

CHINESE, BACHELOR OF ARTS

College of Letters & Science

The Major Program

The department offers a core language program in Chinese, and courses in literature and culture. The core language program has two tracks: one for students who have no Chinese-language background whatsoever and one for students with prior background.

The Program

Practical language skills are taught using contemporary methods and materials, so that upon entering the upper division a student will have attained substantial fluency in the spoken language (listening and speaking) and the written language (reading and writing). Upper division courses balance the need to further develop language skills with the need to understand and appreciate the richness and diversity of Chinese culture. All students are encouraged to combine their study of language and literature with courses in related fields, and to study abroad through the Global Learning Hub (<https://globallearning.ucdavis.edu/>) or through internships in China or Taiwan.

Career Opportunities

UC Davis graduates have learned that a major in Chinese is a meaningful, earned distinction that facilitates entrance to graduate programs and professional schools. In addition, job opportunities abound in virtually all career paths, especially for graduates who have completed study abroad.

Honors Program

To be eligible to receive high or highest honors in the Chinese major, students must complete a senior thesis project. A student interested in pursuing a senior thesis project must enroll in CHN 194H and complete a scholarly paper or similar research project under the direction of a senate faculty member. The thesis project will have a minimum duration of two quarters and carry a minimum of 6 units of credit. Up to 4 CHN 194H units earned can be counted toward the major requirements. To qualify to undertake the senior thesis project, a student must have completed at least 135 units with a minimum GPA of 3.500 in courses counted toward the major. Interested students should consult with faculty in their field of interest by the quarter before they hope to commence work on the project (in most cases this will be the Spring Quarter of their junior year). Students who complete the senior thesis project and have an overall GPA that qualifies them for honors may be recommended by the faculty for honors, high honors, or highest honors at graduation.

Education Abroad Program

The university maintains study abroad programs in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. They offer excellent opportunities for students to polish their language skills and experience Asian cultures firsthand. Students are encouraged to participate. Appropriate courses taken abroad can be applied toward the major or the minor. For details, see the department's undergraduate advisor or the Global Learning Hub (<https://globallearning.ucdavis.edu/>).

Related Courses

See East Asian Studies (EAS) (<https://catalog.ucdavis.edu/courses-subject-code/eas/>) course list.

Prerequisite Credit

No student may repeat a course if that course is a prerequisite for a course that has already been completed with a grade of C– or better.

Placement

Chinese CHN 001 is intended for beginning students with no prior knowledge of the Chinese language. Students who do have some knowledge but wish to improve their skills should meet with an advisor to discuss appropriate placement. Students must follow departmental guidelines for placement in all language courses and instructor approval is required for enrollment.

Backtracking

Satisfactory completion of a language course is evidence that a student's language skills are beyond the level of those expected in its prerequisite courses. Accordingly, students who have completed a language course cannot go back and take its prerequisites. If the prerequisite courses are required for the major, students may substitute other courses. Students who are not sure how this requirement applies to them should speak to the undergraduate advisor.

Waived Language Courses

Students with exceptional language ability may waive required language courses. If lower division courses have been waived, students will not have to take courses in their place. If upper division courses have been waived, students can use other appropriate courses to earn the units they need to complete the major. Consult the undergraduate advisor regarding the selection of appropriate courses.

The major requirements below are in addition to meeting University Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate-education/university-degree-requirements/>) & College Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate-education/college-degree-requirements/>); unless otherwise noted. The minimum number of units required for the Chinese Bachelor of Arts is 40.

Code	Title	Units
Preparatory Subject Matter		
Choose a series:		0-30
CHN 001 & CHN 002 & CHN 003 & CHN 004 & CHN 005 & CHN 006	Elementary Chinese and Elementary Chinese and Elementary Chinese and Intermediate Chinese and Intermediate Chinese and Intermediate Chinese	
OR		
CHN 001BL & CHN 002BL & CHN 003BL	Accelerated Written Chinese I and Accelerated Written Chinese II and Accelerated Written Chinese III	
OR		
CHN 001CN & CHN 002CN & CHN 003CN	Mandarin for Cantonese Speakers I and Mandarin for Cantonese Speakers II and Mandarin for Cantonese Speakers III	
OR		
Equivalent as determined by a required language placement exam.		
Recommended, but not required:		
CHN 009	Introduction to Chinese Language & Culture	
CHN 010	Modern Chinese Literature (In English)	

CHN 011	Great Books of China (in English)	
CHN/JPN 050	Introduction to the Literature of China & Japan	
COM 014	Introduction to Poetry	
HIS 009A	History of East Asian Civilization	
JPN 010	Masterworks of Japanese Literature (in English)	
LIN 001	Introduction to Linguistics	
or LIN 001Y	Introduction to Linguistics	

Preparatory Subject Matter Subtotal 0-30

Depth Subject Matter

Grading. Students may take up to two and no more than two (regular, letter-graded) courses for the major on a P/NP basis. Courses which are only offered on a P/NP basis do not count toward these limits.

Required Courses

CHN 106	Chinese Poetry (in English)	4
CHN 107	Traditional Chinese Fiction (in English)	4
CHN 114	Introduction to Classical Chinese	4
CHN 160	The Chinese Language	4

Choose one: 4

CHN 101	Chinese Film	
CHN 103	Modern Chinese Drama	
CHN 104	Modern Chinese Fiction (in English)	
CHN 109G	Topics in Chinese Literature: The Literature of 20th-Century Taiwan (in English)	

Choose CHN 111A, or CHN 111, CHN 112, & CHN 113: 12

CHN 111A	Intensive Third-Year Chinese ¹	
or CHN 111 & CHN 112 & CHN 113	Modern Chinese: Reading & Discussion and Modern Chinese: Reading & Discussion and Modern Chinese: Reading & Discussion	

Note: With prior approval of the undergraduate advisor, students already proficient in Chinese at any third-year level² must take other upper division CHN courses to replace language course(s).

Choose two; at least 8 units: 8

CHN 100A/RST 175A	Daoist Traditions	
CHN 100B	Confucian Traditions	
CHN 101	Chinese Film	
CHN 103	Modern Chinese Drama	
CHN 104	Modern Chinese Fiction (in English)	
CHN 105	Western Influences on 20th-Century Chinese Literature (in English)	
CHN/JPN 108	Poetry of China & Japan (in English)	
CHN 109A	Topics in Chinese Literature: Crime & Punishment	
CHN 109C	Topics in Chinese Literature: Women Writers (in English)	
CHN 109D	Topics in Chinese Literature: The Knight-Errent (in English)	
CHN 109E	Topics in Chinese Literature: The City in Fiction (in English)	
CHN 109G	Topics in Chinese Literature: The Literature of 20th-Century Taiwan (in English)	

CHN 109H	Topics in Chinese Literature: Popular Literature (in English)	
CHN 109I	Topics in Chinese Literature: Scholar & The Courtesan (in English)	
CHN 110	Great Writers of China: Texts & Context (in English)	
CHN 115	Introduction to Classical Chinese II	
CHN 116	Introduction to Classical Chinese III	
CHN 120	Advanced Chinese (Can be repeated when content differs.)	
CHN 130	Readings in Traditional Chinese Fiction (Can be repeated when content differs.)	
CHN 131	Readings in Traditional Chinese Poetry	
CHN 132	Readings in Modern Chinese Poetry	
CHN 133	Readings in Modern Chinese Prose & Drama (Can be repeated when content differs.)	
CHN 134	Chinese Film in Chinese Language	
CHN 140	Readings in Classical Chinese (Can be repeated when content differs.)	
CHN 150	Fifth-Year Chinese: Selected Topics in Chinese Language, Literature, & Culture (Can be repeated when content differs.)	

Up to four (4) units from:

CHN 194H	Senior Thesis Honors Project	
CHN 198 & CHN 199	Directed Group Study and Special Study for Advanced Undergraduates	
or CHN 199	Special Study for Advanced Undergraduates	

OR

From outside the department.

Recommended substitutions from outside the department:

JPN-Any upper division Japanese course (<https://catalog.ucdavis.edu/courses-subject-code/jpn/>)³

AHI 163A	Early Chinese Art	
AHI 163B	Chinese Painting	
ANT 148A	Culture & Political Economy in Contemporary China	
COM 112	Japanese Cinema	
ECN 171	Economy of East Asia	
HIS 191A	Classical China	
HIS 191B	High Imperial China	
HIS 191C	Late Imperial China	
HIS 191D	19th-Century China: The Empire Confronts the West	
HIS 191E	The Chinese Revolution	
HIS 191F	History of the People's Republic of China	
HIS 191G	Special Topics in Chinese History to 1800	
HIS 191H	Special Topics in Chinese History after 1800	
HIS 191J	Sex & Society in Modern Chinese History	
POL 148A	Government & Politics of East Asia: China	
POL 148B	Government & Politics in East Asia: Japan	
RST 170	(Discontinued)	
RST 172	Ch'an (Zen) Buddhism	

SOC 188	Markets, Culture & Inequality in China	
OR		
Other advanced literature and culture courses selected in consultation with the undergraduate advisor.		
Depth Subject Matter Subtotal		40
Total Units		40-70

1

CHN 111A content is equivalent to CHN 111, CHN 112, CHN 113.

2

CHN 111-CHN 112-CHN 113

3

Excluding JPN 192, JPN 194H, JPN 197T, JPN 198, JPN 199.