Reach Us

DIRECTOR OF CHINESE LANGUAGE PROGRAM
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6 levels of instruction
21 courses within the curriculum
11 full-time instructors

Advanced level courses in
Classical Chinese, contemporary literature and film, readings in modern Chinese intellectual history, Classic Chinese short stories, and more

Associated with
Department of East Asian Studies
Program in East Asian Studies
Princeton in Beijing
Princeton in Asia
International Internship Program (OIP)

Updated August 30, 2023
CHINESE LANGUAGE STUDIES

Established in 1956, the Chinese Language Program at Princeton University is a world-renowned model for Chinese language education. With six levels of courses in modern and classical Chinese language, the program offers a tailored curriculum for both beginners and students who have familiarity with the language. Students studying Chinese are welcomed into a tight-knit community of dedicated language instructors and equally dedicated students. Instructors are available for office visits, and they are open to answering any and all class-related questions, or just a friendly chat. Weekly language tables are also a good opportunity to socialize with instructors and students while practicing Chinese speaking.

Students seeking to fulfill the University A.B. language requirement must complete up to the second-year level (CHI 107 or equivalent). Heritage learners or students with previous Chinese language study require to take the Chinese placement test (contact the Chinese Language director for more information).

Students seeking a Minor in Chinese Language must complete six language courses (two or more of which must be beyond the second-year level).

MORE INFORMATION

eas.princeton.edu/chinese

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Table</th>
<th>Practice speaking Chinese with instructors and peers</th>
<th>See program website for latest on time and location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Autumn Festival</td>
<td>Celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival by making mooncakes and bubble tea, and reading ancient poems about the moon.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese New Year Celebration</td>
<td>Celebrate Lunar New Year with student performances in Chinese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three-Line Love Poem in Chinese</td>
<td>Compose a short poem in Chinese to celebrate Valentine’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Culture and Game Night</td>
<td>Participate in traditional Chinese cultural activities, learn to play mahjong, sing karaoke, and enjoy Chinese food</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language Expo</td>
<td>Showcase your Chinese language proficiency with a speech, skit, short video, or other presentation</td>
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PRINCETON IN BEIJING

An intensive study abroad program, offering Chinese language courses from second to fifth-year level. The program’s total-immersion approach includes special features such as: a language pledge to speak no language other than Mandarin Chinese throughout the duration of the program; daily individual tutorial sessions; interaction with faculty, local instructors, and students; and special lectures on aspects of Chinese studies. Added to this experience is the ultimate Chinese language environment—China’s capital city of Beijing. Completion of the summer program is the equivalent of two semesters of Chinese language at Princeton University. Generous need and merit-based financial aid are offered to interested parties who qualify through the Office of the Dean of the College and the Program in East Asian Studies.

MORE INFORMATION

eas.princeton.edu/chinese

FULL DESCRIPTION

pib.princeton.edu

COURSE OFFERINGS

Introductory Chinese (CHI 1001/1002) & Elementary Chinese (CHI 101/102)
An introductory course series in spoken and written modern Chinese, emphasizing oral-aural facility. CHI 1001/1002 is taught at half the instructional pace of CHI 101.

Introductory Elementary Chinese (CHI 103/108)
For beginning heritage learners and students with fair fluency and limited ability in reading and writing. Intensive series covers CHI 101/103 and CHI 105/107 course materials within two semesters.

Intermediate Chinese (CHI 105/107)
An intermediate course series in spoken and written modern Chinese, focusing on daily life scenarios and contemporary cultural/social topics.

Third-Year Modern Chinese (CHI 303/304)
Designed to further develop overall language skills through readings and discussions on topics related to contemporary Chinese society.

Fourth-Year Modern Chinese (CHI 403/404)
Advanced course series on contemporary topics from Chinese media, Chinese literature, and modern Chinese intellectuals.

Intensive Fourth-Year Modern Chinese (CHI 405/406)
For heritage learners, course series on contemporary topics from Chinese media, Chinese literature, and modern Chinese intellectual history.

Fifth-Year Modern Chinese (CHI 451/452)
For advanced students, course series further develops Chinese language comprehension, communication skills, and cultural understanding and knowledge in Chinese social linguistics.

Readings in Modern Chinese Intellectual History (CHI 411/EAS 411)
For advanced students with training in reading Chinese. LA distribution credit.

Advanced Chinese: Contemporary Literature and Film (CHI 418)
Introduces students to the intellectual and literary development of China after 1949 by sampling literary masterpieces and representative movies. LA distribution credit.

Introduction to Classical Chinese (CHI 301/302)
Introductory course series to classical Chinese grammar and texts with theme-based readings on important cultural aspects of premodern China. HA distribution credit.

Readings in Classic Chinese Short Stories (CHI 412/EAS 412)
Focuses on reading and discussing selections from Feng Menglong’s Sanyan, the most popular and well-known collection of classic Chinese short stories published in the late 16th century. LA distribution credit.