end of 2021, this program has recruited 272 international students (55 doctoral students and 217 Master students), from 54 different countries. Fifty-four students have got Doctor Degrees and 198 have got Master Degrees. These international students are working in governments, universities, scientific research institutes, and non-profit organizations after they went back to their homeland. They have become the backbones of their organizations and this program has generated good social impact.

### **1.1.2 Target Applicants**

The target applicants of the Master Program on “Rural Development and Management Studies” are government officials (medium and high level), and senior faculty members or researchers in universities or research institutes.

### **1.1.3 Program Objective**

This program equips the students with the international perspectives and the advanced approaches to development research and management, and knowledge on China’s development models and experiences. This major aims to cultivate high level, multi-disciplinary, and applied talents in the field of public management. This program integrates the theories with practices, integrates teaching with the practices, builds up a student-friendly environment and provides students with the opportunities of practices, and encourages the independent and innovative thinking of the students.

### **1.1.4 Enrollment in 2023**

This program, which lasts for 2 years, plans to recruit 25 international students majoring in “Rural Development and Management Studies”. The program will start on September 7 of 2023, and ends on July 15 of 2025.

### **1.1.5 Scholarship**

The program is funded by the Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China under the foreign aid funds.

- (1) Students are exempt from tuition, teaching materials fees, study tour fees, fee for teaching in English, graduation thesis guidance fee.
- (2) The university will provide free accommodation.
- (3) The university will give students the living subsidies regularly: 36000 yuan/person/year for Master students, 42000 yuan/person/year for Doctor students.
- (4) The university will pay the resettlement fee 3000 yuan/person (one-time allocation to students).
- (5) The university will purchase the comprehensive medical insurance for the students.
- (6) The Ministry of Commerce will provide free round-trip international air tickets for all students holding the scholarship: 1 year program student will get one round trip ticket, 2 year program student will get 2 round trip tickets.
- (7) All the students will participate in the annual academic performance review, the students who pass the review will benefit from the scholarship for the second year.

(7) Other expenses are used by the Ministry of Commerce or universities as a whole, not to students.

(8) The Ministry of Commerce only provides students with financial support within the program timeline. The students who postponed their graduation will not receive the continuing support.

## **1.2 Introduction to the University and the College**

### **1.2.1 University Profile**

China Agricultural University, which is located in Beijing, is the origin of the Modern Agricultural Higher Education in China. It has three campuses, the east campus is located in Qinghuadonglu 17#, the west campus is located in Yuanmingyuanxilu 2#, Jianshe University Campus is located in Tianxiulu 10#. Its history can be traced back to The Imperial College of Agricultural University established in 1905. For a long time, the country attaches great importance to the construction and development of this university. In 1995, the university was listed in the first batch of "national 211 program" for building up the high standard universities in China. In 2004, the university was listed in the "national 985 program" for building up high-level research universities in China.

After a hundred years of history, China Agricultural University has developed into a research university and has advanced areas in agriculture, life science, agricultural engineering, and food science. The university has formed the characteristic and complementary academic clusters in agriculture and life sciences, resources and environment science, information and computer science, agricultural engineering and automation science, economic management and social sciences.

China Agricultural University has 16 Colleges and capable and well structured teaching staff. Currently there are 1645 full-time teachers, including 588 professors, 852 associate professors. The university has 5 members of academicians of Chinese Academy of Science, 7 members of Chinese Academy of Engineering, 26 distinguished professors of Changjiang Scholars Program, 42 winners of National Outstanding Youth Science Foundation, 15 Principal Scientists of the national 973 Program.

China Agricultural University has 11395 full-time undergraduate students, 7661 full-time graduate students, including 4478 full-time graduate students, 3183 full-time PhD students, 215 postdoctoral researchers in the station.

### **1.2.2 Introduction to the College**

This program is hosted by College of Humanities and Development Studies, which has Department of Development Management, Department of Sociology, Department of Law, Department of Media and Communication and Department of Foreign Languages

The College has formed a comprehensive function system consisting education, research, training and consultation, has a wide range of international exchanges, long-term foreign cooperation and great social influence. The main research fields of the college include the international development, rural development policies and interventions, rural society and management, and the rule of law and politics. The teaching and research cover the management, philosophy, economics, law, literature, history and other subjects, including almost all the frontier subjects that have important significance for China's future development, especially for rural development.

The College has research and consulting organization such as the Research Center for International Development, China Research Center for Eco Compensation Policy, Research Center of Agricultural and Rural Law, Institute of Peasant Problem. The college's Rural Development and Policy Research Center is also included in the Ministry of Education 985 Program on Philosophy and Social Science Innovation Base of China. At the same time, the college edits the Journal of China Agricultural University (social science edition).

The Research Center for International Development sponsored by our college was established in 2013. The network, which has great influence on China and abroad, consists of Chinese scholars who engage in development research on international issues and foreign aid.

The college seminar series - Critical Issues in Agrarian and Development Studies began in September 2010, and has carried out 95 times at the end of 2020. The lecture is about Agrarian and Development Studies, which involve subjects on sociology, anthropology, politics, economics, political science, law, economics, philosophy, etc. The speakers are all top researchers from academic network in China and abroad.

There are 196 teaching staff in the college, including 37 professors, 87 associate professors and 41 lecturers.

### **1.2.3 Students' Living Environment and Conditions**

(1) The climate of Beijing is a typical warm temperate and semi humid continental monsoon climate. It is rainy in summer, cold and dry in winter and short in spring and autumn. The annual average temperature in Beijing is 14 degrees Celsius: the winter is 3 degrees below zero, the spring is 12 degrees, the summer is 24 degrees, and the autumn is 12 degrees. The average price index in Beijing is high in the cities of the country. The dressing index of Beijing is 2 in winter, 3-5 in spring, 7 in summer and 3-5 in autumn.

(2) The university provides comfortable living environment and conditions for students.

The program has arranged four accommodation places for the students:

- A. Family apartments in west campus, with a kitchen and toilet in each apartment.
- B. Family apartments in east campus, with a kitchen and toilet in each apartment.
- C. Student dormitory building in Jianshe University campus, the building has the

public toilet and the bathroom.

D. Student apartment building in east campus with public kitchens, toilets, and bathrooms.

Each student has his own independent room, and the interior facilities are complete. Students have independent desks and chairs, wardrobes, etc. each room is equipped with air conditioning, telephone line interface and network port.

There are 11 students' canteens with complete facilities and elegant dining environment, including 2 Muslim canteens. There is a variety of food to meet the students' different dining custom. The meal price is moderate, the tableware is clean, the food quality and sanitation are guaranteed.

The university has various sports facilities for football, basketball, badminton, tennis, table tennis, swimming. The university has a large gymnasium, which has hosted the matches of the Chinese Olympic Games. The gymnasium covers an area of 13900 square meters, the total construction area is 23950 square meters.

## 1.3 Academic Program

### 1.3.1 Course Arrangement

#### (1) Courses Work

The program requires that the students should gain at least 30 credits, of which 24 credits for course work, and these courses should be finished within autumn and spring semesters of the first year. The list of the compulsory courses, elective courses, semester, teachers and credits for each course are shown in Table 1

**Table 1: The Master Program for International Students  
in Rural Development and Management Studies**

College	College of Humanities and Development Studies	Type	Master	Code of Major	1204Z1
First-class Discipline	Public Management	Second-class Discipline	Rural Development and Management Studies		
Duration of Study	2 years		Pattern	full-time	
Credit	The total credits are not less than 30, including at least 24 credits of course work and 6 credits of other requirements.				
Research Fields	1. China and international development; 2. Development interventions and social transition; 3. Sustainable development and the resource management; 4. Rural society management and community development;				

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		5. Development innovation, agricultural extension, and communication; 6. Development ethics, rights, and law			
Course					
Type	No.	Course	Credit	Semester	Teachers
Obligatory	73123402	Advanced Development Studies	2	Fall	Asso. Prof. Zhang Chuanhong
Obligatory	73123403	Social Research Methods	2	Fall	Prof. Zhang Keyun
Obligatory	73123404	Planning and Management of Modern Regional Development	2	Fall	Asso. Prof. Liu Yanli
Obligatory	73123414	Public Management	2	Fall	Prof. Zuo Ting
Obligatory	71120006	Guidance on Academic Thesis Writing	1	Spring	Prof. Wang Libin
Obligatory	71120004	Research Integrity and Academic Norms	1	Fall	Prof. Wang Libin
Selective	73123406	Public Policy and Analysis	2	Fall	Prof. Tang Lixia
Selective	74123402	Community-based Natural Resource Management	2	Spring	Prof. Qi Gubo
Selective	74123406	Political Economies of Development	2	Fall	Asso. Prof. Wang Chunyu
Obligatory	71800001	Elementary Chinese	3	Fall	Mr. Sui Yonggui
Obligatory	12132590	Overview of China	3	Spring	Mr. Sui Yonggui
Selective	72800004	Utilization of Electronic Information Sources in Humanities and Social Sciences	1	Fall	Ms. Zhao Jinhui
Selective	94123404	Critical Development Studies	2	Spring	Prof. Ye Jingzhong
Selective	94123408	Development Models of China	1.5	Spring	Prof. Wang Libin
Other Requirements					
Task		Requirements	Deadline		Credit
1. Draft of individual program plan		Two copies of the plan	Within one month of enrollment (will be completed by the college)		
2. Literature review and dissertation proposal		Complete the thesis proposal	By the end of May		2
3. Practices		Practices in teaching or research	End of second semester		4
4. Professional English			Before the middle-term review		1
5. Middle-term review		Review of progress	The third semester		

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6.Middle-term review of thesis	Review of progress on thesis	End of the third semester	
7. Requirements for publication: none			

**(2) Compulsory Course Introduction**

**Course Code ( 73123402 ) : Advanced Development Studies (2 credits)**

The idea of "development" is the product of colonial rule over the years. This course systematically summarizes the important issues in the field of development, these issues were deeply rooted in the social sciences' exploration of the essence of modern industrial capitalism. However, since the collapse of the global colonial system, the new elite began to push a new concept of development. In the following decades, many policymakers and scholars also pay a close attention to the theory and practice of development. Thus, the issue of development gradually formed its own distinctive features, and continues to these days. This course aims to clarify the footprint of the theory and practice of development in the past fifty years by teaching and discussion, and refine the experience and lessons, so as to better serve the future development research work.

**Course Code (73123403): Social Research Methods (2 credits)**

This course introduces the qualitative and quantitative design methods used in the study of development issues in the field of social sciences. By classroom teaching and group discussions, students will master the research strategies related to qualitative and quantitative research, including know well about methodology basis of qualitative and quantitative research methods, get familiar with the main points of the random and non-random sampling (case selection) and how to carry on the questionnaire surveys, interviews, observations, and use participatory tools for research and evaluation. This course will make students learn the writing of the research proposal and a series of methods to analyze the data using SPSS software

**Course Code (73123404): Planning and Management of Modern Regional Development (2 credits)**

Based on the background of rural regional development and planning knowledge, deeply discuss the characteristics and application conditions of modern regional planning methods. In the background of context of China's rural areas and other developing countries, discuss the regional planning method suitable for developing countries. This course introduces the role of participatory approach in improving regional development planning, and analyzes the applicable methods of determining objectives and management projects.

**Course Code (73123414): Public Management (2 credits)**

Using the methods of participatory research, combining teaching and research, this course focuses on the problems of rural development and management. Students choose their own topics, find and read the relevant literature, complete a high level of literature



review on the basis of constant discussion. In this process, this course will improve students' quality of analyzing and solving problems, and expand students' scope of knowledge about the rural development and management through mutual communication and discussion, deepen students' understanding of the subject of rural development and management. The teaching process emphasizes the interaction between teachers and students as well as the interactive learning process between students and students.

### **(3) Introduction to Elective Courses**

#### **Course Code (73123406): Public Policy and Analysis (2 credits)**

Public Policy and Analysis is an important course in the field of rural development and management. It focuses on the following contents: The main frame and method of basic concepts of public policy (basic concept, academic schools), public policy system and the policy process (cycle), public policy analysis technique, the rural public policy and the special status, the main policy issues of development of China's rural areas, and public policy research design and organization.

The course teaching closely combines with the major theoretical and practical issues in the development and management of rural areas. The teaching content fully embodies the combination of ideas, theories, methods and practical cases.

#### **Course Code (74123402): Community-based Natural Resource Management (2 credits)**

The course aims to promote the reserve team's capacity building of China's rural development research and practice of reserve by the review and analysis of the concept and methods of participatory learning and cases of Community-based Natural Resource Management. At the same time, the course will contribute to narrowing the gap between the current higher education and the reality of China's rural development.

The main content of the course: Introduces the definition and main features of community based natural resource management, learn how to do this in the real situation. The course will lead students to identify the main challenges that the approach is facing: How the research work can promote researchers and the local people's understanding of the social life's complexity, and promote the formation of action foundation to solve relevant problems.

#### **Course Code (94123404): Critical Development Studies (2 credits)**

This course will introduce the latest progress in the field of development research, so that students can understand international scholars' new themes, new methods and achievements of in the field of development research, expected to drive the international communication ability of college research results. Professors are from universities in Britain, Holland and other countries which have long term development research history and research achievements. Course content includes: Encounter development; to pick up the class in development evolution; land system and policy; the relationship between state and society in the process of development movement; food and agricultural energy

politics; environment and health from the perspective of social science; agriculture and food production social science; non-agriculture in agricultural development, the game between smallholder and large-scale; the construction of farming system; conflict perspective in the research of development; planning in development and deconstruction of planning.

**Course Code (94123408): Development Models of China (1.5 credits)**

This course is mainly for master students majoring in "rural development and management", carried out in the form of lectures. We will invite famous scholars in related fields, introduce the process and experience of China's reform and development, let students comprehensively understand China's development model, road and experience from the aspect of economic development, rural reform, financial reform, poverty alleviation, social structure change and cultural politics.

**(4) Teaching Staff**

The teachers for international students are carefully selected and arranged by the college. These teachers all have the experience of education in foreign countries, are fluent in teaching in English, and have associate professor or professor title. They are experienced in development research and practices.

**1.3.2 Teaching Methods**

Our college adopts the participatory teaching method, focus on the interaction between teachers and students. In addition to the teacher lectures, we will arrange the discussion and communication between teachers and students, and organize group discussions to share knowledge and insights among students. In addition to the classroom teaching, our college invites the world's top scholars to deliver lectures about development for every two weeks in average. Each lecture will arrange an interactive session, so that students can ask questions and scholars will answer. We also arrange tea break, so that students and the speakers will have a chance for further contact.

We often use case studies in our college, collect the key practices and cases of the world, and analyze and discuss with the students to enable students to better understand the complexity of the development problems in real world, and learn to rethink the purpose and way of development with the developmental idea and view.

Course assignments will often require students to make PPT presentations on the subject in class. On the one hand, students can better absorb the contents of the classroom, on the other hand, to promote students to think deeply of what they learn with the understanding of the development problem in reality. It can also train students' thinking and communication ability.

In order to let the international students understand the current situation of China's rural areas, we will arrange field trips in countryside for international students, so that they can communicate with Chinese farmers, to analyze the needs and problems of the farmers

with the knowledge they learn in classes, to understand the development activities and practices in China.

Our college also arranges a variety of study tours for the students, one is to understand the approaches and achievements of China's agriculture and rural development, the other is to visit the historical city of China, to enable the students to learn more about the customs and cultures in different places in China.

### **1.3.3 Term Arrangement**

The Master program lasts for two years, divided into four semesters. Fall semester of the first academic year start from early September, the winter vacation begins at next year in late January, and it's the end of the fall semester. The spring semester begins at the end of February, ends in mid-July, and it's the end of the spring semester and the end of the first academic year. The second academic year starts from late August, repeat the arrangement of first academic year. The graduation ceremony will be on late June, and the students graduate in mid-July.

### **1.3.4 Thesis**

#### **(1) Requirements of Graduation Thesis**

The students are also required to complete a thesis related to development issues in China or in their home countries. The program will assign an advisor for each student. The thesis should be in the type of research. The thesis should demonstrate the student capacities in applying development-related theories and knowledge, methodologies, to analyze and solve problems in development practices.

The thesis should accord with the format of master's degree thesis of China Agricultural University, including the significance and background of the selected topic, literature review, research methods, research results, conclusions and discussion. The above five main parts of the content should be about 50 pages, 12 of New Times Roman font, single spaced. Plagiarism, and other academic misconducts are all banned. Literature review and field research should be included in the thesis. The thesis should be finished in the end of April in the second academic year and reviewed by 5 experts. Students who pass this procedure should defend their thesis in late May of the second academic year.

#### **(2) Requirements of Thesis Defense**

After passing the expert review, student thesis also need to pass the thesis defense on May of second academic year. The committee consists of 5 experts, students should use PPT for 20 minutes of presentation, after that the student should answer experts' questions. And then the 5 experts will vote. To get a master's degree the student needs at least 4 experts' agreement. Otherwise, the student needs to defend again within 2 years, the person who passes can get a master's degree.

### **1.3.5 Graduate Degree**

The students are required to complete 30 credits, and pass the defense of thesis to be able to graduate and get their Master degrees. The degree name is “Master of Management”.

## **2. Application Procedures**

### **2.1 Application Requirements**

The program targets toward the following applicants, the basic requirements for the applicants are:

- (1) Applicants should be non-Chinese, from developing countries, physically and mentally healthy, and are under 45 years old (born after September 1 of 1978).
- (2) The applicants need to provide health certificate or physical examination form issued by local public hospitals, without diseases which Chinese laws and regulations prohibit the entry into and long-term residency in China. The applicants who have severe hypertension, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer and other serious chronic diseases, mental illness or are likely to cause significant harm to public health, infectious diseases, major surgery and acute diseases, seriously disabled, are not suggested to apply. The pregnant women should not apply. If the female students are pregnant during the study, they should withdraw from the university.
- (3) Applicants need to have excellent learning performance, have a bachelor's degree and good university grades.
- (4) We will give priority to those people who have academic background related to humanities and literature arts, and work experience in the field of development.
- (5) Applicants need to have a working position either in their home countries' governments as or above Commander, or in organizations and companies as managers, or in study institutions as important academic figures
- (6) The applicants should be proficient in English to complete the study of courses and thesis writing. The applicants should provide valid English proficiency certificate, such as IELTS score 6.0 or above, or new TOEFL score 80 or above.
- (7) Applicants should have the potential in the study field and dedicate to improve relationships between China and their home countries and increase cooperation.
- (8) Students who are currently studying in China or have got other Chinese government scholarship cannot apply.

## **2.2 Application Procedures**

### **2.2.1 Admission Application**

The applicants need to fill in the Application Form for Foreigner Wishing to Study in China Agricultural University (<http://apply.cau.edu.cn> )

### **2.2.2 Scholarship Application**

Please register and submit your application at the CSC Online Application System for International Students at: <https://studyinchina.csc.edu.cn/#/login> and register to fill in and print the Application Form for Chinese Government Scholarship after submitting it online. Please submit the form again if you made any changes on it. (Program Type: B, CAU Agency No.: 10019)

- A. Please note that our Agency No. is: 10019. Please select the discipline name “Management”, followed by select the major (our program name) “Rural Development and Management Studies”.
- B. The CSC numbers generated in the table will be used when fill in the form of Study Visa in China 201 for the study of international students.
- C. Select the scholarship type B.

### 2.2.3 Other Application Material

In addition to the above, the applicants should also prepare the following materials:

Documents		Requirements
1	Graduation certificate & degree diploma	Copies of graduation certificate and degree diploma for undergraduate study. Applicants expecting to graduate should provide an official letter stating expected graduation date and the date for getting the degree certificates.
2	Official academic transcripts	Copies of the transcripts of undergraduate study.
3	Personal statement	1500 words in English. Please make a detailed statement from the perspectives of your academic background, work/research experience and achievements, make research proposal and future career plans and intensions, etc.
4	CV	In English, summarize your main education and work experiences.
5	Two recommendation letters	The referees can be professors, your supervisors, or government officials from central or local government authorities. The recommendation letters must be original documents either in Chinese or English.
6	Employer letter	If you have a job, a letter is required from the senior representative of your work place to approve your leave after September 1 of 2021 if you are admitted.
7	Copies of English language proficiency test results	The applicants should provide English language proficiency test result, IELTS score 6.0 or above, new TOEFL score 80 or above.
8	Photocopy of valid passport	The passport type must be ordinary, not official or diplomatic passport.
9	Recent passport size photos	Two recent passport style photos, 2 inches.
10	Physical exam within one month	Please go to a qualified hospital to do the physical exam, and fill in the Foreigner Physical Examination Form which can be downloaded from: <a href="http://admissions.cau.edu.cn/">http://admissions.cau.edu.cn/</a> Please also attach the results of the blood test and X-Ray check.

### 2.2.4 Submission of Application

Before apply for our program, the applicants should get the approval and recommendation from the relevant governments in applicants' home countries. The application procedures should be followed according to their government requirement. If the applicants are allowed by their government to directly submit the application materials to Chinese embassies, the related references and recommendation letters from the government are required. Then the applicants should submit all the application

materials listed in the above sessions (2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3) in both hard copy and scanned copy to the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy. Hard copy must include both the original copy and the photocopy. For emails and addresses of the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Offices, please visit <http://www.china-aibo.cn/>, please view the English version.

The related government agencies of the applicants should submit a written request to the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy for issuing an official recommendation letter for the applicant, and clearly state:

- whether the applicant is willing to be considered for a similar program at other universities if the programs you applied are already full.
- Other special requests if any.

**Important Notice :**

- a) All the documents to be submitted should be in Chinese or English. Otherwise, a notarized translated version in Chinese or English is required.
- b) An original copy of degrees, transcripts and language certificates must be presented for on-site verification the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy upon request. After the verification, the applicants should send the scanned applications files to the contact persons in the targeted universities.
- c) All the original and copied files need to be returned to the applicants after on-site verification by the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy. If admitted, the applicants must take these documents to China and submit them to the universities to verify and archive.
- d) Please note that the name of all application materials should be exactly the same as the name of the passport. In case of disagreement, a written statement and a written certificate from the authority should be issued.

## **2.3 Deadline**

The deadline to receive the application documents is: 6 June of 2023.

## **3. Other Important Notice**

### **3.1 Contact Information**

Dr. Wang Libin, Professor

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E-mail: [developmentstudy@qq.com](mailto:developmentstudy@qq.com)

Website: <http://admissions.cau.edu.cn/>

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China Agricultural University

No.17 Qing Hua Dong Lu, Haidian District, Beijing 100083

P.R.China

### **3.2 Other Important Note**

(1) No matter what the results of the application are, all the application documents will be not returned. No matter what the results of the application are, the Chinese government will not give any explanation.

(2) The students can not take spouse or children with them when they come to China. The program does not cover any cost for the visits of the student's spouse and children.

(3) The details on how to come to China will be described in admission documents.