



Center on
Religion and
Chinese Society
中國宗教與社會研究中心

2018
Purdue Survey of
Chinese Students
and Scholars
in the United States:
A General Report



**Center on
Religion and
Chinese Society**

中國宗教與社會研究中心



CENTER ON RELIGION AND CHINESE SOCIETY

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	2
Purdue Survey of Chinese Students and Scholars in the United States (2018):	
A General Report	4
Highlights	5
Section 1: Social Background	7
Section 2: Social Life and Media Use	11
Section 3: Attitudes toward Race and Ethnicity	15
Section 4: Views of China, the United States, Democracy, and Freedom	18
Section 5: Spiritual Life of CS in the U.S.	26
Appendix: Additional Tables	33
References	49

Purdue Survey of Chinese Students and Scholars in the United States (2018): A General Report

In 2016, the Center on Religion and Chinese Society at Purdue University carried out the Purdue Survey of Chinese Students (PSCS 2016) and published the [findings](#). In March, 2018, a second wave of this survey was conducted. In addition to Chinese students, this survey also included Chinese visiting scholars and is therefore called the Purdue Survey of Chinese Students and Scholars (PSCSS 2018). Consistent with the PSCS 2016, the PSCSS 2018 focuses on the social, cultural, and spiritual life of Chinese students and scholars in a national research university and a regional university in the Midwest. This survey is supported in part by a generous grant from the Templeton Foundation to the CRCS for the project of “Mapping Chinese Spiritual Capital.”

The 2018 survey was conducted at a national research university in the Midwest and a regional university also in the Midwest. However, the number of valid cases from the regional university was too small, thus not included in this report. This national research university had about 40,000 students enrolled in Fall 2017, among whom 3,696 were from the People’s Republic of China. Chinese students may be found in all colleges, schools, and departments of the university, with about 61 percent being undergraduates and 39 percent graduate students. This university also had 484 visiting scholars from China as of Spring 2018. We recruited participants for the survey through e-mails sent out directly by the Office of the Registrar to all Chinese students and visiting scholars. The respondents followed a web link in the e-mail to reach the online survey. The surveys were in Chinese, with the questions and answers translated into English for this report. A total of 1,008 Chinese students and visiting scholars from China answered the survey, which was a response rate of about 23 percent. The sample is representative of the Chinese student and visiting scholar population at this university in terms of colleges and student status, with slightly more respondents in engineering schools and slightly fewer in the business school.

The PSCSS 2018, like the 2016 survey, focuses on Chinese students (hereafter CS), but when noted, this report will at times compare the social characteristics of CS with that of visiting scholars (hereafter VS). This report begins with a summary of key findings before offering greater detail on the social, cultural, and spiritual life of respondents. The Appendix includes the demographics of the participants in this survey and tables not found in the text.

Highlights

Some of the key findings:

- ❖ Family background: The majority of CS were from well-off families.
 - More than 85 percent and 76 percent of the respondents' fathers and mothers had high-paying jobs. More than 50 percent of the respondents' major financial support came from their families, themselves, or relatives and family friends. And about 81 percent of the respondents indicated that the financial pressure of living in the United States was moderate or low for them.
 - More than 85 percent of the respondents reported having at least one college-educated parent.

- ❖ Perceptions of the U.S. and China: More students developed a more positive perception of China after coming to the US.
 - About 16 percent of the respondents indicated that their perception of the United States had become better since coming to the United States, while about 42 percent of the respondents indicated having a worse perception.
 - About 46 percent of the respondents indicated that their perception of China had become better since coming to the United States, while about 13 percent reported having a worse perception of China.

- ❖ Drinking and Smoking: CS drank less but smoked more than other students.
 - About 21 percent of CS drank once per month or more in the past semester. This is significantly lower than the drinking behavior among the general college student population in the United States, which was 83 percent for males and 79 percent for females (Yusko, Buckman, White et al. 2008).
 - About 10 percent of the respondents in our survey indicated that they smoked, whereas in the general college student population, the smoking rate was about 5 percent (Dutra and Glantz 2014).

- ❖ Race and Ethnic Relations: The vast majority of CS who are married or in a relationship are paired with other Chinese.
 - The most desirable marriage partners among CS were fellow Chinese, Overseas Chinese, East Asians, and European Americans.
 - Women accounted for the majority of those who married out.
 - About 24 percent of the respondents indicated that they had been treated unfairly due to their race.

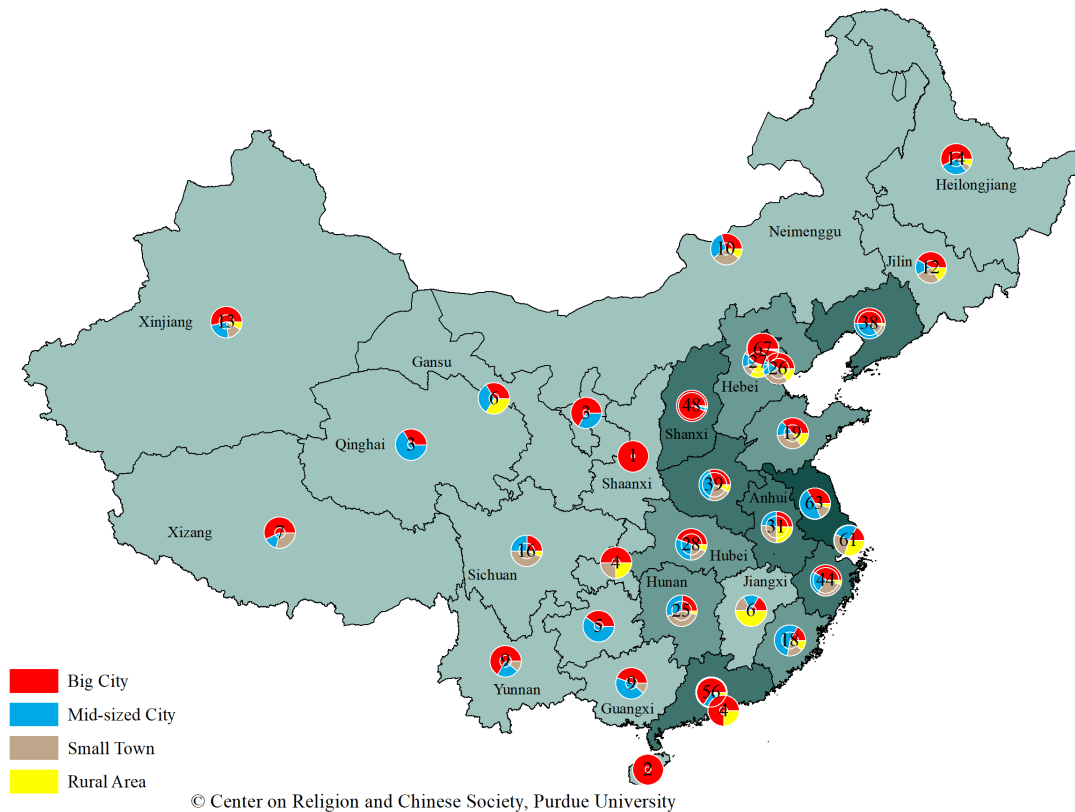
- ❖ Religion and Spirituality: Most of the CS reported believing in some supernatural being or force but few reported being religious.
 - Since coming to the United States, the number of CS believing in Catholicism and Daoism doubled, while the number believing in Protestantism quadrupled. However, believing in other religions decreased.
 - The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the Chinese Communist Youth League (CYL) require their members to uphold atheism. However, more than 43 percent of CCP and 53 percent CYL members in our sample reported believing in some supernatural power or being, while only 26 percent of the others reported the same.

Section 1: Social Background

The PSCSS 2018 contains detailed information on respondents’ social background, including their provinces of origin, parental educational and occupational attainment, number of siblings, financial sources, and financial pressure while studying and living in the U.S.

The respondents were from 30 provinces (including directly-administered municipalities and autonomous regions) and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The majority of the respondents were from big and mid-sized cities. The following map gives the breakdown of the province of origin and the type of area the respondents were from.

Origin of the Chinese Students in the Survey: Province and Type of Area

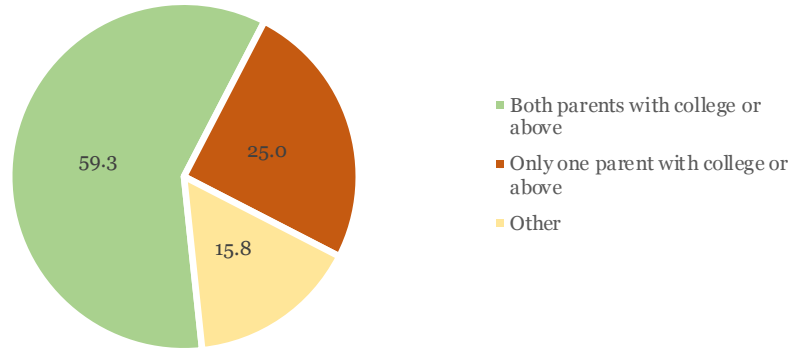


*Note: The pie charts depict the percentage of the type of area the respondents are from. The numbers in the pie charts are the total number of cases.

Consistent with the findings of the PSCS 2016, the majority of the respondents were from families with at least one college-educated parent. As displayed in Figure 1.1, about 59 percent of the respondents’ parents both had college degrees or above, 25

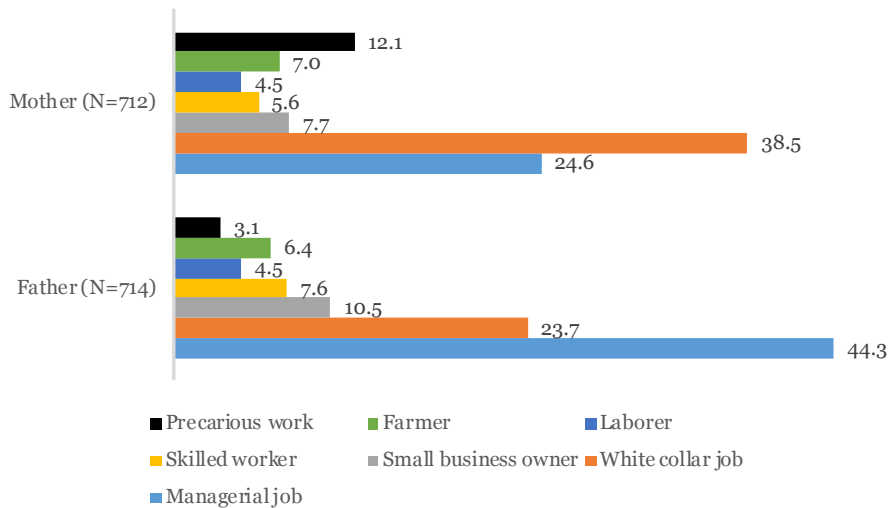
percent of the respondents were from families with one college-educated parent, and less than 16 percent of the respondents had two parents without a college degree.

Figure 1.1: Distribution of parental educational attainment (%)



The majority of parents had high-paying jobs, such as managerial or white-collar jobs. About five, six, and three percent of the respondents’ fathers were laborers, farmers, or had precarious (unstable) jobs, respectively. This is similar for the mothers, except that about 12 percent had precarious work. It should be noted that the survey did not provide a full-time homemaker option but instead provided a precarious work option. Therefore, full-time homemaker mothers were likely categorized into the precarious work category.

Figure 1.2: Parental occupational status (%)



As shown in Figure 1.3, unlike the PSCS 2016 in which we found that 80 percent of the students were the only child of their families, only 68 percent of the students had no siblings. About 32 percent of the respondents had one or more siblings. It should be

noted that among the Chinese VS, only 32 percent were the only child of their families. The rest had at least one sibling.

Figure 1.3: How many siblings do you have? (%)

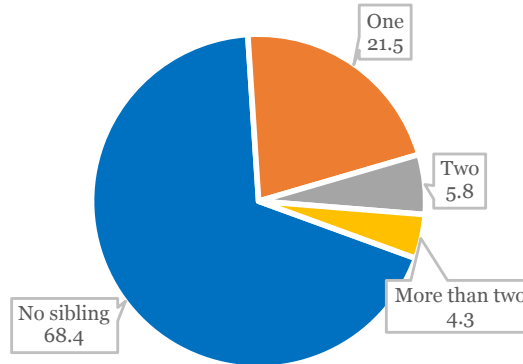
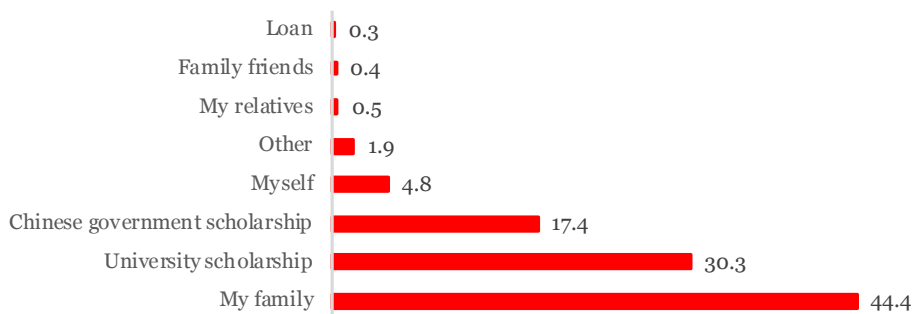


Figure 1.4 shows the major funding sources of tuition and living expenses for the students. Since we changed the original question from allowing multiple answers to only allowing for one answer, the findings of the PSCSS 2018 are slightly different from the 2016 survey. More than 40 percent of the respondents reported that their major financial support came from their families. About 30 percent of the respondents were receiving university scholarships as their major funding source. These were predominantly graduate students. About 17 percent of the respondents received Chinese government scholarships.

Figure 1.4: Funding Source (%)



Original question: What is your major financial source for tuition and living expenses?

We also asked respondents, including VS, to estimate the financial pressure they felt living in the United States. About 80 percent of the respondents indicated that the financial pressure they felt living in the United States was moderate or low. For the rest, the financial pressure was high or very high. It should be noted that undergraduate

students and VS are more likely to have high level financial pressures than graduate students.

Table 1.1: Level of financial pressure for living in the U.S. by student status (%). (N=733)

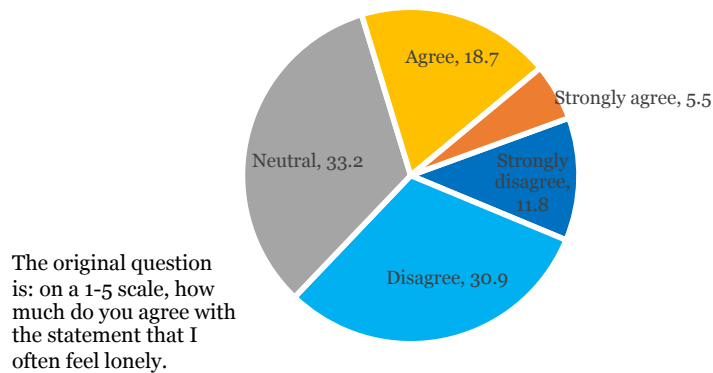
Student status	Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High	Total
Undergraduates	13.3	20.8	45.5	17.1	3.4	100
Graduate students	8.9	24.1	50.6	11.7	4.8	100
Visiting scholars	14.4	22.2	43.1	17.7	2.6	100
Total	11.6	22.5	47.2	14.9	3.8	100

Section 2: Social Life and Media Use

In this section, we focus on the social life of CS in the United States. We are especially interested in the students' social attitudes, behaviors, family life, and communication with their families in China.

We asked the respondents to indicate how lonely they were. As shown in Figure 2.1, about 24 percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, “I often feel lonely,” 33 percent of the respondents selected neutral, and about 43 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. This is significantly less than in the PSCS 2016 in which 55 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement.

Figure 2.1: I often feel lonely (%)



We also surveyed the frequency of contacting family and friends in China. The vast majority of the respondents maintained frequent contact with their family in China. The frequency distribution is quite similar to what we found in 2016. About 22 percent of the respondents contacted their family every day, 68 percent contacted their family every week, and about eight percent did so once a month. Only about two percent of the respondents indicated that they contacted their family less than once a month.

The respondents also frequently contacted their friends in China. About 17 percent indicated that they contacted friends in China every day. More than 39 percent of the respondents contacted friends in China every week and about 26 percent every month. About 18 percent contacted their friends in China less than once per month.

About 53 percent of the respondents were single, which is less than what we found in the PSCS 2016 in which more than 50 percent were single. About 36 percent of respondents were in a relationship but not married, and about 11 percent were married,

most of whom were graduate students. Less than two percent of the undergraduates were married.

Table 2.1 shows the cohabitation status by student status and gender among respondents who were married or in a relationship. Graduate students were slightly more likely to live together than undergraduate students when they were married or in a relationship. Men are more likely to cohabit with their partners than women.

Table 2.1: Cohabitation status by student status and gender (%).

	Yes	No	Total
Student status (N=313)			
Undergraduates	39.5	60.6	100
Graduate students	42.2	57.8	100
Gender (N=308)			
Male	47.5	52.5	100
Female	34.9	65.7	100

Note: Missing cases are single.

The 2018 survey again collected information on respondents' drinking and smoking behaviors. The pattern has not changed much in two years. About 80 percent of the respondents did not drink or drank less than once per month in the past semester. About 11 percent of the respondents drank once per month, and seven percent drank once per week in the past semester. About three percent of the respondents reported drinking several times per week in the past semester.

The majority of the students in our sample did not smoke. Only about 11 percent of the respondents indicated that they smoked. In general, graduate students were less likely to smoke or they smoked less often compared to undergraduate students.

We also collected information on the groups, organizations, or collective activities that the respondents joined in both China and the United States. On average, each respondent joined 2.7 and 1.9 groups, organizations, or collective activities in China and in the U.S., respectively. We found that when in China, 13 percent of the respondents joined the Chinese Communist Party and 47 percent joined the Chinese Communist Youth League. In the United States, only two percent of the respondents joined political interest groups.

Table 2.2: When you were in China, did you join the following (%)? (N=549)

Student union	50.8
Chinese Communist Youth League	46.5
Volunteer group	38.6
Art group	29.0
Alumni association	26.6
Exercise club	21.3
Foreign language group	14.2
Townsmen association	17.9
Chinese Communist Party	12.9
Book club	8.0
Total	265.8

Note:1. This is a multiple choice question. 2. On average, each respondent selected 2.7 options.

Table 2.3: In this semester, did you join the following (%)? (N=419)

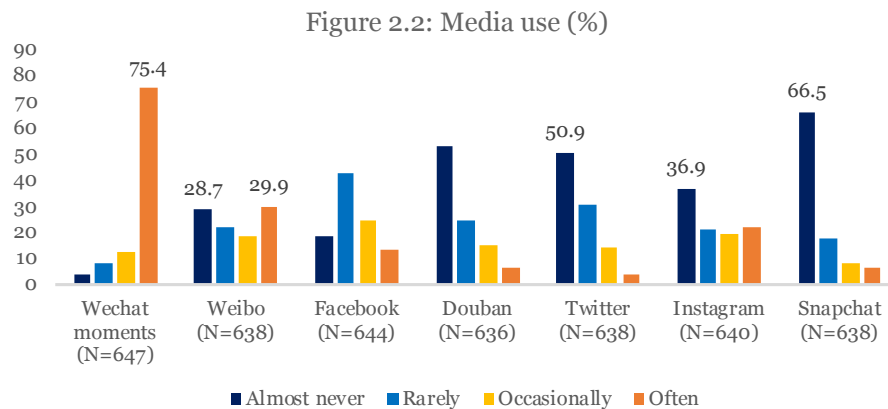
Poker/Mahjong games	35.6
Student union	27.0
Drinking party	25.1
Volunteer group	22.9
Exercise club	13.6
Alumni association	15.3
Art group	15.8
Joy ride party	9.6
Dance party	8.6
Townsmen association	8.8
Foreign language group	5.3
Book club	4.1
Political interest group	1.9
Total	191.9

Note:1. This is a multiple choice question. 2. On average, each respondent selected 1.9 options.

We also investigated CS' social attitudes. We asked the respondents how much they agreed with the statement, "I trust most people around me." About 63 percent of the respondents indicated that they agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. About 12 percent of the respondents chose disagree or strongly disagree, and 25 percent of the respondents selected neutral.

It is also shown that the majority of CS adapt to their life in the U.S. well. Only 12 percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “I am not accustomed to the life in America,” and less than five percent of the CS agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “it is hard for me to fit in the campus life here.” However, being away from home did cause emotional distress among the respondents. About 37 percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “it makes me sad being away from my family and friends in China.”

We collected data on media use of CS. We listed six social media apps that were fairly common in the United States and China and asked the respondents how often they used these. As shown in Figure 2.2, WeChat Moments¹ was the most popular social media among the respondents, followed by Weibo², Instagram, and Facebook. The majority of CS do not use Twitter and Snapchat, which are popular among American students.



We asked the respondents to select how many minutes they spent on various news outlets every day. We found that, on average, students spent more time on Chinese social media (54 mins per day) and Chinese websites (38 mins per day) than other news outlets. More than 20 percent of respondents read newspapers but spend less time on this than social media or websites.

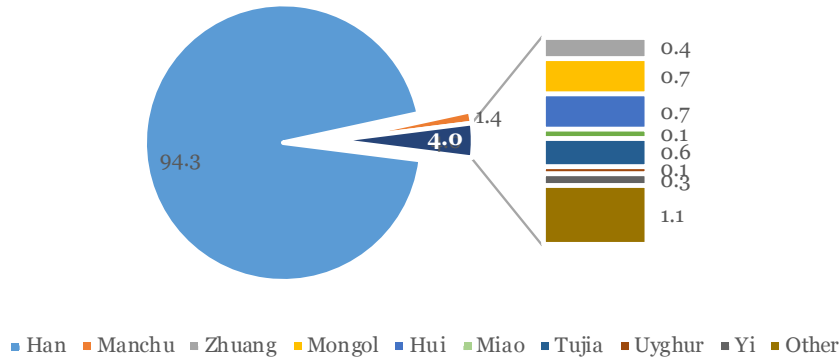
1 Wechat Moments is a feature of the very popular social network app, Wechat. Users can use Wechat Moments to share status updates, pictures with captions, music, and other personal and private information.

2 Weibo or Sina Weibo is a popular Chinese microblogging website/app that has similar functions to Twitter.

Section 3: Attitudes toward Race and Ethnicity

China is a multi-ethnic country with more than 91 percent of the population as Han Chinese. The remaining nine percent of the Chinese population are distributed among 55 ethnic minority groups. Similar to the 2016 survey sample, about 94 percent of the respondents in the PSCSS 2018 were Han Chinese. Figure 3.1 shows the ethnic composition of our sample.

Figure 3.1: Ethnicity (%)



Among the respondents who were married or in a relationship, 89 percent of the partners were Chinese. About four percent of the respondents reported having Overseas Chinese or European American spouses or partners, respectively. About 1.3 percent of the respondents indicated that they had spouses or partners of other East Asian backgrounds.

We provided a multiple-choice question to collect data on marriage preferences among respondents who were single. In general, the respondents were more likely to select Chinese as their partners, followed by Overseas Chinese and other East Asians.

Table 3.1: If you are single now, how likely would you choose to marry a person of the following race/ethnicity (%)?

	Very likely	Likely	Neutral	Unlikely	Very unlikely	Total
Chinese (N=331)	32.6	35.1	27.2	2.4	2.7	100
Overseas Chinese (N=321)	7.2	32.1	46.4	6.5	7.8	100
Other East Asian (N=319)	3.5	11.9	50.5	17.2	16.9	100
European American (N=323)	1.9	14.2	52.6	15.8	15.5	100
Latino/a American (N=312)	1.3	3.5	41.4	22.4	31.4	100
Others (N=297)	0.7	1.0	45.8	16.8	35.7	100
African American (N=319)	0.0	0.9	24.8	27.6	46.7	100

Note: Categories are rank ordered based on values of the Very Likely column.

Table 3.2 shows the breakdown of spouse or partners racial/ethnic groups by respondents' gender. In general, women are more likely to marry non-Chinese. Women accounted for about 85 percent of the respondents when the spouse/partner was a European American. When the spouse/partner was an Overseas Chinese, women accounted for 57 percent of the respondents. The respondents who were married to or dating a person of African American or other ethnic background were all women.

Table 3.2: Spouse/partner's Race/Ethnicity by Respondents' Gender (%). (N=308)

Race/ethnicity	Female	Male	Total
European American	84.6	15.4	100
African American	100.0	0.0	100
Latino/a American	50.0	50.0	100
Chinese	50.6	49.5	100
Overseas Chinese	57.1	42.9	100
Other East Asian	50.0	50.0	100
Others	100.0	0.0	100
Total	52.6	47.4	100

We also collected data on interracial/ethnic communication among CS. Our data show that the majority of the respondents have had Chinese roommates, followed by European Americans (28 percent), other East Asians (15 percent), and Overseas Chinese (15 percent) roommates. About eight and five percent of the respondents had African American and Latino/a American roommates, respectively. It should be noted that on average, each respondent selected 1.6 options, suggesting that most respondents had shared living space with roommates of more than one racial/ethnic group.

In the PSCSS 2018, we investigated the diversity of CS' social circles by asking them to list the racial/ethnic identities of their five closest friends. As shown in Table 3.3, more than 41 percent of the five closest friends of the respondents are Chinese, followed by Overseas Chinese (18 percent) and other East Asians (17 percent).

Table 3.3: Racial/ethnic identities of five closest friends (%) (N=672)

Chinese	41.28
Overseas Chinese	18.15
Other East Asian	16.82
European American	12.20
Others	6.85
Latino American	2.38
African American	1.79
Total	100

We are also interested in attitudes toward language barriers and racial inequality. We asked the respondents to evaluate three statements: “It is hard for me to communicate with others because of language barriers,” “It is hard for me to make non-Chinese friends,” and “I have been treated unfairly because of my race.” We found that at least 23 percent of the respondents selected agree or strongly agree with each of these statements. However, more than 53 percent of the respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with the first statement, indicating that the majority of CS were confident with their language proficiency. About 49 percent of the respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with the second statement. About 35 percent of the respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that they had been treated unfairly due to their race, which is significantly less than what we found in the PSCS 2016, in which 64 percent of students selected these two options.

Section 4: Views of China, the United States, Democracy, and Freedom

We asked respondents to indicate their perceptions of China and the United States before and after coming to the U.S. Have their perceptions become more positive, negative, or was there no change? The largest number of respondents, including VS, indicated that their perceptions of China (41 and 43 percent among the CS and VS, respectively) and the U.S. (43 and 37 percent among the CS and VS, respectively) have not changed after coming to the U.S. About 42 percent of the CS indicated that their perceptions of the United States had become worse or much worse since coming to the United States. This is much higher than in the PSCS 2016, in which we found that about 29 percent of the respondents indicated having a more negative perception. This is also much higher than the VS, among which only about 22 percent indicated having worsened perceptions of the U.S.

On the other hand, only about 13 percent of the respondents (both the CS and VS) indicated that their perceptions of China had become worse or much worse. Meanwhile, more than 40 percent of the respondents (46 and 43 percent among the CS and VS, respectively) indicated that their attitude toward China had become more positive since coming to the United States. About 16 percent of the CS reported that their perceptions of the U.S. had become better or much better. The number is much higher for the VS, among which over 40 percent report having better or much better perceptions of the U.S.

Figures 4.1 and 4.2 show students' perceptions of China and the U.S. by year(s) in the United States. Warm attitudes toward China increased with years in the U.S. and peaked when staying in the U.S. for five to six years. The warm attitudes toward China decreased among those who stayed longer than six years. This is probably due to selection bias, as those with warmer attitudes might have returned to China after six years studying in the U.S. The selection effect became more obvious in Figure 4.2, as those who stayed in the U.S. for more than eight years display significantly warmer attitudes toward the U.S.

Figure 4.1: Perception of China (%)

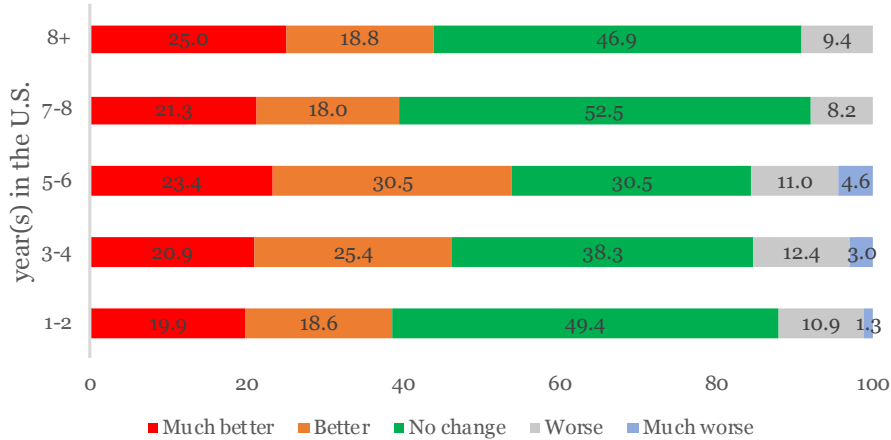
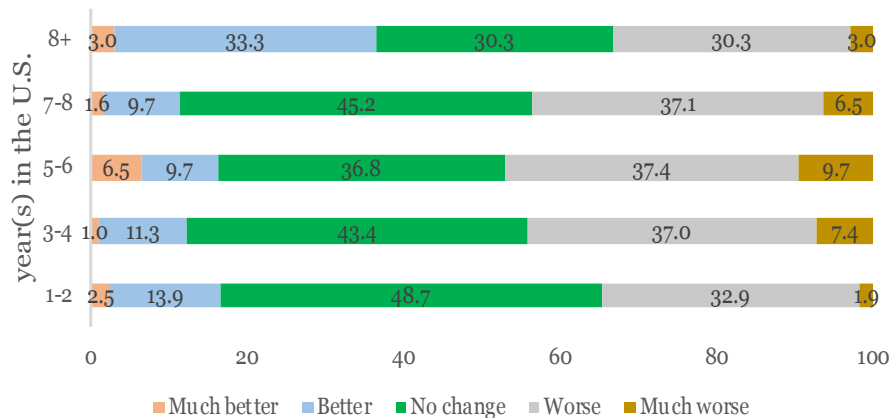


Figure 4.2: Perception of the U.S. (%)



We collected data on all respondents’ views on American politics. In general, CS and VS showed little enthusiasm about American politics. As shown in Table 4.1, about 57 percent of the students had no interest or were too busy to pay attention to American politics. Among the VS, the number is much higher, reaching 85 percent (see Table 4.1a). About 20 and 11 percent of the CS and VS respectively believed that Democrats and Republicans are the same. Among those who had clear political views, about 13 and two percent of the CS and VS respectively favored Democrats’ policy; about 10 and one percent of the CS and VS respectively favored Republicans’ policy.

Table 4.1: Views on American Politics (N=619)

Not interested in American politics	39.7
Too busy to pay attention to American politics	17.3
Democrats and Republicans are more or less the same	19.9
I like Democrats' policy	13.4
I like Republicans' policy	9.7
Total	100

Table 4.1a: (Visiting Scholar) Views on American Politics (N=175)

Not interested in American politics	53.7
Too busy to pay attention to American politics	31.4
Democrats and Republicans are more or less the same	11.4
I like Democrats' policy	2.3
I like Republicans' policy	1.1
Total	100

Figure 4.3 shows various political attitudes among the CS. In both the 2016 and 2018 surveys, we asked respondents how much they agreed with the statements that China's current political system was the most suitable one for China, and that Chinese traditional medicine can cure many diseases that Western medicine cannot. About 48 percent of the respondents indicated that they agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that China's current political system is the most suitable one for China, which is higher than what we found in the PSCS 2016 (43 percent). As compared to the 2016 survey, in which 27 percent of the respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement, only about 15 percent of the respondents chose these two options in the PSCSS 2018.

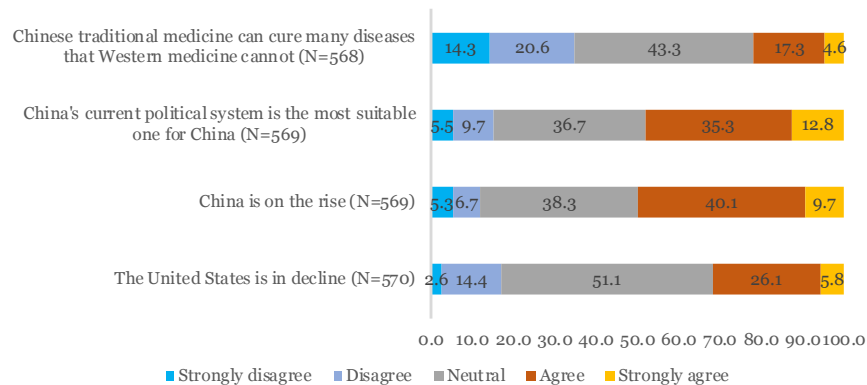
Results also show that about 22 percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the assertion that Chinese traditional medicine can cure many diseases that Western medicine cannot. In the PSCS 2016, only 14 percent of the respondents selected these two options. The percentage of the respondents who selected neutral on this statement also increased from 27 to 43 in two years. About 35 percent of the respondents indicated that they disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement in the PSCSS 2018.

We summarized the VS' political attitudes (see Table 4.5a), the general attitudes among the VS were quite similar to that of the CS', except when it came to the attitudes

toward Chinese medicine. Only 20 percent of the VS selected disagree or strongly disagree that Chinese traditional medicine can cure many diseases that Western medicine cannot. In contrast, more than 36 percent of the VS agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

We also asked the respondents to evaluate the national power of both China and the U.S. About 50 percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that China is on the rise. Only about 12 percent of the respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement. The respondents who selected neutral accounted for about 38 percent of the respondents. About 32 percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the U.S. is in decline. Only 17 percent of the respondents did not agree with this statement. More than 50 percent selected neutral.

Figure 4.3: Various political Attitudes (%)

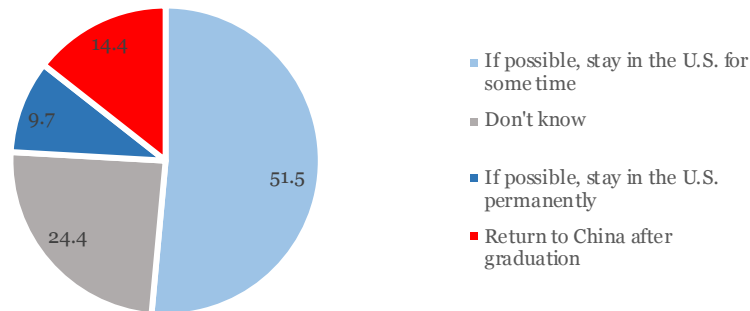


Consistent with the PSCS 2016, we asked the students to indicate if they watched the 2018 China Central Television (CCTV) Spring Festival Gala. Results show that about 34 percent of the respondents watched at least some performances. Whereas in 2016, more than 47 percent selected this option. For those who did not watch the performance at all, 21 percent indicated that they were too busy to watch. About 34 percent said that they had no interest in watching the performance. About 12 percent watched almost all the performances.

Figure 4.4 shows the future plans after graduation of the CS. The percentage of the respondents indicating that they wanted to return to China immediately after graduation slightly increased from less than 10 percent in 2016 to 14 percent in 2018. About 52 percent of the CS indicated that they wanted to stay in the United States for some time before going back to China. The percentage of the respondents who wanted to stay in the United States permanently decreased from 13 percent in 2016 to 10 percent

in 2018. It should be noted that in the PSCSS 2018, we provided an extra option for those who were still figuring out what to do after graduation. About 24 percent of the respondents indicated that they still did not know their future plans.

Figure 4.4: Future plan after graduation (%)



We asked the students to rank the factors that affect their decisions of returning to China or staying in the U.S. Figure 4.5 shows the importance of the reasons for the respondents to return to China. The three most important factors are family, career aspects, and convenience of life. As shown in Figure 4.6, if the respondents were to stay in the U.S., the most important factors leading to such a decision are career aspects, political freedom, religious freedom, and children’s education.

Figure 4.5: If you were to return to China, rank order the factors that affect your decision (%)

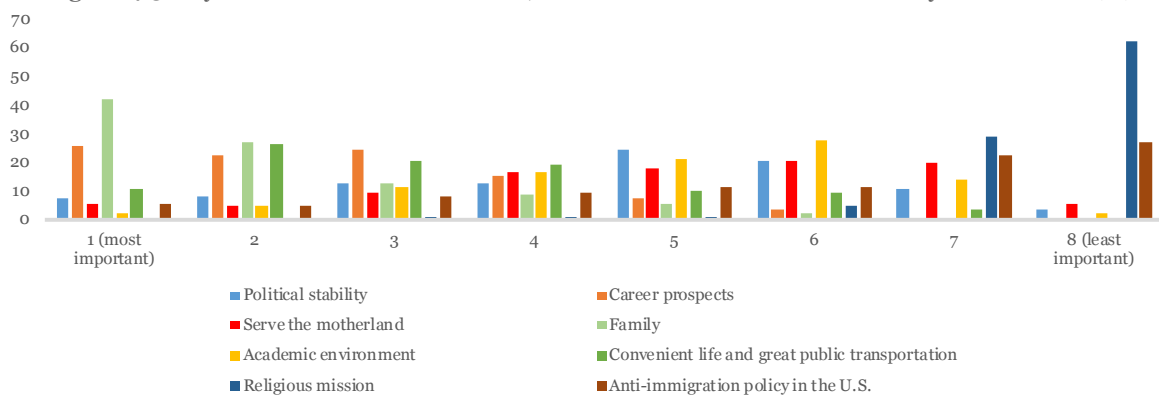
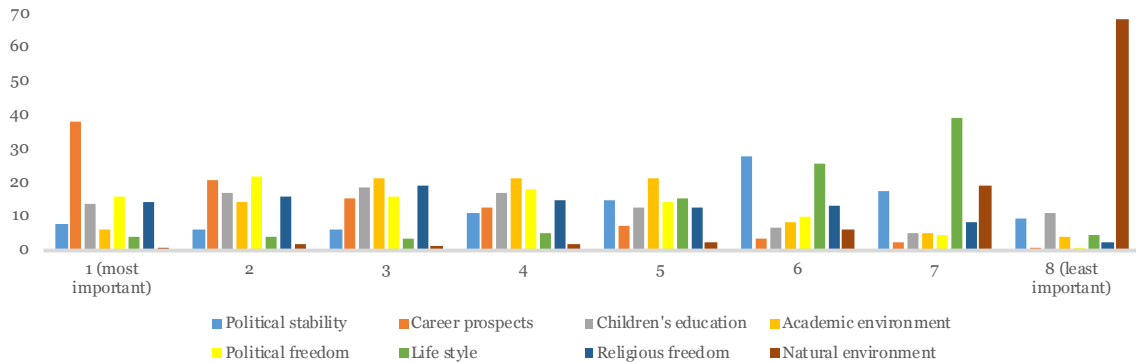


Figure 4.6: If you were to stay in the U.S., rank order the factors that affect your decision (%)



We also collected data on respondents' attitudes toward democracy and freedom and saw a clear divergence among CS and VS. For the statement that “democracy is indecisive and has too much quibbling,” about 22 percent of the CS chose disagree or strongly disagree, which is significantly lower than what we found two years ago, when 45 percent of the respondents selected these two options. The number is also much lower than the VS, among which more than 61 percent selected disagree or strongly disagree. About 50 percent of the CS chose to be neutral on this topic as compared to 37 percent two years ago. Among the VS, about 34 percent remained neutral. The number of CS who agreed or strongly agreed with the above-mentioned statement increased from 17 percent in 2016 to 29 percent in 2018. Less than five percent of the VS chose these two categories.

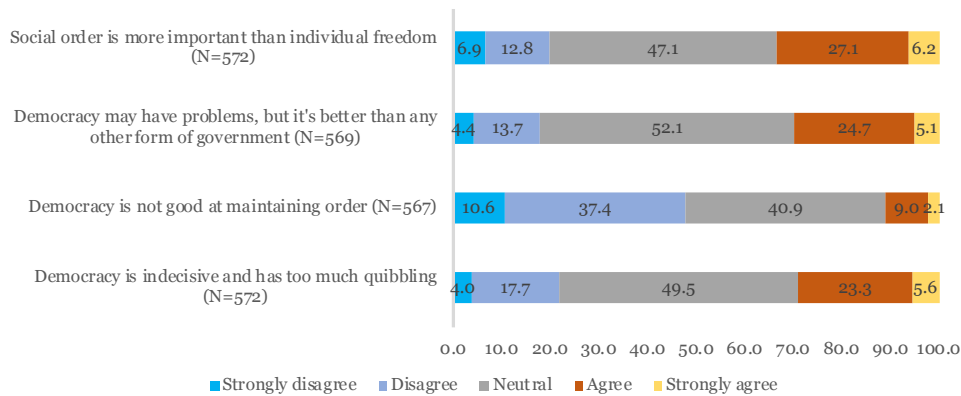
For the statement that “democracy is not good at maintaining order,” about 48 percent of the CS selected disagree or strongly disagree, significantly lower than two years ago, when more than 67 percent of the respondents selected these two options. Among the VS, only 27 percent selected these two options. About 41 and 50 percent of the CS and VS indicated that they were neutral on this topic, respectively. Only 11 percent of the CS respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this statement, which is consistent with what we found in 2016. Whereas among the VS, more than 23 percent chose these two options.

We asked the respondents to indicate how much they agreed with the statement “democracy may have problems but is better than any other form of government.” The opinions were very much split in 2016, with about 37 percent of the respondents selecting agree or strongly agree, 35 percent preferring to remain neutral, and 28 percent choosing disagree or strongly disagree. However, we found that in the PSCSS

2018, the majority of the CS selected neutral, about 30 percent agreed or strongly agreed, and 18 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement. The pattern among the VS was quite similar.

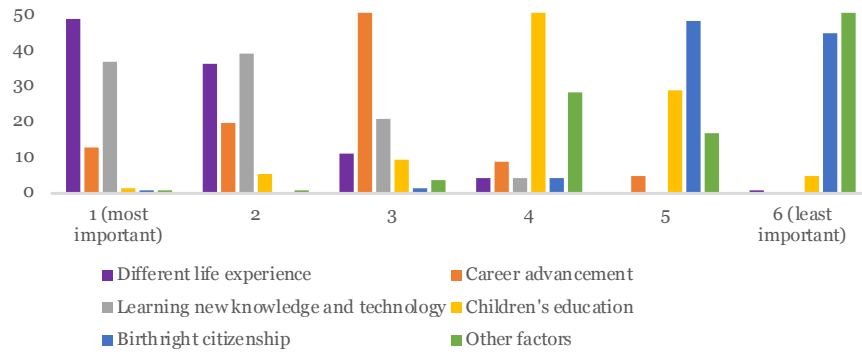
As with the PSCS 2016, the PSCSS 2018 also investigated the attitudes toward individual freedom by asking the respondents to evaluate the statement “social order is more important than individual freedom.” Results show that about 33 and 39 percent of the CS and VS agreed or strongly agreed with this statement, respectively. About 20 percent of the CS indicated that they disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement, which is significantly lower than two years ago (30 percent). The number is even lower for VS, among which only 15 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. The CS who chose to be neutral when answering this question increased from 33 to 47 percent in two years. About 46 percent of the VS selected neutral on this topic.

Figure 4.7: Attitudes toward democracy and freedom



Looking at the driving factors for VS to come to the U.S., we found that the most influential factors are gaining different life experiences, learning new knowledge and technology, and advancing their career.

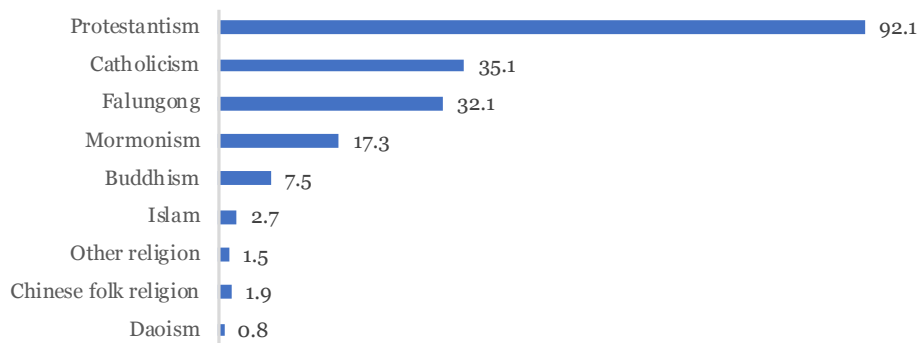
Figure 4.8: Driving factors for coming to the U.S. to become a visiting scholar (%)



Section 5: Spiritual Life of CS in the U.S.

We also collected information about the spiritual life of CS in the PSCSS 2018. We asked the respondents if they had ever been proselytized since coming to the United States. As shown in Figure 5.1, about 92 percent of the respondents had been proselytized by Protestant Christians, followed by Catholics (35 percent), Falun Gong followers (32 percent), Mormons (17 percent), and Buddhists (8 percent). Other religious followers that had proselytized the respondents included Muslims (3 percent), members of other religions (2 percent), Chinese folk religion followers (2 percent), and Daoists (2 percent). The pattern is similar to what we found two years ago, with a slight increase in the top five religions and a slight decrease in the other categories.

Figure 5.1: Have you ever been proselytized by the followers of the following religion? (%)



When measuring the respondents' religious identities, we followed the method we used in the PSCS 2016 by asking the respondents how much they believed in each religion: completely believe, somewhat believe, somewhat don't believe, don't believe. The results are shown in Table 5.1. In general, the majority of the respondents indicated that they did not believe or did not believe much in any of the religions that were offered. We view the "completely believe" category as indicating a commitment to a religion. Similar to what we found in 2016, as shown in Figure 5.2, after coming to the United States, the percentage of those "completely believing" in Protestantism nearly quadrupled, and the percentage of those "completely believing" in Catholicism and Daoism doubled. As displayed in Figure 5.3, combining the completely believe and somewhat believe categories together, we found that only believing in Protestantism and Catholicism increased, whereas believing in other religions decreased or stayed the same. Among the VS, as evident in Table 5.1a, belief in Protestantism saw the biggest increase, while belief in folk religion and Islam increased slightly.

Table 5.1: Belief in religions before and after coming to the U.S. (%)

	Do not believe	Somewhat do not believe	Somewhat believe	Completely Believe	Total	N
Belief in Buddhism						
Before coming to the U.S.	54.2	23.0	21.3	1.5	100	736
After coming to the U.S.	57.2	22.2	19.1	1.5	100	729
Belief in Daoism						
Before coming to the U.S.	62.1	24.3	13.2	0.4	100	729
After coming to the U.S.	65.2	21.3	12.2	0.8	100	727
Belief in Protestantism						
Before coming to the U.S.	68.4	23.0	7.4	1.2	100	730
After coming to the U.S.	64.7	21.2	9.9	4.3	100	727
Belief in Catholicism						
Before coming to the U.S.	74.1	22.2	3.3	0.4	100	726
After coming to the U.S.	75.7	19.4	4.0	0.8	100	721
Belief in Islam						
Before coming to the U.S.	80.5	17.4	1.8	0.3	100	724
After coming to the U.S.	81.7	16.2	1.9	0.1	100	722
Belief in Folk religion						
Before coming to the U.S.	79.1	18.4	2.2	0.3	100	722
After coming to the U.S.	80.9	16.9	2.2	0.0	100	718

Table 5.1a: (Visiting Scholars) Recoded belief in major religions (broad definition)

	Before coming to the U.S.	N	After coming to the U.S.	N
Buddhism	21.4%	154	17.7%	153
Protestantism	10.5%	152	13.9%	151
Catholicism	3.3%	151	3.3%	150
Daoism	11.1%	153	10.5%	152
Islam	2.0%	151	2.7%	149
Folk religion	2.7%	150	3.4%	149
Other religion	1.7%	119	1.6%	122

Note: Broad definition; Believe and somewhat believe are combined.

Figure 5.2: “Completely believing” in religions before and after coming to the U.S.

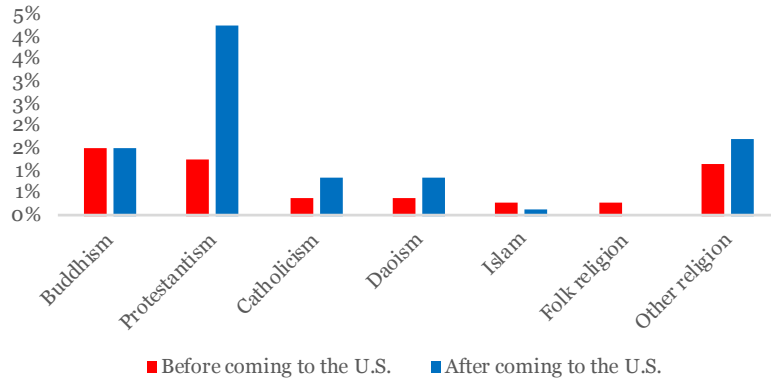
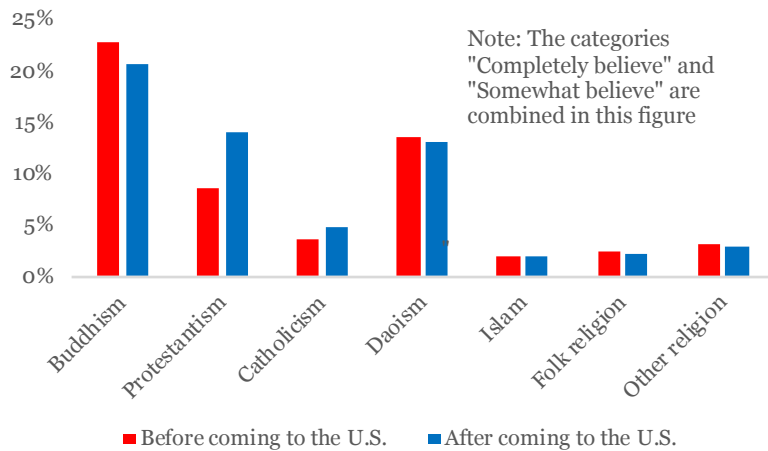


Figure 5.3: Belief in religions before and after coming to the U.S.



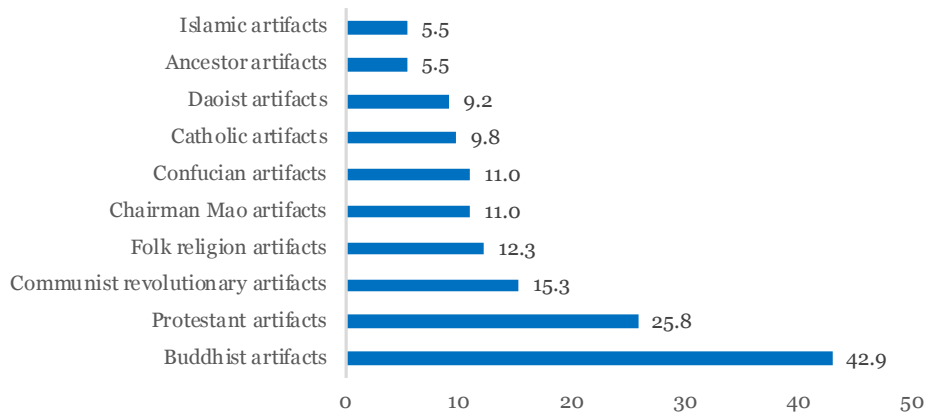
We also collected data on respondents’ religious beliefs and practices. We asked them to indicate how often they participated in ancestor worship, Buddhist, Catholic, Protestant, Confucian, Daoist, or Islamic activities, how often they visited the Chinese Communist Leader Chairman Mao’s Mausoleum and Communist revolutionary holy sites before coming to the U.S., and how often they celebrated the National Day of China and traditional Chinese holidays. Results are shown in Table 5.2. In general, consistent with their religious beliefs, participation in Protestant and Catholic activities after coming to the United States increased, and participation in other types of activities decreased.

Table 5.2: Frequency of participation in the following activities before and after coming to the U.S. (%)

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Very often	Total	N
Participation in ancestor worship						
Before coming to the U.S.	21.9	53.1	22.0	3.1	100	737
After coming to the U.S.	94.0	4.7	1.2	0.1	100	731
Participation in Buddhist activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	63.8	29.2	2.7	0.7	100	732
After coming to the U.S.	95.5	3.7	0.6	0.3	100	730
Participation in Catholic activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	95.2	3.7	0.8	0.3	100	731
After coming to the U.S.	91.3	7.4	0.8	0.6	100	720
Participation in Protestant activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	86.3	11.5	1.5	0.7	100	728
After coming to the U.S.	60.0	29.0	6.9	4.1	100	730
Participation in Confucian activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	89.1	9.3	1.2	0.4	100	732
After coming to the U.S.	95.2	4.0	0.6	0.3	100	730
Participation in Daoist activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	92.5	6.6	0.7	0.3	100	729
After coming to the U.S.	98.6	1.0	0.4	0.0	100	727
Participation in Islamic activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	97.5	1.7	0.4	0.4	100	728
After coming to the U.S.	98.5	0.8	0.6	0.1	100	728
Visiting Mao's mausoleum						
Before coming to the U.S.	64.7	32.4	2.1	0.8	100	728
China National Day celebration						
After coming to the U.S.	61.8	22.4	11.5	4.4	100	733
Visiting Communist revolutionary holy sites						
Before coming to the U.S.	60.0	35.5	3.7	0.8	100	732
Chinese traditional holiday celebration						
After coming to the U.S.	28.1	34.0	28.2	9.7	100	733

We asked the respondents if they wore or kept any religious artifacts, which could be either amulets or simply decorative. The majority of the respondents did not answer this question, probably implying that they did not wear or keep such artifacts. As shown in Figure 5.4, among the 163 respondents who answered this question, about 43 percent wore or kept Buddhist artifacts, followed by Protestant artifacts, Communist artifacts, and folk religious artifacts.

Figure 5.4: Do you wear or keep any of the following items? (%)



The respondents were asked how much they agreed with the statements that “American democracy and freedom benefited from Christianity” and that “the moral standards of Americans benefited from Christianity.” Unlike what we found in the PSCS 2016, in which about 30 percent of the respondents chose to be neutral when answering these two questions, Figure 5.5 shows that in the PSCSS 2018, about 50 and 45 percent of the respondents remained neutral when evaluating the first and the second statement, respectively. About 31 percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that the moral standards of Americans benefited from Christianity, and 12 percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that American democracy and freedom benefited from Christianity. This finding is consistent with the PSCS 2016. It should be noted that compared to the 2016 results, in the 2018 survey, the percentage of the respondents choosing disagree and strongly disagree with the first statement decreased from 59 to 38 percent and from 42 and 24 percent for the second statement. The pattern was quite similar among the VS.

Figure 5.5: Perception of the Role of Christianity in the U.S. (%)

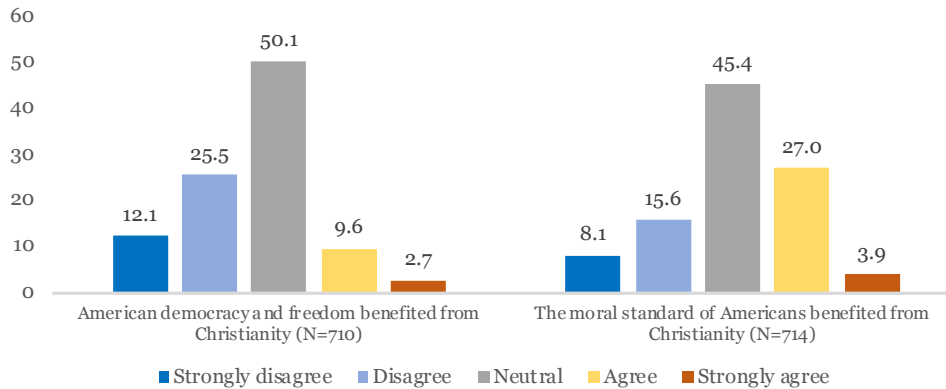
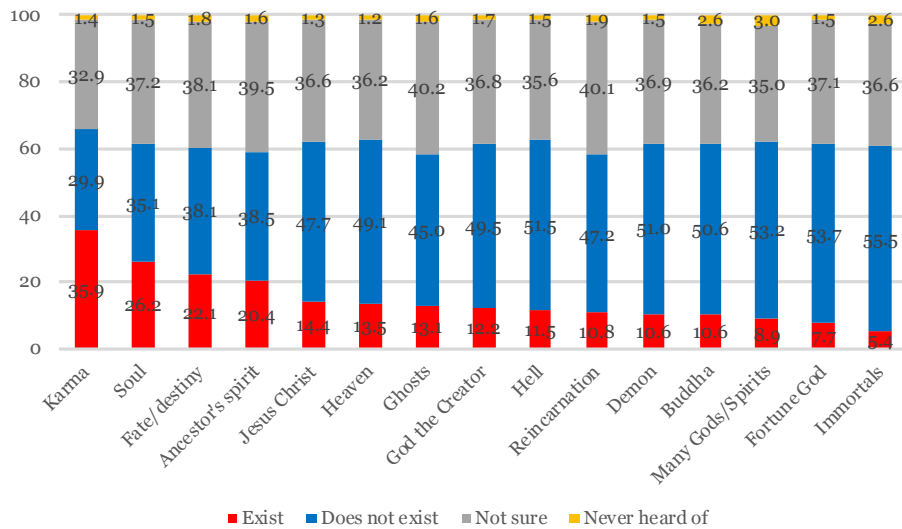


Figure 5.6 shows CS' belief in a supernatural power or being. The pattern is quite similar to the PSCS 2016. The pattern among VS was also quite similar, with the highest ranked items being karma, soul, fate/destiny, ancestor's spirit, and Jesus Christ.

Figure 5.6: Belief in supernatural power/being (%)



We also tabulated the belief in supernatural power/being by political affiliation among CS and VS. As shown in Table 5.3, among CS who were members of the Chinese Communist Party, about 42 percent believed in one or more supernatural powers or beings. Among CS who were members of the Chinese Communist Youth League, about 55 percent believed in at least one supernatural power or being. However, among the rest of the CS, the percentage of believing in a supernatural power or being was only about 31 percent. The pattern is consistent with the PSCS 2016, and among the VS. The Chinese Communist students and scholars were consistently more likely than others to

believe in a supernatural power or being.

Table 5.3: Belief in a supernatural power/being by political affiliation (%).

	Believe	Do not believe	Total	N
CCP member	42.3	57.8	100	71
CCYL member	54.6	45.4	100	216
Other	30.9	69.1	100	515
Total	38.3	61.7	100	802

Table 5.3a: (Visiting Scholars) Belief in a supernatural power/being by political affiliation (%).

	Believe	Do not believe	Total	N
CCP member	44.8	55.2	100	96
CCYL member	43.5	56.5	100	23
Other	25.3	74.7	100	87
Total	36.4	63.6	100	206

Appendix: Additional Tables

Survey demographics

Gender

Male	57.4%
Female	42.7%

Age 25.7

Year(s) in the U.S. 4.0

Status

Undergrad students	37.1%
Graduate students	42.5%
Visiting scholar	20.4%

College

College of Agriculture	11.2%
College of Education	1.8%
College of Engineering	36.8%
College of Health and Human Sciences	4.5%
College of Liberal Arts	8.1%
College of Pharmacy	3.1%

College of Science 18.1%

Purdue Polytech Institute 9.1%

College of Veterinary Medicine 0.1%

School of Business Management 7.2%

Table 1.2: Origin of the chinese students in the survey

Province	Type of Area Growing up					Missing	Total
	Big City	Mid-sized City	Small Town	Rural Area			
Missing	13	1	5	1	49	69	
Beijing	65	1	1	0	0	67	
Jiangsu	21	30	9	3	0	63	
Shandong	10	16	16	18	1	61	
Guangdong	37	14	2	3	0	56	
Shanghai	45	2	1	0	0	48	
Zhejiang	18	11	13	2	0	44	
Henan	12	15	9	3	0	39	
Liaoning	19	13	5	1	0	38	
Anhui	8	7	8	8	0	31	
Hubei	12	8	5	2	1	28	
Hebei	11	4	3	9	0	27	
Sichuan	11	4	7	4	0	26	
Hunan	6	8	10	1	0	25	
Shaanxi	7	3	6	3	0	19	
Fujian	3	10	3	2	0	18	
Shanxi	4	4	7	1	0	16	
Heilongjiang	8	4	1	1	0	14	
Tianjin	7	3	2	1	0	13	
Jilin	5	2	3	2	0	12	
Inner Mongolia	3	3	3	1	0	10	
Yunnan	6	2	1	0	0	9	
Guangxi	4	4	1	0	0	9	
Xinjiang	4	1	2	0	0	7	
Gansu	2	2	0	2	0	6	
Jiangxi	1	1	1	3	0	6	
Guizhou	2	3	0	0	0	5	
Chongqing	2	0	1	1	0	4	
Hong Kong	3	0	0	1	0	4	
Ningxia	1	2	0	0	0	3	
Hainan	2	0	0	0	0	2	
Qinghai	1	0	0	0	0	1	
Total	353	178	125	73	51	780	

Table 1.3. Parental Educational Attainment (%). (N=726)

	Father	Mother
No formal education	1.7	3.4
Elementary school	4.3	6.3
Junior high	10.2	9.6
Senior high	10.9	17.1
Vocational college	16.3	20.7
College	38.3	32.0
Graduate school	18.5	10.9
Total	100	100

Table 1.4: Distribution of parental educational attainment (%). (N=727)

Both parents with college or above	59.3
Only one parent with college or above	25.0
Other	15.8
Total	100

Table 1.5: Parental Occupational Status (%)

Occupational status	Father (N=714)	Mother (N=712)
Managerial job	44.3	24.6
White collar job	23.7	38.5
Small business owner	10.5	7.7
Skilled worker	7.6	5.6
Laborer	4.5	4.5
Farmer	6.4	7.0
Precarious work	3.1	12.1
Total	100	100

Table 1.6: How many siblings do you have (%)? (N=725)

Siblings	
No sibling	68.4
One	21.5
Two	5.8
More than two	4.3
Total	100

Table 1.7: Major financial source for tuition and living expenses (%). (N=735)

Financial source	
My family	44.4
University scholarship	30.3
Chinese government scholarship	17.4
Myself	4.8
Other	1.9
My relatives	0.5
Family friends	0.4
Loan	0.3
Total	100.0

Table 2.4: How much do you agree with the following statement (%)? (N=567)

Strongly disagree	11.8
Disagree	30.9
Neutral	33.2
Agree	18.7
Strongly agree	5.5
Total	100

Table 2.5: How often do you contact your family or friends in China?

	Family (N=582)	Friends (N=581)
Every day	21.7	16.9
Every week	67.7	39.1
Every month	8.4	26.3
Less than once per month	2.2	17.7
Total	100	100

Table 2.6: Marital status by student status (%). (N=685)

	Married	In a relationship	Single	Total
Undergraduates	1.6	34.1	64.3	100
Graduate students	18.7	38.0	43.3	100
Total	11.0	36.2	52.9	100

Table 2.7: How frequent do you drink this semester (%)? (N=693)

Student status	Never	Less than once per month	Once per month	Once per week	Several times per week	Total
Undergraduates	58.4	21.5	10.7	7.3	2.2	100
Graduate students	48.1	30.3	11.7	6.7	3.2	100
Total	52.8	26.3	11.3	6.9	2.7	100

Table 2.8: Did you get drunk this semester (%)? (N=314)

Never	70.4
Occasionally	23.9
Sometimes	4.8
Always	1.0
Total	100

Table 2.9: How many friends do you usually drink with (%)? (N=315)

Oneself	19.4
One friend	10.8
Two to three friends	26.4
Four to five friends	23.8
More than five friends	19.7
Total	100

Table 2.10: How often do you smoke (%)? (N=686)

Student status	Do not smoke	Less than 2 cigarettes per day	3 to 5 cigarettes per day	6 to 10 cigarettes per day	More than 10 cigarettes per day	Total
Undergraduates	85.3	7.4	2.6	2.9	1.9	100
Grad students	93.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.3	100
Total	89.5	4.4	2.2	2.3	1.6	100

Table 2.11: How many friends do you usually smoke with (%)? (N=65)

Myself	47.7
One friend	30.8
Two to three friends	18.5
More than four friends	3.1
Total	100

Table 2.12: How is your health this semester (%)? (N=660)

Very bad	1.2
Bad	9.7
Average	38.8
Good	39.1
Very good	11.2
Total	100

Table 2.13: How much do you agree with the following statement (%)?

Statement	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Total
I trust most people around me (N=568)	2.8	9.3	25.0	54.6	8.3	100
I am not accustomed to the life in America (N=567)	12.9	43.7	31.4	9.5	2.5	100
It makes me sad being away from my family and friends in China (N=567)	7.6	22.2	33.3	31.8	5.1	100
It is hard for me to fit in the campus life here (N=568)	20.8	49.1	25.4	3.9	0.9	100

Table 2.14: How often do you use the following social media (%)?

	Almost never	Rarely	Occasionally	Often	Total
Wechat moments (N=647)	3.7	8.2	12.7	75.4	100
Weibo (N=638)	28.7	22.6	18.8	29.9	100
Facebook (N=644)	19.1	43.2	24.5	13.2	100
Douban (N=636)	52.8	24.7	15.6	6.9	100
Twitter (N=638)	50.9	30.9	14.1	4.1	100
Instagram (N=640)	36.9	21.6	19.2	22.3	100
Snapchat (N=638)	66.5	17.9	8.8	6.9	100

Table 2.15: On average, how many minutes do you spent on the following news outlet everyday?

Chinese social media (N=563)	54.0
Chinese website (N=563)	37.9
English website (N=538)	32.6
English social media (N=466)	28.0
English newspaper (N=242)	21.8
Chinese newspaper (N=227)	16.9

Table 3.4: Ethnicity (%). (N=722)

Han	94.3
Manchu	1.4
Zhuang	0.4
Mongol	0.7
Hui	0.7
Miao	0.1
Tujia	0.6
Uyghur	0.1
Yi	0.3
Other	1.1
Total	100

Note: 215 missing cases

Table 3.5: What is your partner's race/ethnicity (%)? (N=313)

Chinese	88.8
Overseas Chinese	4.5
European American	4.2
Other East Asian	1.3
Latino/a American	0.6
African American	0.3
Others	0.3
Total	100

Table 3.6: Have you ever had roommates of the following race/ethnicity (%)? (N=668)

Chinese	87.0
European American	28.1
Other East Asian	15.0
Overseas Chinese	14.8
African American	7.9
Latino/a American	5.2
Others	3.7
Total	161.8

Note: 1. This is a multiple choice question. 2. On average, each respondent selected 1.6 options.

Table 3.7: How much do you agree with the following statement (%)?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Total
It is hard for me to communicate with others, because of language barriers (N=572)	15.4	37.8	24.0	20.3	2.6	100
It is hard for me to make non-Chinese friends (N=570)	12.3	36.5	24.4	23.9	3.0	100
I have been treated unfairly because of my race (N=568)	6.5	28.4	41.6	20.1	3.5	100

Table 4.2: Perception of the U.S. and China after Coming to the U.S. (%).

Perception	U.S. (N=620)	China (N=615)
Much better	2.9	21.3
Better	12.6	24.4
No change	42.9	41.0
Worse	35.3	10.9
Much worse	6.3	2.4
Total	100	100

Table 4.2a: (Visiting Scholars) Perception of the U.S. and China after Coming to the U.S. (%).

Perception	U.S. (N=174)	China (N=173)
Much better	9.2	20.8
Better	31.0	22.5
No change	37.4	43.4
Worse	22.4	12.1
Much worse	0.0	1.2
Total	100	100

Table 4.3: Perception of China by year(s) in the U.S. (N=604)

	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	8+	Total
Much better	19.9	20.9	23.4	21.3	25.0	21.5
Better	18.6	25.4	30.5	18.0	18.8	23.8
No change	49.4	38.3	30.5	52.5	46.9	41.1
Worse	10.9	12.4	11.0	8.2	9.4	11.1
Much worse	1.3	3.0	4.6	0.0	0.0	2.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 4.4: Attitudes toward the U.S. by year(s) in the U.S. (N=611)

	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	8+	Total
Much better	2.5	1.0	6.5	1.6	3.0	4.4
Better	13.9	11.3	9.7	9.7	33.3	16.7
No change	48.7	43.4	36.8	45.2	30.3	41.4
Worse	32.9	37.0	37.4	37.1	30.3	32.8
Much worse	1.9	7.4	9.7	6.5	3.0	4.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 4.5: How much do you agree with the following statement (%)?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Total
The United States is in decline (N=570)	2.6	14.4	51.1	26.1	5.8	100
China is on the rise (N=569)	5.3	6.7	38.3	40.1	9.7	100
China's current political system is the most suitable one for China (N=569)	5.5	9.7	36.7	35.3	12.8	100
Chinese traditional medicine can cure many diseases that Western medicine cannot (N=568)	14.3	20.6	43.3	17.3	4.6	100

Table 4.5a: (Visiting Scholars) How much do you agree with the following statement (%)?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Total
The United States is in decline (N=144)	2.8	25.7	52.1	16.0	3.5	100
China is on the rise (N=144)	2.8	8.3	34.7	41.0	13.2	100
China's current political system is the most suitable one for China (N=145)	2.8	10.3	32.4	42.8	11.7	100
Chinese traditional medicine can cure many diseases that Western medicine cannot (N=145)	2.8	17.2	43.5	31.7	4.8	100

Table 4.6: Did you watch the 2018 CCTV Spring Festival Gala (%)? (N=621)

Some performances	33.8
Not interested in watching	33.8
Too busy to watch	20.6
Almost all the performances	11.8
Total	100

Table 4.7: Future Plan after Graduation (%). (N=618)

If possible, stay in the U.S. for some time	51.5
Don't know	24.4
If possible, stay in the U.S. permanently	9.7
Return to China after graduation	14.4
Total	100

Table 4.8: If you were to return to China, rank order the factors that affect your decision (%) (N=603)

Level of importance	1 (most important)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 (least important)	Total
Political stability	7.6	8.1	12.4	12.9	24.4	20.6	10.6	3.3	100
Career prospects	26.0	22.4	24.5	15.3	7.6	3.3	0.5	0.3	100
Serve the motherland	5.8	4.8	9.3	16.6	18.2	20.2	19.7	5.3	100
Family	42.0	27.2	12.6	9.1	5.8	2.5	0.5	0.3	100
Academic environment	2.0	5.0	11.6	16.6	21.4	27.4	14.1	2.0	100
Convenient life and great public transportation	10.6	26.7	20.2	19.1	10.1	9.6	3.7	0.0	100
Religious mission	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.2	1.0	5.1	28.7	61.9	100
Anti-immigration policy in the U.S.	5.3	5.1	8.5	9.3	11.4	11.3	22.2	26.9	100

Note: Visiting scholars excluded.

Table 4.9: If you were to stay in the U.S., rank order the factors that affect your decision (N=577)

Level of importance	1 (most important)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 (least important)	Total
Political stability	7.8	5.9	6.2	10.8	14.9	27.7	17.5	9.2	100
Career prospects	38.1	20.6	15.3	12.3	7.3	3.5	2.4	0.5	100
Children's education	13.5	16.6	18.5	16.8	12.7	6.4	4.7	10.8	100
Academic environment	5.9	14.0	21.0	21.0	21.1	8.3	4.9	3.8	100
Political freedom	15.8	21.8	15.6	18.0	14.0	9.7	4.3	0.7	100
Life style	4.0	3.8	3.5	4.9	15.3	25.5	38.8	4.3	100
Religious freedom	14.4	15.8	18.9	14.7	12.7	13.0	8.3	2.3	100
Natural environment	0.5	1.4	1.0	1.6	2.1	5.9	19.1	68.5	100

Note: Visiting scholars excluded.

Table 4.10: How much do you agree with the following statement (%)?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Total
Democracy is indecisive and has too much quibbling (N=572)	4.0	17.7	49.5	23.3	5.6	100
Democracy is not good at maintaining order (N=567)	10.6	37.4	40.9	9.0	2.1	100
Democracy may have problems, but it's better than any other form of government (N=569)	4.4	13.7	52.1	24.7	5.1	100
Social order is more important than individual freedom (N=572)	6.9	12.8	47.1	27.1	6.2	100

Table 4.10a: (Visiting Scholars) How much do you agree with the following statement (%)?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Total
Democracy is indecisive and has too much quibbling (N=143)	7.7	53.9	33.6	4.2	0.7	100
Democracy is not good at maintaining order (N=145)	4.1	22.8	49.7	21.4	2.1	100
Democracy may have problems, but it's better than any other form of government (N=145)	1.4	15.9	51.7	26.9	4.1	100
Social order is more important than individual freedom (N=145)	2.8	12.4	46.2	34.5	4.1	100

Table 4.11: Rank order the factors that made you come to the U.S. to become a visiting scholar (%) (N=167)

Level of importance	1 (most important)	2	3	4	5	6 (least important)	Total
Different life experience	48.5	35.9	10.8	4.2	0	0.6	100
Career advancement	12.6	19.2	55.1	8.4	5	0	100
Learning new knowledge and technology	36.5	38.9	20.4	4.2	0.0	0	100
Children's education	1.2	5.4	9.0	50.9	28.7	4.79	100
Birthright citizenship	0.6	0	1.2	4.2	47.9	44.3	100
Other factors	0.6	0.6	3.6	28.1	16.8	50.3	100

Note: Only visiting scholars answered this question.

Table 5.2a: (Visiting Scholars) Frequency of participation in the following activities before and after coming to the U.S. (%)

	Never	Occasionally	Often	Very often	Total	<i>N</i>
Participation in ancestor worship						
Before coming to the U.S.	19.7	54.6	23.7	2.0	100	152
After coming to the U.S.	96.1	4.0	0.0	0.0	100	152
Participation in Buddhist activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	72.0	26.7	1.3	0.0	100	150
After coming to the U.S.	98.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	100	152
Participation in Catholic activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	97.4	2.0	0.7	0.0	100	152
After coming to the U.S.	93.3	6.7	0.0	0.0	100	149
Participation in Protestant activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	88.5	10.8	0.7	0.0	100	148
After coming to the U.S.	58.2	32.0	9.2	0.7	100	153
Participation in Confucian activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	88.8	9.9	1.3	0.0	100	152
After coming to the U.S.	98.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	100	152
Participation in Daoist activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	92.1	7.2	0.7	0.0	100	152
After coming to the U.S.	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	151
Participation in Islamic activities						
Before coming to the U.S.	99.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	100	148
After coming to the U.S.	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	150
Visiting Mao's mausoleum						
Before coming to the U.S.	52.7	42.7	4.0	0.7	100	150
China National Day celebration						
After coming to the U.S.	56.58	28.95	13.16	1.32	100	152
Visiting Communist revolutionary holy sites						
Before coming to the U.S.	37.6	54.0	7.9	0.7	100	152
Chinese traditional holiday celebration						
After coming to the U.S.	23.5	39.2	30.7	6.5	100	153

Table 5.4: After coming to the U.S., have you ever been proselytized by followers of the following religions? (N=521)

Daoism	0.8
Chinese folk religion	1.9
Other religion	1.5
Islam	2.7
Buddhism	7.5
Mormonism	17.3
Falungong	32.1
Catholicism	35.1
Protestantism	92.1
Total	190.7

Note: 1. This is a multiple choice question. 2. On average, each respondent selected 1.91 option.

Table 5.5: Recoded belief in major religions (broad definition)

	Before coming to the U.S.		After coming to the U.S.	
		N		N
Buddhism	22.8%	736	20.6%	729
Protestantism	8.6%	730	14.2%	727
Catholicism	3.7%	726	4.9%	721
Daoism	13.6%	729	13.1%	727
Islam	2.1%	724	2.1%	722
Folk religion	2.5%	722	2.2%	718
Other religion	3.1%	513	3.0%	530

Note: Broad definition; Believe and somewhat believe are combined.

Table 5.6: Recoded belief in major religions (narrow definition)

	Before coming to the U.S.		After coming to the U.S.	
		N		N
Buddhism	1.5%	736	1.5%	729
Protestantism	1.2%	730	4.3%	727
Catholicism	0.4%	726	0.8%	721
Daoism	0.4%	729	0.8%	727
Islam	0.3%	724	0.1%	722
Folk religion	0.3%	722	0.0%	737
Other religion	1.2%	513	1.7%	530

Note: Narrow definition

Table 5.7: Do you wear or keep any of the following items (%)? (N=163)

Religious/cultural artifacts	Yes
Buddhist artifacts	42.9
Protestant artifacts	25.8
Communist revolutionary artifacts	15.3
Folk religion artifacts	12.3
Chairman Mao artifacts	11.0
Confucian artifacts	11.0
Catholic artifacts	9.8
Daoist artifacts	9.2
Ancestor artifacts	5.5
Islamic artifacts	5.5

Note: This is a multiple choice question.

Table 5.8: On average, what proportion of the following people know your religious belief (%)?

	Mean	SD	Total	N
Friends	60.0	38.5	100	604
Schoolmates/colleague	53.4	36.4	100	556

Table 5.9: How much do you agree with the following statements (%)?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Total
American democracy and freedom benefited from Christianity (N=710)	12.1	25.5	50.1	9.6	2.7	100
The moral standard of Americans benefited from Christianity (N=714)	8.1	15.6	45.4	27.0	3.9	100

Table 5.10: Do you believe in the existence of the following item (%)?

	Exist	Does not exist	Not sure	Never heard of	Total
Karma	35.9	29.9	32.9	1.4	100
Soul	26.2	35.1	37.2	1.5	100
Fate/destiny	22.1	38.1	38.1	1.8	100
Ancestor's spirit	20.4	38.5	39.5	1.6	100
Jesus Christ	14.4	47.7	36.6	1.3	100
Heaven	13.5	49.1	36.2	1.2	100
Ghosts	13.1	45.0	40.2	1.6	100
God the Creator	12.2	49.5	36.8	1.7	100
Hell	11.5	51.5	35.6	1.5	100
Reincarnation	10.8	47.2	40.1	1.9	100
Demon	10.6	51.0	36.9	1.5	100
Buddha	10.6	50.6	36.2	2.6	100
Many Gods/Spirits	8.9	53.2	35.0	3.0	100
Fortune God	7.7	53.7	37.1	1.5	100
Immortals	5.4	55.5	36.6	2.6	100

Note: Categories are rank ordered based on the values in the Exist column.

Table 5.10a: (Visiting Scholars) Do you believe in the existence of the following item (%)?

	Exist	Does not exist	Not sure	Never heard of	Total
Karma	37.8	24.4	36.5	1.3	100
Fate/destiny	20.8	37.0	40.3	2.0	100
Soul	19.5	30.5	48.1	2.0	100
Ancestor's spirit	12.3	40.3	45.5	2.0	100
Jesus Christ	11.0	47.7	40.0	1.3	100
Heaven	9.7	50.7	38.3	1.3	100
Buddha	9.0	49.7	37.4	3.9	100
Ghosts	7.8	47.4	42.9	2.0	100
Hell	7.1	53.9	37.0	2.0	100
Demon	7.1	53.9	37.0	2.0	100
God the Creator	6.5	50.3	41.9	1.3	100
Fortune God	5.2	53.3	39.6	2.0	100
Reincarnation	5.2	49.7	43.2	1.9	100
Immortals	4.5	56.8	36.1	2.6	100
Many Gods/Spirits	3.2	56.8	35.5	4.5	100

Note: Categories are rank ordered based on the values in the Exist column.

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