

Chinese

Donghui He
Wencui Zhao

The curriculum of Chinese language and literature is designed to help students acquire communicative competence in Chinese and foster an in-depth understanding of Chinese literature/culture. Students will develop oral and written Chinese language proficiency as well as analytical skills through a combination of Chinese language and literature/culture courses.

Learning Outcomes:

- **Communication:** Through a sequential series of Chinese language courses and selection of courses in Chinese culture, students will develop a communicative competence in Chinese, measured by what are considered the five proficiencies of foreign language learning: listening, reading, speaking, writing and socio-linguistic familiarity. Advanced Chinese classes also prepare students for the HSK 5 (advanced mid-level) Chinese Language Proficiency Test.
- **Culture:** Through an array of Chinese cultural courses, students will be able to situate and analyze modern-day Chinese literature, film, and theatre within China's evolving cultural tradition. They will also express this cultural literacy through oral presentations and written composition.
- **Critical thinking:** Students will develop critical thinking through engaging with new modes of expression and different perspectives on language and culture which will inspire them to be inquisitive and reflective global citizen.

Placement test: Students with previous experiences in Chinese language studies are required to take a diagnostic placement test, which matches them to the course suitable for their level. Placement exams in Chinese consist of both written and oral components. Please contact Professor Donghui He to arrange the test.

Total credit requirements for a Chinese Major: 36 credits

Chinese Language and Literature:

- 36 Credits excluding honors project
- Required Courses
 - 24 credits in Chinese language courses (see course list below)
 - 8 credits in Chinese literature and culture (see course list below)
 - 4 credits in electives
- Other notes
 - Students who start Chinese language studies at Whitman at the 400 level can take up to twelve credits in approved courses from other departments.
 - 12 credits may be taken off-campus
 - Students pursuing a double-major in Chinese and another discipline are allowed to use a four-credit course selected from the approved list to be counted from another major program.
 - Courses taken P-D-F may not be used to satisfy course and credit requirements for the major or minor after the major or minor has been declared.
- Senior Assessment
 - Expanding a paper written for a seminar
 - A self-statement on their studies in Chinese language and literature
 - Oral Presentation
- **Non honors does not require a thesis**

- Honors
 - Submit a Honors in Major Study Application
 - Must submit their thesis proposal by the beginning of 7th week in the first semester of the student's senior year to AMES.
 - 87 college credits before their senior year
 - at least two semesters of residency at Whitman
 - an accumulative GPA of at least 3.300 of all the courses taken at Whitman
 - major GPA of at least 3.500
 - complete a written thesis for the satisfaction for the program
 - receive a grade of A- or above for the honors thesis (Chinese 498)
 - earn "Passed with Distinction" on oral exam of the thesis
 - file acceptable copy(ies) of the thesis in the college library no later than the published deadline
 - Passing senior assessment with distinction.

Chinese Language Courses (24 credits, of which 8 credits should be 300 level or above)

Chinese 105 *First-Year Chinese*
 Chinese 106 *First-Year Chinese*
 Chinese 110 *Conversational Chinese I (off campus studies)*
 Chinese 205 *Second-Year Chinese*
 Chinese 206 *Second-Year Chinese*
 Chinese 210 *Conversational Chinese II (off campus studies)*
 Chinese 305 *Third-Year Chinese*
 Chinese 306 *Third-Year Chinese*
 Chinese 310 *Conversational Chinese III (off campus studies)*
 Chinese 405 *Advanced Chinese: Themes and Aspects of Chinese Culture (repeatable)*
 Chinese 406 *Reading the Original Chinese Texts (repeatable)*
 Chinese 417 *Walking the Talk: Chinese-English Translation*

Chinese Literature and Culture (8 credits)

Global Literatures 301 *Chinese Literature and Film Adaptation*
 Global Literatures 305 *Youth & Revolution in Contemporary Chinese Literature & Culture*

Chinese or Asian Culture Courses Electives (4 credits)

Anthropology 220 <i>China Now</i>	History 344 <i>China in Revolution</i>
Anthropology 347 ST: <i>Culture, Politics, and Ecology in Southwest China</i>	History 348 <i>Horseriders and Samurai: Comparisons in Early Modern East Asia</i>
Art History 143 <i>Buddhist Art in Asia</i>	History 398 VT: <i>19th c. China: Within the Claws of Imperialism</i>
Japanese 400/Global Literatures 222 <i>Introduction to Modern Japanese Literature and Culture</i>	Philosophy 110 <i>Introduction to East Asian Philosophy</i>
Global Literatures 225/Japanese 425 <i>Exploring Human-Nonhuman Dynamics in Japanese Literature</i>	Philosophy 251 <i>Chinese Philosophy and Contemporary Issues</i>
Global Literatures 312 <i>Solitude and Literary Imagination</i>	Philosophy 360 <i>Asian Philosophy of Women, Gender, and Sexuality</i>
Global Literatures 322 <i>Eccentric Monks and Hermits in Japan</i>	Philosophy 415 <i>Zhuangzi and the Philosophy of Wandering About</i>
Global Literatures 325 <i>Imagining Community Through Contemporary Japanese Fiction and Film</i>	
History 109 <i>Historical Roots of East Asia</i>	
History 110 <i>East Asian History 1600 to the Present</i>	
History 246 <i>Food Ritual & Performance: Cultural History in Late Imperial China</i>	
History 247 <i>Early Chinese History</i>	
History 300 <i>Gender in Chinese History</i>	

Chinese Language and Literature Minor:

- 20 Credits
- Required Courses
 - At least 4 credits of 300 level Chinese at Whitman, or Global Literatures with Chinese themes
- Other notes
 - No P-D-F courses after declaration of minor

Independent studies project. Up to four credits in Chinese literature/culture project beyond the regular course offerings can count toward Chinese major or minor with the approval of the Chinese faculty. Courses that count for other majors may be used for the minor.

105, 106 First-Year Chinese

Fall, Spring

Fall: He; Spring: Zhao

4 credits

An introduction to the sounds and structures of modern Chinese and a foundation in conversation, grammar, reading, and elementary composition. *Prerequisite for Chinese 106:* Chinese 105 or consent of instructor.

110 Conversational Chinese I

Not offered 2023-24

4 credits

Course offered as part of the Whitman Summer Chinese Studies program. Taught in either China or Taiwan over a period of four weeks by Whitman-selected instructors and supervised by the Whitman faculty member who is resident director. This course teaches conversational Chinese based on the vocabulary and sentence patterns the students have learned from Chinese 105 and 106, plus new phrases the students will need living and studying in China or Taiwan. Classes meet three hours per day, five days per week, for a total of 60 hours. Requirements: daily homework, weekly tests, and a final exam covering listening comprehension and spoken Chinese. *Prerequisites:* Chinese 106 or its equivalent and admission to the Whitman Summer Chinese Studies course. *Course fees and international airfare estimated will be announced when offered.*

205, 206 Second-Year Chinese

Fall, Spring

Zhao

4 credits

Modern spoken and written Chinese. It provides the student with the opportunity to communicate in Chinese, and read Chinese materials. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 106 or equivalent.

210 Conversational Chinese II

Not offered 2023-24

4 credits

Course offered as part of the Whitman Summer Chinese Studies program. Taught in either China or Taiwan over a period of four weeks by Whitman-selected instructors and supervised by the Whitman faculty member who is resident director. This course teaches conversational Chinese based on the vocabulary and sentence patterns the students have learned from Chinese 205 and 206, plus new phrases the students will need living and studying in China or Taiwan. Classes meet three hours per day, five days per week, for a total of 60 hours. Requirements: daily homework, weekly tests, and a final exam covering listening comprehension and spoken Chinese. *Prerequisites:* Chinese 206 or its equivalent and admission to the Whitman Summer Chinese Studies course. *Course fees and international airfare estimated will be announced when offered.*

305, 306 Third-Year Chinese

Fall, Spring

Zhao

4 credits

Continued practice with spoken and written Mandarin Chinese. The students practice conversational skills, read cultural and literary materials, and write essays. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 206 or equivalent.

310 Conversational Chinese III**Not offered 2023-24****4 credits**

Course offered as part of the Whitman Summer Chinese Studies program. Taught in either China or Taiwan over a period of four weeks by Whitman-selected instructors and supervised by the Whitman faculty member who is resident director. This course teaches conversational Chinese based on the vocabulary and sentence patterns the students have learned from Chinese 305 and 306, plus new phrases the students will need living and studying in China or Taiwan. Classes meet three hours per day, five days per week, for a total of 60 hours. Requirements: daily homework, weekly tests, and a final exam covering listening comprehension and spoken Chinese. *Prerequisites:* Chinese 306 or its equivalent and admission to the Whitman Summer Chinese Studies course. *Course fees and international airfare estimated will be announced when offered.*

405 Advanced Chinese: Themes and Aspects of Chinese Culture**Fall****He****4 credits**

Chinese 405 is a theme-based advanced Chinese language course. Students explore aspects of Chinese culture and society along with language learning. The course advances students' cultural and linguistic competence in Chinese through reading, translation/writing, and topic-related discussions informed by cultural comparisons. This course introduces the syntax of written Chinese in addition to a comprehensive review of grammatical structures used in conversational Chinese. Students will learn to articulate their cultural experiences and reflections in socio-linguistically appropriate forms in both formal and informal contexts, oral and written forms. Students may take the course twice for credit when topics change. Course taught in Chinese. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 306 or consent of instructor.

406 Reading the Original Chinese Texts**Spring****He****4 credits**

Chinese 406 advances the student's knowledge of Chinese language and culture through the study of authentic texts, both fiction and non-fiction. Students will deepen their knowledge of the diversity and nuances of Chinese culture, and finetune their ability to interpret and analyze Chinese texts as well as articulate their response and reflections. Students can take the course twice when different texts are selected. Course taught in Chinese. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 405 or consent of instructor.

410 Reading in Chinese Literature and Television Drama**Not offered 2023-24****4 credits**

This course reads representative works of contemporary Chinese literature and television drama in Chinese. Students will read texts slightly above their comfort level without resorting to translations. Drawing on works by Chinese, Taiwanese, and Hong Kong authors, this course surveys the entire Chinese-speaking world and its vastly different historical, cultural, geographical and social norms embedded in literary texts. The class combines brief lectures with group discussions, peer tutorials, and student-instructor consultations. Means of evaluation include book reports, presentations and examinations. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 406 or equivalent or consent of instructor.

417 Walking the Talk: Chinese-English Translation**Not offered 2023-24****4 credits**

As a branch of applied linguistics, translation is widely used as a pedagogical tool for foreign language acquisition and a means of cross-cultural exchange. Translation is used in this course to develop students' abilities to navigate multiple cultural and linguistic boundaries, as well as to improve their problem solving skills. The course is designed for students who have completed Chinese 305 or the equivalent as an additional venue for Chinese language acquisition as well as for international students who want to improve their writing in English. This course will introduce a broad range of theoretical approaches to translation as a form of cultural and linguistic exchange while focusing on hands-on experience in Chinese-English translation. It is composed of a lecture component, a substantial amount of translation exercises and group/class discussion. May be taken for credit toward the Asian and Middle Eastern Studies major. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 305.

471, 472 Special Topics**1-4 credits**

Any current offerings follow.

491, 492 Independent Study**Fall, Spring****He****1-4 credits**

For students who have completed Chinese 406 or equivalent and who desire further studies in Chinese language, literature, or culture. With guidance from the instructor the student may choose readings which interest him or her, discuss them in conference with the instructor, using Chinese as the language of discussion, and/or submit written evidence of his or her work. *Prerequisites:* Chinese 406 and consent of instructor.

498 Honors Thesis**Fall, Spring****He****4 credits**

Designed to further independent research leading to the preparation of an undergraduate honors thesis in Chinese. Required of and limited to senior honors candidates in Chinese major. *Prerequisite:* admission to honors candidacy.

The program in Chinese also includes courses in English. These classes are listed in the *Global Literatures* section of the catalog.