Chinese Studies

ABOUT CHINESE STUDIES

Chinese Studies integrates the study of language and culture, with the option of starting at introductory or more advanced levels, depending on your language proficiency.

You can become a competent communicator in Chinese (Mandarin) while developing a rich insight into the culture, history and politics of the world’s ‘next superpower’.

Why choose Chinese Studies?
China is becoming the powerhouse of the world economy. It is among the fastest growing economies in the world, and is of ever increasing importance to Australia within both government and private sectors.

Majoring in Chinese Studies gives you more than the language. It offers you the unique opportunity to truly learn intercultural communication and to think broadly as you learn first hand about linguistic and cultural differences. You can also experience the culture first hand through overseas study in China, Hong Kong or Taiwan.

During your studies you will learn to:
» Demonstrate knowledge of the socio-political contexts of the evolution of modern Chinese thought in the twentieth century
» Read, translate or interpret a range of Chinese texts, video and audio broadcast programs
» Explain issues in translation and cross-cultural communication

What are some topics Chinese Studies explores?
During first year you will be introduced to Chinese language and culture through units appropriate to your language level. A translation stream is available to advanced language students.

In second and third year you progress through language or translation streams through units such as:
» Chinese intermediate
» Chinese studies advanced 3: Readings in modern literature
» From translation to interpreting in Chinese

Career prospects
Studying Chinese Studies means you’ll acquire proficiency in Mandarin, be conversant in modern Chinese culture, and gain the foundations for a career in media, translation, foreign affairs, teaching or international trade.

Graduates proficient in Chinese are in demand both in government departments and in the business world. The following career paths could be considered:
» Trade – export and import industries
» International finance – joint ventures
» Transnational corporations
» Defence
» Tourism
» Foreign affairs
» Teaching (with extra qualification)
» Social work
» Legal profession
» Translation and interpreting

Overseas opportunities
All students are strongly encouraged to incorporate overseas study as part of their course. You can undertake a semester-length program at pre-eminent universities in China or Taiwan or benefit from language and cultural immersion through Monash University’s renowned China Intensive Language Program held each year over the Australian summer. Overseas study is supported by generous travel grants and scholarships provided by the Australian and Chinese governments.

Language entry levels
» Introductory
» Intermediate
» Proficient
To ascertain which level would be best for you, there are online language placement tests: monash.edu/arts/language-entry-level/

Complementary areas of study
These are a few of the areas of study that complement Chinese Studies well and are popular with students:
» International relations
» Economics
» Linguistics
» Education

For more information:
future.arts.monash.edu/ug-chinese-studies

Location:
Clayton

Available as:
Major, Minor, Extended Major, Diploma of Languages or as elective units