Nine Ohio State students studying Chinese participated in the Global Leadership Academy at Wuhan University in Wuhan, China, from May 2 – 26. The trip was coordinated by the Global Gateways and made possible through a $50,000 grant from the U.S. Department of State.

The goal of the program was to give Ohio State students an education abroad experience through a culture and language practicum and to develop leadership skills, while also providing students in Wuhan the opportunity to learn from and participate in language and cultural exchange. The Global Leadership Academy provides opportunities for students to take the language they are learning in the classroom and apply it in real life situations like ordering food, getting transportation, conversing with fellow Chinese students and even watching a movie in the theatre.

During their time in China, Ohio State students visited universities to understand higher education development and structure and collaborated with Wuhan University communication students to practice language skills. The students also participated in a traditional Chinese tea ceremony and a cultural exchange through dance, music, poetry, sports, calligraphy, Tai Chi and dumpling making.

Students visited the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square and Forbidden City in Beijing, the Yellow Crane Tower and Hubei Provincial Museum in Wuhan and the Pearl Tower and Yu Yuan Garden in Shanghai. While in Shanghai, the group also visited the China Gateway to learn more about the structure and services provided to Ohio State.

For more information about the Global Leadership Academy, visit oia.osu.edu.