

CHINA STUDIES (CST)

Why study Chinese? Proficiency in any foreign language gives students a competitive edge after graduation as they either seek careers or further studies. At present, Chinese language ability is highly valued by the U.S. government, businesses, churches and many other organizations. A student who is proficient in Chinese is ready to interact with the world's largest and most dynamic cultural group, and has an edge in applying for jobs and graduate studies.

The China Studies major at WLC aims to equip students with a solid foundation in Chinese language and culture. We capitalize on small class sizes to provide an intensive and personalized environment for the study of Chinese language. In addition to developing language proficiency, we also seek to deepen the student's understanding of Chinese culture and customs through the study of Chinese tradition, history and linguistics, as well as through internships and study in China.

Course of Study

A. A China Studies Major will consist of a minimum of 39 credits of course work in the major area. This will include:

1. Required core courses: MAN 101, 102, 201, 202, 301, 302, 312.
2. At least 6 credits of the following: MAN 370, 371, 372, 375, 402, 490, 499, or by study abroad credits
3. Collateral Courses: ENG 330 and either HIS 363 or another approved Asian history course.

Students must complete an approved program of residence or internship in a Mandarin speaking country. Academic credits will be awarded subject to a diagnostic language exam after returning to WLC. Some courses completed abroad may be used to count toward the major.

B. Students must have a minimum grade of C in any language course and a cumulative/GPA in the major of at least 2.50.

C. A China Studies minor will consist of at least 23 credits:

1. Required core courses: MAN 101, 102, 201, 202.
2. At least one of the following: HIS 363 or another approved Asian history course.
3. At least 4 credits of the following: MAN 301, 302, 370, 490, 499, x91 or by study abroad credits

Course Descriptions

MAN 101 Mandarin Chinese 1. 4 cr.

Introduction to the Mandarin Chinese language. Students will develop basic conversational skills and proficiency in reading and writing about 250 Chinese characters. The relationship between language and culture will be stressed throughout.

MAN 102 Mandarin Chinese 2. 4 cr.

Continuation of MAN 101. Prereq: MAN 101 (grade of C or better), or by placement.

MAN 201 Mandarin Chinese 3. 4 cr.

A continuation of Mandarin 102. Students will continue to develop basic conversational skills and proficiency in reading and writing

about 550 Chinese characters. The relationship between language and culture will be stressed throughout. Prereq: MAN 102 (grade of C or better), or by placement.

MAN 202 Mandarin Chinese 4. 4 cr.

Continuation of MAN 201. Prereq: MAN 201 (grade of C or better), or by placement.

MAN 301 Mandarin Chinese 5. 4 cr.

A continuation of Mandarin 202. Students will start to develop more complex conversational skills with greater exposure to authentic Chinese materials of both spoken and written varieties, as well as somewhat lengthier listening and reading materials. Prereq: MAN 202 (grade of C or better), or by placement.

MAN 302 Mandarin Chinese 6. 4 cr.

Continuation of MAN 301. Prereq: MAN 301 (grade of C or better), or by placement.

MAN 312 Introduction to Chinese Culture . 3 cr.

Through the examination and discussion of Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist and modern texts, students will come to understand some enduring themes in Chinese culture, and examine the ways those beliefs are reflected in modern Chinese society. Students will also consider the implications this has for Christian outreach in China. Readings will be primarily in English with frequent reference to Chinese. Discussion will be primarily in English. Prereq: Permission of the instructor.

MAN 370 Selected Topics in Chinese Literature and Film 3 cr.

Students will read selected works by important Chinese writers. They will acquire an understanding of modern Chinese culture by directly exploring the complex thoughts of Chinese writers. Films will be used to provide a visual dimension and a comparative study to narratives. Prereq: Instructor approval.

MAN 371 Modern Chinese Media 1: Television. 3 cr.

Students will study samples of television media, including news casts and talk shows, with the goal of improving their proficiency in speaking and comprehending Mandarin Chinese. Prereq: MAN 302 (grade of C or better) or by placement.

MAN 372 Modern Chinese Media 2: Newspapers and Blogs. 3 cr.

Students will study various forms of modern Chinese texts with the goal of improving their proficiency in speaking, reading and writing Chinese. Texts will be primarily samples taken from print newspapers, but will also include some exposure to modern Chinese web forms such as blogs and chat groups. Prereq: MAN 302 (grade of C or better) or by placement.

MAN 375 Chinese Grammar, Phonetics and Phonology. 3 cr.

Students will be introduced to the basics of Chinese grammar, phonetics and phonology, as well as touch on some broader issues in Chinese language, such as the nature of Chinese characters and modern Chinese dialects. Readings will be primarily in English, with frequent reference to and focused practice of Mandarin Chinese. Class discussion will be primarily in English. Prereq: MAN 202 (grade of C or better), or by permission of the instructor.

MAN 490 China Studies Internship. 1-3 cr.

By arrangement with department and internship coordinator.

MAN x91 Selected Topics. 3 cr.

For students who have completed the necessary work to attain and advanced level of Chinese, especially those who have studied abroad in China. Special focus on a major topic, figure, movement or era in China, or a specialized use of Chinese (e.g. business Chinese, biblical Chinese). May be repeated with a change of title. Prereq: MAN 302 (grade of C or better), or by placement.

MAN 199-499 Independent Study. 1-3 cr.

By arrangement with department.