THE CHINESE ADVANTAGE

Mandarin is spoken by over a billion people, or roughly one fifth of the world population, making it the most widely spoken language in the world. China has also emerged as a global leader in manufacturing and business, and is now one of the largest trading partners of North America, and a major player in the world economy. This has led to an ever growing demand for experienced professionals with Chinese language and cultural skills across a variety of professions and industries. The study of Chinese is therefore increasingly relevant and advantageous, and can provide you with an important addition to your resume and an edge when competing for employment, by drawing the attention of future employers.

Experience and statistics seem to suggest that most government agencies and a majority of international businesses prefer to hire employees who can speak a second language. As China continues to expand and exert its influence in the global economy and on the world stage, Mandarin Chinese will play an increasingly important role as a language for business communication. Those with a knowledge of Chinese language and culture will find themselves strategically positioned to advance their careers.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Students should consult with the Chinese program to be placed in language courses corresponding to their ability.

E-mail sllc@ucalgary.ca in order to coordinate your placement/assessment, or visit the website: http://sllc.ucalgary.ca/

Study abroad opportunities in China are available. Please refer to the International Centre website for details: http://ucalgary.ca/uci/

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Dedicated to the teaching and research of language, literature and culture, the Chinese program at the University of Calgary offers four years of courses, and a comprehensive curriculum.

Students can choose to take Chinese courses towards an East Asian Language Studies major (Concentration in Chinese), Chinese minor, or for fulfilling other degree program requirements. Courses are designed to accommodate students with a background in Chinese, as well as those without, and include beginner, intermediate and advanced instruction in the four basic language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing).

Developed with the varying knowledge levels and needs of students in mind, the content of these courses cover a broad and complementary range of topic areas including Mandarin language instruction, historical, modern and contemporary Chinese fiction, Chinese women’s literature, Chinese cinema, Chinese linguistics, Chinese civilization and culture and Chinese-Japanese cultural relations.

Since 2006, the Chinese and Japanese programs have jointly offered the East Asian Language Studies major program (EALS).

Specific Chinese scholarship opportunities are available to students who meet the award criteria. Please check the website for more information: http://sflc.ucalgary.ca

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**COURSE OFFERINGS**

**CHIN 205 and 207**

Beginners’ Chinese I and II

Basic concepts of the Chinese National Language. Reading and writing of characters, essentials of grammar, basic vocabulary, and oral drills on normal speech patterns.

**CHIN 279**

Reading and Writing Chinese

Introduction to the Chinese language for students who have a background in Mandarin and other Chinese dialects, but limited reading and writing ability.

**CHIN 301 and 303**

Continuing Chinese I and II


**CHIN 309 / 311 / 313**

*Study Abroad* Chinese Culture/Language in an Immersion Setting

An introduction to contemporary Chinese culture and functional Chinese language in an immersion environment. These courses are given during Spring/Summer Terms in the People’s Republic of China.

**CHIN 317**

Topics in Chinese Civilization

Distinctive features of Chinese civilization within the Asian context.

**CHIN 331 and 333**

Intermediate Chinese I and II

Intermediate courses giving equal emphasis to receptive and productive language skills.

**CHIN 353**

An Introduction to Chinese Language and Linguistics

An overview of Chinese linguistics, the course provides an introduction to linguistic concepts and topics to enhance understanding of the structure of the Chinese language.

**CHIN 355**

Chinese Literature in Translation

Introduces the literary tradition of China by means of reading the English translations of representative works. Examines the historical and cultural background, as well as literary forms and aesthetics.

**CHIN 357**

Topics in Chinese Film

Chinese film from the perspectives of film theory and political and cultural history. The course may concentrate on a specific director, a period, or a genre in Chinese film.

**CHIN 401**

Advanced Chinese Conversation

Development of Chinese oral communication skills through contemporary film, television programs and/or other audio materials with textbooks.

**CHIN 403**

Advanced Readings and Writing in Modern Chinese

Development of Chinese reading and writing skills through newspapers, magazines, social commentary and/or literary works.

**CHIN 431**

Selected Topics in Chinese Literature

Reading modern and contemporary Chinese fiction on a variety of themes by different writers.

For more information visit: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/chinese