

Chinese

The Chinese major is offered by the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures and includes courses in the language, culture, literature, and linguistics of China. Students studying Chinese progress from an elementary working knowledge of the language to oral and written fluency. Once students are familiar with basic patterns of pronunciation and language structure, they are introduced gradually to the unique writing system of the language. The rich body of Chinese literature is first studied in English translation; as students progress in the major and develop their language skills, they continue their readings in Chinese.

Pursuing Chinese at Ohio State

All Ohio State freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process for the Columbus campus. The primary criteria for admission are the completion of the applicant's high school college preparatory program, performance in that program as indicated by class rank and/or grade-point average, and performance on either the ACT or SAT. Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in Chinese within the Arts and Humanities. Interested students should contact the undergraduate studies director in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures and in Arts and Sciences Advising.

Chinese Requirements

Chinese majors are required to design their programs from courses in language, culture, literature, and linguistics. Majors must complete at least 55 credit hours in Chinese and Chinese-related work. Programs should be planned in consultation with an academic advisor assigned by the undergraduate studies director.

Core courses include Chinese 101 through 104, 210, or 211. These courses do not apply toward the major. Additional electives and General Education Curriculum requirements totaling 181 hours are required by the College of the Arts and Sciences for graduation.

Success in Chinese requires a commitment to daily preparation and a willingness on the part of the student to use the opportunities provided in class to speak the language. In addition, students should begin considering and planning for a study abroad program as soon as they have decided to major in Chinese.

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These range from cooperative education (co-op) and internships to study abroad programs to student organizations, such as the Chinese Language and Culture Club. Co-ops and internships place students in professional

environments while they are Ohio State students. Ohio State offers more than 100 study abroad programs in 40 countries around the world. In addition, there are hundreds of student organizations on campus to meet the interests of a diverse student population.

These opportunities enable students to gain valuable work experience, learn about cultures, and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and may provide an advantage in the job market.

Students interested in studying abroad during their junior or senior year can get specific information about various programs from their coordinating advisor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures.

Honors & Scholars Programs

Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling, and unique housing options.

Honors and Scholars programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Good candidates for these programs will receive additional information after admission to the university. Learn more about the Honors and Scholars program at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

Career Prospects in Chinese

Chinese is applicable in a variety of settings in the United States and abroad. Mastery of Chinese allows students to consider careers in such fields as education, government, international trade, banking, print or electronic media, tourism, or art. Many employers are eager to hire graduates who are fluent in Chinese because their businesses interact with Chinese speakers.

Careers in which Chinese is the primary emphasis include teaching Chinese at all levels; interpreting and translating for the United Nations, government, or for private and public organizations; and a variety of positions in the travel and tourism industry at home or abroad such as flight attendant, travel agent, and tour guide. Careers in which proficiency in Chinese is a good secondary tool include banking and finance, business, sales, export purchasing, foreign market analysis, journalism, foreign correspondence, science and research, library science, hotel management, publishing, radio broadcasting, and teaching English in China to employees in corporations abroad. All

For more information, check these web sites:

East Asian Languages and Literatures: deall.osu.edu

Arts and Humanities: artsandhumanities.osu.edu

Ohio State: osu.edu

Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu

Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu

First Year Experience: fye.osu.edu

Curriculum Sample

This is a sample list of classes a student may take to pursue a degree in Chinese. Since university students need more than specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete the General Education Curriculum (GEC). The GEC will allow students to develop the fundamental skills essential to collegiate success across major programs. Course work options satisfying the GEC often come from a variety of academic areas of study allowing students to tailor their GEC toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in Chinese. Consult the departmental web site, deall.osu.edu.

Freshman Year:

First-Year Chinese	15
Traditional Chinese Culture	5
Chinese Fiction in Translation	5
GEC (English composition)	5
GEC courses	15
Arts and Humanities Survey	1
Freshman Seminar	1
Total hours	47

Sophomore Year:

Intermediate Intensive Chinese	30
Modern Chinese Literature in Translation	5
GEC (second writing course)	5
GEC courses	5
Total hours	45

Junior Year:

Fourth-Year Chinese	15
Chinese Poetry in Translation	5
GEC courses	25
Total hours	45

Senior Year:

Fifth-Year Chinese	10
Thought in China and Japan	5
The Chinese Language: Description and Analysis	5
Electives	5
GEC courses	20
Total hours	45

who study Chinese find that the experience sharpens their understanding of language in general and makes them more attentive to nuance in their native languages, thus helping them exercise a greater amount of control over their own lives, no matter what their eventual fields of interest or occupations.

Ohio State graduates with Chinese language majors have chosen jobs such as buyer for Unishops Inc., trade specialist for the Ohio Department of Development, international traffic analyst for Firestone Tire and Rubber, and president of Imex International Inc.

Beginning salaries depend on candidates' skills and experience, and whether Chinese is of primary or secondary importance in daily job performance. Chinese language graduates find their marketable skills considerably enriched by their humanities education.

Career Counseling and Job Placement

Students can explore career options in Chinese by utilizing Career Connection as well as the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office.

Providing complimentary services, Career Connection focuses on helping students establish a career direction, while the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office assists students with finding internships—experiences that are essential to testing out the suitability of career fields they are considering. Located in 48 Townshend Hall, the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office also assists seniors and recent graduates with finding entry-level career employment. More information about both offices is found at asccareerservices.osu.edu and careerconnection.osu.edu.

More About Chinese

Many scholarship, internship, and study abroad opportunities are available for students majoring in Chinese. The following are some study abroad programs:

- Art and Culture in China (summer term in Beijing and Shanghai)
- China: History and Culture (summer term in Shanghai, Hangzhou, Nanjing, and Beijing)
- China: Minority Cultures on the Southwest Frontiers (two weeks following spring quarter)
- Intensive Language Study in Shanghai, PRC
- Intermediate Chinese Language Study in Qingdao, PRC

For more information regarding any of the programs listed above, refer to Office of International Affairs at oia.osu.edu.

Chinese Language Tracks

There are several tracks to study Chinese language at Ohio State, including the regular track, the intensive track, and individualized instruction track. A summer intensive course in first-level Chinese is also available. Qualified undergraduate students can also take courses in the Chinese Flagship Program of the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, an MA program for the advanced study of Chinese that prepares for work in Chinese related careers.

Revised September 2009. For the most up-to-date information on the Chinese program, please visit deall.osu.edu.

Contact information:

East Asian Languages and Literatures
398 Hagerty Hall | 1775 College Road | Columbus, Ohio 43210-1340
(614) 292-5816