Culture Fest

April 15, 2016

Culture Fest is an annual event at DU that takes place in the Spring. It has many booths and performances that represent a variety of different cultures. ELC students participated in three booths this year: Voices of the East, Voices of the Middle East, and Voices of the ELC. We loved sharing our food … our cultures!
The Suggestion for Buying Furniture

By Fuzhou Jia

If you just come to Colorado and you need to set for you house, apartment or for your office, you need to read this article because it includes the best three stores in Colorado. Those three store includes all kinds of the furniture, and it works for all kind of room, such as classroom, office, bed room. This article will introduce the address, price, advantage of store, it offers the best options, and make the best deal for customers.

IKEA

IKEA is one of the biggest furniture stores, and it distributes all over the world. This company comes from Sweden, and most of the furniture style is European. Because the theme idea of some western countries is simple, IKEA’s furniture style is the same. About 90% of the furniture is simple but convenient and practical. The amount and the variety of furniture in IKEA is plentiful, but the most popular furniture is RTA furniture which means ready to assemble furniture. Customers can assemble furniture by yourself. This is a revolution in the furniture industry. From the price perspective, one of the most important advantage of IKEA that it is cheap. From the product, package, even the transportation parts, IKEA always deals with the best prices, and this is why IKEA is so popular in America. The only mall of IKEA in Colorado is located in Centennial. (9800 East IKEA Way, Centennial, CO80112)
Office MAX & Depot

If you are a student or you are a businessman who wants to open a business, you need to pay attention to this article. The OfficeMax is the biggest chain store to sell the office supplies in America. In 2013, OfficeMax and Office Depot were combined in an all-stock deal. The biggest advantage of OfficeMax is the high quality. Almost all of the products are suitable in the office or classroom. You have a lot of options to choose from, including the color and the shape of the furniture, and all of them look professional for business or student. The main idea of OfficeMax is to make people feel relaxed and comfortable while they do their work for a long time. Also, the transportation speed is fast. About 99% of products arrive the customer’s address on time. In Denver, there are many OfficeMax, and it distributes all over the city. The open times for OfficeMax are 8:00 to 21:00. One of the address is: 343 S Office MAX & Depot

American Furniture Warehouse

If you want to buy the fancy furniture for your house or apartment, you should consider American Furniture Warehouse. This is the most popular furniture store which sells the top grade home furniture with the best prices. America Furniture Warehouse has totally opposite idea with IKEA. IKEA prefers the simple, and American Furniture Warehouse would like to be luxury and elegant. Although American Furniture Warehouse sells decorated products, the price is lower than the other stores. If you want to pay less money and enjoy high quality furniture, you should buy the furniture from there. However, the furniture in American Furniture Warehouse is not suitable for other places, such as offices and schools. It is only the best for Home setting. There are a lot of stores in Denver, and here is the nearest store from University of Denver. (5390 S Wadsworth Blvd)
Supermarkets
by Yingying Qiu

Most of people can not live without supermarket, and Colorado has many different types of supermarkets, so I want to introduce some of supermarkets which is located in Colorado.

Whole Foods Market

Whole Foods Market is an American supermarket chain, which opened on September 20, 1980 in Texas. Whole Foods Market proposes people can have quality lives, protect environment and eat healthy food, so it only sell organic food. Moreover, this kind of organic food do not have transgenic, preservatives and artificial colors, so Whole Foods Market’s prices are more expensive than other supermarkets’. Furthermore, Whole Food Market sell some delicious and pre-made food, and they provide a dining area for consumers to eat at the store. In addition, the most especial one of Whole Foods Market is their seafood. People can buy a variety of seafood in there, such as tuna, salmon, bass, cod, trout and so on.

Some Whole Foods Markets Address in Denver:
7400 E Hampden Ave, Denver, CO 80231
870 S Colorado Blvd, Glendale, CO 80246

H-Mart

H-Mart is a Korean supermarket, which is located throughout the US, Canada and Europe. At H-Mart, consumers can buy a variety of snacks from Japan, daily necessities from China, seasoning from South Korea,
Walmart

Walmart is a famous company in the world, which opened in 1962. In 2016, Walmart had 11,527 stores and clubs in 25 countries. Also, Walmart is the biggest retailer and private employer that employs more than two Million people. Additionally, Walmart has different business forms, such as Walmart shopping plaza (supercenter), Walmart neighborhood market and Sam’s Club. They can satisfy all of the consumer’s different needs.

1) Walmart shopping plaza (supercenter): It is very big, and sells a variety of products, such as food, clothes, household articles, electric appliances and furniture.

9400 E Hampden Ave, Denver, CO 80231
7800 Smith Rd, Denver, CO 80207
7455 W Colfax Ave, Lakewood, CO 80214
7155 Sheridan Blvd, Westminster, CO 80003

2) Walmart neighborhood market: It is smaller than others, but it convenient for residents.

10400 E Colfax Ave, Aurora, CO 80010
15240 E Iliff Ave, Aurora, CO 80014
1442 S Parker Rd, Denver, CO 80231
850 E 88th Ave, Thornton, CO 80229

3) Sam’s Club: It is membership-only warehouse club.

Pacific Ocean Marketplace

Pacific Ocean Marketplace is a Chinese supermarket, which has a long history in Colorado. In Pacific Ocean Marketplace, you can find any Chinese traditional foods that you want. For example, you can find the dumplings from Shandong Province, chili sauce from Sichuan Province, roast duck from Beijing and so on. It is very convenient for the Chinese who live in Colorado. Also, Pacific Ocean Marketplace will set up activities in every traditional Chinese holidays, so Chinese people can go there to celebrate Chinese holiday with Pacific Ocean Marketplace. For example, last Chinese New Year, Pacific Ocean Marketplace provided many Chinese traditional scripts and paintings to celebrate Chinese New Year, and it attracted a large amount of Chinese to visit.

12203 E Mississippi Ave., Aurora, CO 80012
2200 W. Alameda Ave., Denver, CO 80207
Cherry Creek Shopping Center
Cherry Creek Shopping Center is an upscale shopping mall; it includes three department stores: Neiman Marcus, Macy’s, and Nordstrom. Also, if you want to buy international brands, Cherry Creek will be a good choice for you. In this shopping center, you can find Louis Vuitton, Burberry, and so on. Moreover, it’s a enclosed shopping mall house. So if you want to buy some normal goods, this mall also can satisfy your needs. You can find more than 160 especially shops. When you feel tired, it’s easily for you to find restaurants, So, if you are interested in this mall, you can find the address below the picture. In addition, if you are in the university of Denver, you can take a bus which departs form University of Denver station Gate D to university Blvd& Cherry Creek North Dr station. It’s very convenient!

Park Meadows
Park Meadows is a popular America style shopping Mall, it includes Dillard’s, Macy’s, JC Penney and Sears, all of these stores are not very expensive. If you need buy some common goods, it’s a good choice for you. You can find many America brands in this mall, such as, Free People, Foot Locker, and so on. What’s more, It is a two story enclosed mall and this mall is full of American style, so a lot of Americans like to go shopping in this mall. Also, this mall has many different kinds of restaurants; you can find both Chinese restaurants and American restaurants. If you are a Chinese, I think you will enjoy your shopping in this mall. So if you are interested in this mall, the address is below the picture. How can you arrive there? You can get there by light rail E -line form University of Denver Station to County Line Station.

16th Street Mall
The 16th Street Mall is along the 16th street in downtown. It includes more than 300 stores, 50 restaurants. Actually, the 16th Street Mall doesn’t like normal mall, because it is not in a closed house and it’s a street. So if you want to enjoy the scenery of downtown when you are shopping, the 16th Street Mall will be a good choice. Also, there are a lot of locally owned and chain stores. So you can find popular tourist souvenirs in this street. Furthermore, if you feel hungry when you are shopping, you also can find a perfect restaurant whether you are Americans or foreigners. If you are interested in this shopping mall, you can find the address below the picture. Finally, I can tell you how to arrive there. You can take H Line 18th&California form University of Denver Station to 16th&California Station. What’s more, downtown has free shuttle which named Mall Ride you can take between Civic Center Park and Union Station.
Outlet Malls

Denver has a lot of Outlet malls, but I only choose two of them to introduce. The first one is Colorado Mills which is the biggest and the most famous Outlet Mall in Denver. The mall has ten main stores, such as, H&M, Forever 21 and Neiman Marcus Last Call. By the way, this mall has restaurants, so you can enjoy your shopping. The address also is below the picture, and you can get there by light rail and bus, but my suggestion is drive a car, because it will save almost 30 minutes. The second one is Castle Rock Outlet Mall; it’s also a outlet mall has many stores. It’s not an enclosed mall, and it’s bigger than Colorado Mills, but the shopping environment is not good as Colorado Mills. The merchandise is similar with Colorado Mills. If you want to Belmar, you can find the address below the Belmar picture, and my suggestion is to drive.

Nordstrom Rack is a company which includes shoes, clothes, make up, accessories, handbags, jewelry, cosmetics, and fragrances. Nordstrom Rack belongs to Nordstrom, but it is a little different form Nordstrom Rack which offer a large discount to consumers. So Nordstrom Rack is a very famous store in America. You can find it near Cherry Creek Shopping Center, Park Meadow and Belmar. According to my experience, Nordstrom Rack not only has American brands, but also has some international brands. To be honest, Nordstrom Rack really has a big discount, especially when we need to wear different clothes for a new season. So if you want to buy some clothing of low prices, go ahead! You can find the address and route in the part of Cherry Creek Shopping Center and Park Meadows. If you want to Belmar, you can find the address below the Belmar picture, and my suggestion is to drive.

Address:

- Colorado Mills: 14500 W Colfax Ave, Lakewood, CO 80401
- Outlet malls: 5050 Factory Shops Blvd, Castle Rock, CO 80108
The Great Sand Dunes By Zeqing Zhang

The Great Sand Dunes are the tallest sand dunes in North America. These sand dunes are very different from others that people normally see in the desert. These sand dunes are surrounded by mountains, wetlands and many diversified landscapes. Don’t be deceived by the look of the sand dunes from far away, the actual sand dunes are really towering and considerable. The most convincing opinion about the formation of The Great Sand Dunes is based on the geographical science that all the sand that is blowing from New Mexico is blocked by mountains and accumulates at the base of the mountains. As time goes by, these sands slowly add up to become the sand dunes south of the mountains.

The exact position of the Great Sand Dune National Park is in the south part of Colorado near Alamosa. From Denver, drive along south bound of I25 for about 4 hours and take US 160, you will get to the park. The first feeling that you could get while approaching the park is that the environment around it is not desolate at all. Your eyes will be inundated with beautiful mountains and lots of greens which might make you forget that you are about to see the scene that typically appears in desert areas. However, since the approach is about a one-hour drive on a country road, be careful for the animals that could cause a car accident.
When talking about the Sand Dunes, people normally think of sand sledding and hiking to the top of sand dunes. But there is much more to do at the Great Sand Dune National Park, thanks to its diversified terrain. Besides those typical activities you can do at any other desert-type national park, you could experience splashing in Medano Creek with your friends under the sand dunes. Nothing could be more unique than to play with water next to a desert. However, the Medano Creek is a seasonal creek which is not there all year along. So, check the official website about the condition of the creek before you go there. The best time to visit is in May or June if you want to see the creek. So no pains, no gains.

Since the Great Sand Dune National Park doesn’t have a city around it. The nearest places to stay is Alamosa. The small city has limited restaurants and hotels, so don’t expect luxury hotels and high end food there. For people who like adventures, there is another option for accommodation which is probably more fun. You could bring your tent and food to spend night on sand dunes to experience the feeling of living in nature. Imagine sitting on the top of the sand dune with no electric lights but the light from the moon, eating your own food and enjoying the sky full of shining stars. I’m sure you will have an unforgettable experience of the stunning night sky view.

Last reminder, bring coats for the cold nights at the park. Even during the daylight, the weather can change quickly there, so make sure to keep yourself warm and keep drinking water.

I can’t wait to hear from your experience at the Great Sand Dune National Park.
Denver Zoo and Lights

by Minghui Mo

The Denver Zoo is one of the most popular places in Denver. The Denver Zoo was founded in 1896, the land is about 80 acres. There are more than 4,125 animals and 613 species. The Denver Zoo animal’s species are from all over the world, including carnivorous mammals, hoofed mammals, pachyderms, birds, primates, reptiles, and fish. The Denver zoo became the first zoo to use naturalistic zoo enclosures, not the cages, in the US. The Denver Zoo also is accredited by the “Association of Zoos and Aquariums “and “World Association of Zoos and Aquariums”.

There are five areas for various species. The most important one is bear mountain. The bear mountain is one of the first natural style zoo exhibits. Now the bear mountain is home for grizzly bears, Asiatic black bears, and coati. Another area is the tropical discovery which has several tropical environments and displays mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians and insects. The tropical discovery also has the largest Komodo dragons exhibits. Another habitat is called the Toyota elephant passage. This area has the largest bull elephant habitat in the world.
Another interesting thing in Zoo is the Denver lights. Denver Zoo Lights runs every night in winter and open at 5:30pm to 9:00pm. In the zoo night, you can see lot of lights. The animals are not the focus because visitors can not see many real animals, the animals will be sleeping and staying in their cage. There are 38 brilliantly illuminated acres of lights and includes 150 or more animal-shapes in lights. The lights are super cool and gorgeous; there are a lot of kinds of lights and they made lights like animals. When visitor walk around the zoo, they can listen to music and enjoy the lights. The Zoo has many different scenarios, such as, Arctic circle, insect, sea world, a world of ice and snow. The lights are very beautiful about lot of colors; visitors can imagine lots of things. you do not have to imagine, you can clearly see the very funny animal’s lights. You can see two bighorn sheep in a fight,

A polar bear holding a snowflake. This place is very suitable for dating and also for children, parent bring their children and children are sitting in the wagons. I believe everyone will take photo of those lights because people like to live in a world of lights. It is a wonderful place to go with friends and families. The lights of animals like real animals will come out to play with you. Denver Zoo Lights is a very entertaining place and also very special in Colorado cultural features.
Introduction of Rocky Mountain National Park

According to the Rocky Mountain National Park official web-page, it states that “Rocky Mountain Park—Feel Like You’re On Top of the World! Rocky Mountain National Park’s 415 square miles encompass and protect spectacular mountain environments. Enjoy Trail Ridge Road – which crests over 12,000 feet including many overlooks to experience the subalpine and alpine worlds – along with over 300 miles of hiking trails, wildflowers, wildlife, starry nights, and fun times. In a world of superlatives, Rocky is on top!”

(If you want to get more information about this beautiful park, you can check this link: http://rockymountainnationalpark.com/)

The Weather of Rocky Mountain National Park

The high country of Rocky Mountain National Park has extreme weather patterns. The climate, weather system, geographical position and topography are main factors of the extreme weather. As a result, you had better to check the weather forecast of Rocky Mountain National Park before you go there. Also, Colorado’s climate is sunny with warm summers and cold winters. The rhythm of the seasons is intense; the differences between the summer and winter weather are natural. So there are many choices when you go to the Rocky Mountain National Park in different seasons.

(If you want to know more information about seasons in this gorgeous park, you can check this link: https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/weather.htm)
What can you do in the Rocky Mountain National Park?

Come to Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) where you really can choose your own adventure. We give you some suggestions about the things you can do:

**Climbing at RMNP**

RMNP is a paradise for climbers, because there are variety of mountain, especially for rock climbing. Also, there are many different climbing trails that you can choose and all trails provide security services. As a result, climbers do not worry about emergently issues. The most important thing is that RMNP offers climbing services, so you can come here for climbing any times, except winter.

**Hiking in RMNP**

RMNP which has diverse and beautiful hiking trails attracts hikers from the around the world. Whether you are looking for a relaxing stroll or backpack adventure, you will love the park that has adventure trails. Before you go to there, you need to pay more attention to altitude and distance. Also, it is very important to know your own limits. You can have headaches, or breathing problems. For this, you need to drink enough water when you are hiking.

**Others adventures in RMNP:**

- Boating
- Biking
- Horseback Riding
- River Rafting
- Swimming
- Fishing

**My own experience of Rocky Mountain National Park.**

I went to the Rocky Mountain National Park in the winter. The weather was too bad, especially cold. As a result, there are a lot of adventures that I had no chance to do. I just drove to visit the mountain scenery, from the foot of the mountain to the top of the mountain. Although I did not do any adventurous activities, I saw a lot of amazing scenery. The winter of the Rocky Mountain National Park is very beautiful. From this experience, I think summer is best seasons to the Rocky Mountain National Park. The weather is particularly good, so you can do a lot of adventurous activities. This is my personal experience and suggestion.

**Trails & Maps**

Rocky Mountain National Park is a big national park, so there are many different trails that you can choose, such as easy, family, summit and lake hikes, etc.
Jiahui Zhang is my friend and she is Advanced High student. Laura has been in Denver for seven months. She is a kind and humorous girl. She thinks Denver weather is too dry, so she has to drink a lot of water to keep her body hydrated. She likes to take public transportation to go anywhere she wants because it is free for the DU students; therefore, she always with her friends to go shopping and watch some movies on the weekend. Compared with the style of studies in China, the main difference is in ELC, teachers will teach the skills of the discussion. They will put more attention on the student communication with classmates. However, in China, teachers focus more on the student homework and they don’t have too much discussion. She likes the ELC very much because she has met new friends, learned more knowledge, and the most important is she met her boyfriend. When she graduates from ELC, she will study undergraduate course for Hospitality Management; as well as finish her undergraduate course. After that, she will go back to China to work for a company. In Denver, she mostly misses her mother’s food that she thinks DU’s Chinese food tastes different.

Sandra is a new student at ELC program and she comes from Spain. She has been working in Denver for three years. The reason of why she came to the ELC is because of the good study environment and friendly people, but the most important reason is that she works for Capgemini in Denver. She decided to resign from her job and study English, because she had not study English before. When she came to Denver at the first, her level of English was lower, and she had to use English to communicate with her colleagues almost every day. She realized that it was so difficult to her and it had to be changed. She wants to improve her speaking skills, so she determined to go the ELC. She has a good impression of the ELC. On the one hand, she has met a lot of interesting people who come from different countries. Even if they have different culture, she has some common habits with them. When she talks with them, she can share her ideas with them and they are all very respectful. On the other hand, she thinks she can learn a lot of useful skills from ELC and the teachers are very patient. When she graduates from the ELC, she will go back to work for Capgemini.
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Abdulelah is from Saudi Arabia. He is 22 years old. In his family has eight people. They are his father, mother, four older brothers, and one younger brother. His younger brother also studies in DU English Language Center, but his younger brother is in Inter-
mediate High. If his younger brother has some questions, Abdelelah can help him. Abdelelah is a very responsible brother. Abdelelah is a nice person. One day, after the class, it was a heavy rain. I could not go home, so he drove me home. Abdelelah invited me to their home to eat dinner. He cooked Arabic characteristics of rice. Abdelelah told me in his country eating this rice must use hand, only can use one hand and you must eat al the food served, because this shows respect for the host. But the plate was so big for me, so I ate that, for a long time. After dinner, Abdelelah told me, he has a company that is a furni-
ture company in Saudi Arabia. He imports furniture from China, and sells it to Arabs. I said;” You are a successful man.” Abdelelah said:” No, my older brother has 5 companies in Saudi Arabian, but my goal is to be better than my older brother!” I believe that he can be better than his brother. Abdelelah is a student in English Language Center. He is a hu-
morous man. He is a younger brother to his older brother. He is a responsible brother to his younger brother. But most important it he is a friend to me.

Alsulaili Naser is from a country which is very far from my Denver: Kuwait. His major is Chemical Engineering. The reason that made him want to come to the US to study is that he likes the diversity here. He chose Denver, because he has the astonishing scene of the Rocky Mountains has made him very interested in Den-
ver. Naser likes to meet different people from different countries and make friends with them. Naser said that the culture of his own country is very different from other countries, which made him eager to learn about other countries. Naser was very excited when he came to the US for the first time, and even now he still feels excited every day to explore new things. He has been in Denver for already half a year and he has his own plans about his studies. He is very interested in his major. Unfortunately, University of Denver doesn’t offer Chemical Engineering, so he is planning applying to in other universities after he finishes his ELC courses. However, as for now, Naser still work very hard to make sure his grades are as good as possible. Lastly, he talked about his dream: Naser wants to finish his bachelor’s degree first. Naser is a person who always wants to work hard to achieve his dream. So one day he hopes that he could leave a deep impression on anyone he has met and be a great person in others’ eyes.
Myriam told about her life in America and the cultures of Peru. First of all, she came from Peru. Miriam really likes living in America where she has lived for 2 years. She is a very mature woman. She has black hair and beautiful eyes, and she can speak Spanish. She is one of the few who can speak Spanish in ELC. She said Peru is a very beautiful country, and Peru is located in South America. Peru is a ancient country with about 600 years history, and Peru has had many experience like economic instability, fiscal crisis and economic development. Furthermore, Myriam told that Peru’s food is very delicious, because Peru is very close to the ocean, so they often eat sea food. In addition, Peruvians often use the hot cobblestone to cook meat, and they eat it with many sauces. Then she told me Peru’s people like eat guinea pig, it is a very cute pet in American, and it looks like a mouse. However it is a delicious food for Peruvians, they often fry these guinea pig and use carrots to decorate them. In conclusion, Peru is a very good country. It has long history and a lot of delicious food.

Yanyi Gong comes from Shanghai, China which is located in the south of China. Also, her hometown is Gansu where has the similar weather and environment to Colorado. Her English name is Greeny because she likes the color green, and she thinks that the protection of the environment is so important. During her daily life, she usually tries to save natural recourses, and she has a health life because she would like to make the world become bright green. By coming the ELC at the University of Denver, she started living in Denver, and she loves on this city. Greeny is an Advanced High student and this is the third quarter for her. She thinks that University of Denver is such an elegant school, such as professional study environment, green grass areas and safe campus condition. Those characteristics make her to decide that she will attach DU for the undergraduate degree after she graduates from the ELC. Besides school, she usually watches movies at her apartment, and goes shopping with Yingying who is her best friend in America. Her dreams are to speak English well and graduate from college successful. Good luck, Greeny.

Abdulrahman Zarah comes from Saudi Arabia and he came to America one year ago. During this year, he has studied English in University of Colorado and then transferred to the ELC at DU. When he first came to Denver, he felt very confused to understand what Americans said, because they speak fast. However, after he studying many months in America, now he can follow them easily. Moreover, he enjoys the life in the ELC, because there are a lot of Chinese students rather than in University of Colorado which has too many Saudi students. So, he said: “In the ELC, I have opportunity to speak English.” It’s very important for a English learner, if they don’t need to speak English in ESL, they will have no chance to progress. The reason that he chose the ELC at DU is because of his brother’s suggestion. Also, after he come here, he likes this city for there is a lot of entertainment. What’s more, he give some suggestions for new students in the ELC or the students who want to study in the ELC. First, focus on the classes, it will help you study efficiently. Second, finish
Sicheng Fan, was born in China, and he graduated from high school in Shanghai province last year. There are four people in his family. His father is a chemistry teacher in senior high school, and his mother is an English teacher in a university. He had a younger brother, who is in junior high school and is preparing for the university entrance exam. His hobbies are extensive. Sporty, he likes to play basketball, table tennis, volleyball and skating. He also told me he is a very self-discipline person. In order to pass the ELC and go through the university quickly, he keep working hard. He want to be a proficient English speaker. He came to Denver because he likes the University of Denver, he wants to study in DU for his favorite major—finance. He said the Daniels College of business of Denver is the best business school in the world. He likes to read English novels in his free time. Sometimes he always surfs the internet to read. He thinks it’s fun to read English novels. It also enlarges his English words. He is a very outgoing and communicative, so he got a large circle of friends.

“I don’t understand what are you talking about, young boy” That is Bohan Wang’s classical saying. He’s kind and friendly to everyone in the ELC. Last year was his first time he came to Denver. When he first came to Denver, he immediately felt that Denver is a beautiful city with mountains around. He always invited friends to go hiking. On the other hand, he sometimes felt lonely. He didn’t have any friends here when he came at first. That was a big challenge for him. He told me he learned a lot of useful things that could help him to improve his English skills from the ELC. He thinks his speaking skill was not very good when he was in China. The ELC provides better language environment for him than that in China. Therefore, he speaks well now. Bohan is an active person. On the weekends, he would like to go to the downtown theater to watch some English movies and go bowling with his friends. He always has colorful weekends. Of course, this lovely boy has his own plans in the future. He plans to travel other countries and then go back to DU when he graduates from the ELC. His major is business, so he has decided to try to get a job in Denver after he finishes the regular college courses. That is his dream.

Lingqi is a new student in the ELC and he has been studying in Denver for about six months. The reason why he came to America is to learn more knowledge and make a lot of friends form different countries, and his parents hope he will have a better education in America. His favorite idol is Johnny Depp because of the movie” Edward Scissorhands” and he is one of the most famous Hollywood movie stars. Since Lingqi came to Denver, he has done many things. The most interesting thing he has done was that he went to the Rocky Mountain Park with his roommates. His favorite music is rock music. He had a band in high school and he was the leader of the band. All great musicians have both technique and fire, and he is no exception. He very interested in music and his friends think the band is very cool. He often plays music without sleeping trying to play great music. His best friend is Jason who is one of his roommates. When lingqi came to the United States, the biggest challenge was language. He thinks his English is very poor and having conversation with other people is hard. He chose the ELC because it can help improve his English.
Waleed is an ELC student, and he is 25 years old. He has been studying English in the U.S. for almost a year. In his leisure time, he likes playing soccer, watching American football, and basketball. In addition, he enjoys reading books in politics, history, and self-motivation. He considers his father as a great mentor, so when Waleed face a problem, he immediately asks his father. Waleed has chosen the ELC for three main reasons. First, the ELC is one of the best English programs in the U.S, since he knows many students who graduated from the ELC, and they are doing great in their universities. Second, the teachers at the ELC have a high profile, and they are skilled to teach students how to master the four English skills, which are speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Third, DU has a great campus, where students can find many places for studying, doing research, entertainment, and eating. When he completes the ELC, he will study at Sturm College of Law at the University of Denver. His ultimate goal in life is to be a successful lawyer and an important figure in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Ayman Alawami comes from Saudi Arabia. He has been here in Colorado for six months. Ayman is an Advanced High student now in ELC program, and next he will study mechanical engineering in University of Denver. He like to study in Du because it has his major to attract him here and he thinks DU has a high ranking among the U.S universities. He has adapted well after he coming here, because Denver have a very comfortable life and a lot of the nice people. He isn’t homesick too much, but when he faces some problems that he can’t figure out it, he will try to call his family and talk with them. After he came to Denver, he prefer to reading, watching movie and some TV series at home. The best places he likes here is Washington Park, because with the stressful studies, he will try to relax by reading there. He has not meet some native speakers here, but he also knows so many Chinese students and students who comes from his country. In the future, his ideal job is to be engineer, because engineers also get very considerable salary. He would like to stay in U.S after he graduates, because he loves life here, but he not sure if he can stay here or not. He is a very nice and serious person.

Wed is a Saudi Arabian girl, and she came to America one year ago with her brother. “America is a pretty country and I feel comfortable when I lived here. But the weather is not good enough.” She studies in the ELC, too much homework that makes her stressed. She like people who study in the ELC with her, and she has made more friends here. In here point of view, the culture between Saudi Arabia and America is very different. In Saudi Arabia, men and women cannot study together, and there are some schools for women, if the teacher is a man, he must stays in another classroom, students watch teacher by TV and answer the questions with phone. At last, she did not have boyfriend, her boyfriend must wise, and can help here when she have some problems, and speak a little but do something useful lot. Here dream is she can happy every day, I hope here dream can come true.
Samuel Godin is a very nice teacher at the ELC. He is friendly and smiling all the time. He has been a teacher at the ELC for about one year. Before he became a teacher at the ELC, he was a teacher at a different English program. He thinks the students can learn a lot at ELC. First of all, one important thing is that students can know people from different countries; the ELC has Saudi Arabia, China Kuwait, Turkey, Spain, Peru, Japan, and more. Next, students can learn writing, grammar, and other skill. According to Sam, if you want to improve your grade, you need to come to class, this is the most important for you. You also need to pay attention to your teacher in class, and you should do your all homework on time. Even if you are late for homework, you need do it, because many teachers can give you some points. It is better than getting a zero. The most troubling problem in Sam’s opinions’ is that in class students focus on their phone, he does not like that students usually use their phones, except for using the dictionary, students use phones should not use their phones during test or listening. Overall, this is Sam who teaches at ELC. He is very perfect teacher. I hope you can have his class to feel his style.
“I was the only Chinese student who studied in the ELC from level one to level Five, and never failed any courses.” said Chinese student named Melvin, who has graduated from the ELC already and studies in the university of Denver right now. Melvin’s Chinese name is Junjie Xiong, and had been studied in the ELC for one and a half years; therefore, Melvin has advice on how to get high grades at the ELC. Firstly, pay full attention to the class. Secondly, do your homework carefully. Thirdly, attach importance to every presentation and project. Fourthly, learn how to work in a group. Fifthly, do not be late or absent in any class. Sixthly, respect teachers and students. Last but not least, speak English in class. Furthermore, Melvin said that international students who have graduated from the ELC are required to study ENGG courses, and the ENGG courses are similar to the ELC courses, so you also will get a high grade if you can comply with those tips which were mentioned above. In addition, Melvin said that he has lots of activities after class, such as playing computer games, guitar and basketball. Moreover, playing basketball is his favorite, so he welcomes every student who likes basketball to play with him, and maybe will form a basketball team in the future. Finally, Melvin wishes all of the ELC students could have high grades and enjoy their ELC life.

Lizzy, is a graduated student at the University of Denver. She is from Zhejiang, China. After she finishing her college courses in China, then Lizzy came to Denver and has been in Denver for about two and half years. She is doing her postgraduate studies at DU and her major is accounting. The reason why Lizzy chose this University is she felt like DU was more friendly and focused on students. She chose DU also because Denver is one of the safest cities in United States and the environment in Colorado is also great, although a little bit dry to her. Also, she said she does love this school because the teachers and students are very friendly here, they can join in many different groups and activities when they have time. In addition, the library here is also great because she can find a lot of useful material and focus on her studies 24 hours a day if she wants to. She gets much help from both the school’s writing center and career center. These are the things she loves most in this university.
Chinese Table Manners

By Shuai Ma

In China, people usually think food is the paramount necessity of the people. Most Chinese people think table manners is the important embodiment of social civilization. In China, we have a lot of table manners.

In China, when you eat with other people, there are some table manners. First of all, seating follows a strict etiquette. When eating with guests and/or parents, younger people need wait to sit until the guests and elders are seated. If there are woman in the group, you should sit down after the woman sat, diners shoulder enter the chair from the left side. Additionally, different seats have different meaning for people.

This picture shows the significance of each seat, the table is usually round, the most important seat faces the door. We call this seat Zhuwei, which means that the most important person’s sit here, usually the boss, the owner or grandparents. Other people should sit in sequence. For example, the company workers eat together, the boss should sit in Zhuwei, then other people based on their jobs to sit by 1,2,3 and so on. The seat that backs to the door is the least important position, so the person who has the lowest position usually sits there.

Secondly, if you invite other people to dinner, and you pay the bill, the guests will be embarrassed to order, so most guests will let the host to order. If you are invited, you should not be too eager ordering food.

The next one is eating should be polite and elegant, quiet, not impatient. You must be small mouth to eat, don't gulp plug, you cannot eat other food when your mouth have food and don’t swallow.
This picture is a cartoon, called One Piece. The boy is named Monkey D Luffy. He usually eats food very fast, he never stops eating until he finishes eating, even if a lot of food in his mouth. This is very rude in China, you should follow meal like Zhuwei’s speed. Don't be too fast or too slow.

Stabbing chopsticks the rice also is very rude for Chinese people. For convenient, some people will insert the chopsticks in the rice. However, in China, people will think that you curse him to die, because only when someone has died at the home, do chopsticks insert in the middle of rice.

The last point is leaving which also has certain etiquette. You need to tell beforehand to the host, apologize and explain the reason why you need to leave. Don't pull the host to the door and said a long goodbye. This will delay the host and the guest talk time, and it will be very rude. When you leave, don't ask other people leave with you, this will lead to embarrassment. The scene will break up because of you. This will make the host embarrassed. The best way is to quietly speak with the host.

In conclusion, Chinese people usually focus on table manners. Chinese people always learn etiquette from their parents when they are a child. People which their manners, then they can become gentleman and gentlewoman.
Since ancient times, traditional costumes always play an important role in the country’s history and culture. Based on history discoveries, Chinese clothes date back to the later era of Paleolithic Times. Materials used were of small stones and animal teeth at that time. The “real” clothes were not invented until about 5,000 years ago by the Yellow Emperor. Therefore, the history of Chinese clothes are very historic and mysterious.

**Chunqiu & Zhanguo period**
**(BC770-221)**

Chunqiu and Zhanguo period; With the increasing collapse of etiquette, the original color of the clothing was destroyed. The most typical example is the Duke “royal purple”. Since the monarch of a country likes to wear purple clothes, this color represents a monarch’s stateliness. The clothes of collars are always yellow and red. The robe was mostly red, decorated with white. For men, their hair was combed and rope knotted behind with a large bun known as “butterfly”. Their hair was decorated with ornament filled with tassel and knot under the ear, falling along the left and right front lower collar.

**Qin Dynasty**
**(1616-1912)**

By Chunyu Liu

Since the textile technology improved in the Qin dynasty, the robe lower part of the form evolved into a one-piece long dress. This dress was very common in the Qin dynasty, this style of clothing usually had the left side of long skirt, continued around to the black, then around the black to the front. The belt was tied around his waist, and often was white. This style was more decorative and had an aesthetic effect. Qin’s men and women’ dress shapes were not very different; Their clothes always had narrow sleeves and one-piece long dress.
Han Dynasty (202-220)

Han clothes mainly included straight gowns and skirts. Since the Han dynasty embroidery industry was very developed, the wealthy people could wear beautiful silk and satin clothes. Usually people wore one-piece long dress, but poor people wore short brown ones. Han’ women and men always wore same style clothes called “straight garment”. This style was more like the modern apparel, but it was not as formal, because the ancient pants didn’t have the crotch. If a person didn’t cover his coat or close their robes, skin will be exposed, which was considered as a contemptuous disrespect thing at that time. So they always covered the inner garment to wear dark clothing.

SanGuo Period (220-280)

Natural disasters and wars happened frequently in the Sanguo period. The clothes becoming narrow. A large number of narrow under garments had round neck seems which were more popular than the former. In this period, the round neck collar’s underwear was more important for civilians. The hat also became smaller.
In Sui dynasty, people’s clothes had the trend to be more open. Small-sleeved coats usually made of yarn, still long skirts, wide and long scarves were what they often wore. They could bare their necks. Another kind of clothes popular was big sleeves, short breasted shirts and long light skirts. The Sui emperor decided that all poor people had to wear blue or black clothes, and only rich people could wear colors.

In conclusion, these are some clothes from different period of China. It has some similarities and some differences in different time.
As we know, China has several dynasty and long history. I am going to introduce some of these dynasties—Yuan Dynasty, Ming Dynasty and Qing Dynasty.

**Yuan Dynasty (1260-1368)**

Yuan dynasty noble and civilian dressed in two kinds of styles. For Nobles, they wore leather fur hats for their national outfits. Marten and sheepskin garments were relatively popular at that time. Because of the long length of the dress, when a noble woman went out, there needed to be a slave beside her to help her walk. This kind of robe had a cloud figure on the shoulder. It is very colorful. As dress robes, fabric texture was very exquisite and the clothes were used large amount of different fabrics. Also the noble women needed to wear tall hats and the men needed to wear round hats to highlight the distinguished status. At that time, people always liked to use red, yellow, green, brown, purple and gold when they made garments.

This clothes represents noble style in Yuan dynasty.

This clothes represents ordinary people in Yuan dynasty.
Ming Dynasty (1368-1644)

After the overthrow of the Yuan dynasty, the Ming dynasty restored the tradition of the Han nationality. According to the tradition of the Han nationality, the emperor Zhu Yuanzhang, redesigned the clothing style.

Qing Dynasty (1636-1912)

This picture shows the different status women wear different clothes during the Qing Dynasty.
Men in Qing dynasty needed to shave the front of their head and the hair in the back was braided, they also needed to wear thin clothes, tight socks and deep boots.

For women, skirts gradually became shorter, their clothes included wide sleeves and cloud figures on the shoulder. They also need to wear unique high-heeled shoes all the time.

The emperor always wears golden clothes to highlight his status.

For these Dynasties, we can see people in different period have their own unique style. China has 5000 years history, which have several different Dynasties with different styles in clothing. That is why today China become diversity.
Emperor clothing of the Tang dynasty (dragon robe)

In the Tang dynasty, only the royalty could wear open neck garments. The princess Yongtai wares open chest dress, like photo 3. Alma could wear open neck dress because they had to make officers happy, like photo 1. Normal woman could wear open chest dress, because the level was different. They only could wear like photo 2. At that time, the Tang dynasty, half open chest of the dress was a bit similar to the modern western evening dress, just not allowed to show the shoulders and back. The collar of the dress in the Tang dynasty, had a round collar, square collar, oblique, straight collar or chicken heart. A dress known as “short Ru” skirt waist was too high, generally above the waist, some even under her arms, giving a person a pretty slim feeling.

When meeting ministers, the emperor always wares a dragon robe. It was called a dragon robe because clothes embroidered with the pattern of the dragon, and dragon in ancient times was the symbol of power. Ordinary people could not wear yellow or the dragon clothes. Yellow became a special color for the emperor, and also gradually evolved into a symbol of imperial power. Because yellow was the royal special color, only a royal person could wear it. If an ordinary person wear dragon robe, they would
The ancient Chinese wedding had many characteristics, one of the most important thing was couple’s clothes. First, couple’s ware red clothes when they get married. The clothes were called “dragon” and “phoenix” gowns. They call the clothes for this name because bride’s clothes have phoenix painting; on the breast there was a dragon painting. Dragon and phoenix means powerful and beautiful. Only the royalty could wear this. Red represents auspicious and lucky in China.

For photo 1, the red on the left is a bride head covering. The ball on the right is the groom’s chest sash. Depending on whether a person was rich or poor the material of the head covering and groom’s sash would be luxurious or simple. Like photo 2.

To sum up, China had a lot of dynasties, we just choose a variety of clothing styles. if you want to learn more about China’s dynasty clothes in history, you can research online.
“Identity” (2006)

Introduction

In this horror movie, the main character Edward is a police officer in Los Angels. He has no choice but to stay in a hotel because he is trapped in a thunderstorm. There are other nine people: a famous movie stars, a family with three members, a whore, a couple, a police and his criminal who is his prisoner staying in the hotel. After the hotel’s owner gives each person a different room key, these people start to die in the order of their room number. But, the strange thing is the dead bodies are disappearing. Edward wants to find the murderer of this case, but the truth of this “ghost murder” is striking.

Film critic

Score:75
“A rarity, a movie that seems to be on autopilot for the first two acts and then reveals that it was not, with a third act that causes us to rethink everything that has gone before. Ingenious, how simple and yet how devious the solution is.”
Roger Ebert
Chicago Sun-Times

Score:88
“The film mixes the psychological with the supernatural, the profane with the ridiculous, the self-indulgent with the understated, and dares you to assume anything. It’s all great fun.”
Chris Kaltenbach
Baltimore Sun

The reason why I introduce this movie

Actually, when I watched this movie at the very beginning, I just thought this is a suspense film, which only included violence and action. But, when I saw the end, it really made me feel shocked that it was not a simple suspense film, this movie also included something psychological and spiritual. The most famous quote throughout the whole film gave me the deep impression: “As I was going up the stairs, I met a man who wasn’t there. He wasn’t there again today. I wish, I wish he’d go away.” I hope you can watch this movie and enjoy this story because it is really a classic, amazing movie.
“Double” (2013)

Introduction

Simon who works in a company is really a timid man. He has worked in the company for 7 years, but no one paid attention to him even the system of the company have not record him. His life is really a failure, everyone bullies him. However, one day, he sees there is the new worked in the company who has the same appearance as him and he is called James. Compared to the Simon, James is very outgoing, he has a good communication with everyone who works in the company, including the boss. At the very beginning, James and Simon have a good relationship. However, after some time, James starts to steal Simon’s accomplishments and tells other people he did it. Finally, Simon decided to get revenge against James and kills him in a special way.

“I don’t know how to be myself. It’s like I’m permanently outside myself. Like, like you could push your hands straight through me if you wanted to.”

Double

Score: 80

“Given the obvious influences on The Double, it could have felt like a facsimile of other films. Instead, it has enough individuality, imagination and idiosyncratic invention to identify it as a true original.”

David Hughes
Empire

Score: 70

“The heavily stylized film further demonstrates the actor’s ability to create self-contained worlds behind the camera.”

John Defore
The Hollywood reporter
Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice

by Turki Bin Jaman

About the Movie:

Superman and Batman fights over different philosophies about what is the best way to control the world. Superman’s philosophy aims to control the world based on helping people and make them feel that he is an important person. On the other hand, Batman’s philosophy attempts to protect the world based on killing evil people, but at the same time he does not care about others. Interestingly, the public starts to think mindfully about those heroes and which philosophy is the best for them. At the beginning of the movie both Superman and Batman are enemies, but at the end they work together to kill the monster. In fact, they did kill it, but an unexpected thing happened to Superman, so I will stop here and make you discover the rest of the story.

Important Facts about the Movie

Veronika Kwan, the president of Worldwide Distribution, mentions that the gross revenues of the movie “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice” is $801.7 million as of April. This number includes $301.2 million from the domestic box office and $500.5 million from the international box. Surprisingly, the revenue from the domestic box office, $500.5, had been achieved after only five days of releasing the movies. Kwan adds that the company is so proud about this movie, since it became the highest grossing film in the season compared to other movies.

Critics Reviews

“It's tough to take all the hardcore emoting seriously, particularly as the emotional heavy lifting is designed to be done by the occasional maudlin line in brief pauses between the explosions. For a film so concerned with its characters' inner lives, there's a fundamental disconnect going on here - enough to make you yearn for the lighter touch of the Marvel films.”

Andrew Pulver: The Guardian

“BvS will please those either waiting for the two main players to lock horns on a movie screen, or those who've just been pining for Wonder Woman forever. And for the nerdier crowds, a fleeting glimpse at other superheroes hints this is the Dawn of something potentially sensational.”

Brian Truitt: USA Today
As the film technology develops, movies become more interesting than before. Do you like watching movies? What kind of movies do you like? I will suggest a movie that is very interesting. “The Imitation Game” is an excellent movie from 2014, and it talks about father of computers. In this movie, the director uses different methods to show how Turing created the computer during the Second World War. There are three stories about him.

Firstly, Germany wants to conquer all of Europe, so Germany attacked the UK and France. Germany invent a new technique which was called Enigma, and Germany use it to send telegraph safely. UK has to crack it, because UK might lose the war if UK can’t crack it. As a result, UK government begins to recruit many geniuses in UK. Turing was recruited by the government, because he is a genius in math. At the first time, he joined a genius group. He finds the Enigma is very difficult to crack by human’s brain when he try to crack it. Turing thinks he needs a machine to help them crack Enigma.

Secondly, Turing meets with his fiancee Joan Clark when he found a assistant in order to help him to made the machine. Make the machine needs a lot of time, so he holds a math exam to find his assistant. Although Joan Clark was late to join this exam, she only needs a little time to finished this exam, and her answer is all correct. Then, Turing recruit her, because she is the most excellent person in this exam. At the first day, she found Turing is very introverted when he tried to finished this machine by himself. His colleagues dislike him, so they often oppose him. Joan Clark starts teach Turing how to make friends with his colleagues, although he is not good at making friends, his colleagues still receive his mind. Before long, they became best friends, and his machine was almost finished.

Finally, Turing and his group finish this machine. So the UK beat Germany by this machine. However, there is a spy in his group, and the government didn’t know who was spy. The government starts to doubt Turing, because his behavior was very strange. Obviously, Turing was not spy, the government finds he is gay when they investigate him. In this age, Homosexuality was illegal even they will be executed. But Turing had made a huge contribution to his country, so the government covered all of things about him. He had to chemical cas-
Marvel’s the Avengers was the written and directed by Joss Whedon. In the movie, the Earth faces a huge crisis, so S.H.I.E.L.D, an international peace keeping agency, makes the biggest meeting of super heroes including Iron Man, The Incredible Hulk, Thor, Captain America, Hawkeye and Black Widow. They make a group; called “The Avengers”. When earth security is threatened by Loki who is the stepbrother of Thor. The Avengers experience various crises, and eventually they save the Earth together. Each super hero has special powers:

Ironman’s name is Tony Stark. Tony Stark born in the New York. Because of once kidnap, physicist Yin Sen save his life that install Arc Reactor in him heart. Tony Stark use Arc Reactor’s power make an armor. When he be saved, he decide to use armor save more people’s life. He became to member of super hero.
Captain America’s real name is Steven "Steve" Rogers. Captain America is seen as a symbol of American spirit. Steven "Steve" Rogers Originally is a new recruit that has a very thin body in the WW II. After the United States government experiments Rogers, he is transformed into a "super soldier", this means his strength, speed, endurance… is better than ordinary people. He has a shield that is made of the hardest metal in the world. As WW II is nearing the end, the Captain America battles with the enemy "Red Skull", but falls into the sea and is frozen nearly 70 years, until SHIELD find him and thawing him Thor is Odin’s own son, and Odin decide to Thor is Lagarde (his country) ’s heir to the throne. His youthful, reckless uprightness, and because of his conceit he was exiled to Earth. Thor’s main concern is to maintain world peace.
Black Widow real name is Natasha. She is a SHIELD Russian nationality female agent. She has a beautiful face, clear agile action, and a good strong body. She is a SHIELD elite agent. Natasha originally was arranged inside the stark industries as an undercover agent responsible for monitoring the Ironman Tony Stark. After that she formally joining the Avengers alliance. She is also the only female members in the Avengers.

Hulk’s real name is Robert Bruce Banner. Hulk is a genius of nuclear physics. In an accident Banner was a large amount of radiation by Gamma Bomb. Now his body produces change, when he gets emotional or his heart beat faster, he will become green monster.
Hawkeye’s real name is Clint Barton, he is an orphan and grew up in a circus. He is good at archery. One day when he shows at circus, he saw the Ironman save people, so Clint Barton decide to help people too. Clint Barton is the most accurate archery in the world, so other people call him “the

This movie is very good, because this movie has 6 Marvel Comics superhero. Almost all of the world knows Marvel Comics superheroes. They are very famous in the world. A lot of people like them, and fans want to watch them fight together. All the fans wait this movie for a long time. Finally, in 2012 fans could watch this movie, and they were very excited. Please don’t miss this movie, it is really a good movie!
The mission of the English Language Center (ELC) is to support the goals of the University of Denver by preparing English Language Learners with the necessary communicative and cultural competencies to be successful members of DU and other US institutions of Higher Education.