

CHINESE

Program Overview

The Chinese minor is a valuable supplement to any degree programs in Business, Education, Music, and Arts and Sciences. It broadens your horizon, enhances your resume, and allows you to prepare for and pursue careers in business, government, education, translation, national security, military intelligence, communications, travel, and more. Many Rider students who graduated with a Chinese minor have shared with us their experience of how it gave them a competitive edge over other applicants and helped them get their dream job or to get accepted into the graduate program they applied for. In addition, a Chinese minor opens doors for you to teach or work in China, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, and Hong Kong. Through a vigorous and exciting minor program, you will be ushered into a fascinating culture that is not only rich and colorful but also ancient and modern at the same time. And the minor curriculum may include study abroad or a travel course if you choose to do so.

A Surprising Fact: Chinese is comparatively easy to learn!

- No verbal conjugations needed (no need to memorize verb tenses)
- No noun declension needed (no gender or number distinctions)

Students in the Chinese minor will acquire an international perspective and a special intercultural sensitivity. Advanced foreign language skills combined with intercultural expertise increase the employment prospects of our students in the global marketplace.

Degree Offered

- Minor in Chinese

Contact

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Program Website: Chinese (<https://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/college-liberal-arts-sciences/undergraduate/chinese-minor/>)

Associated Department: Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures (<http://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/claes/liberal-arts-programs/foreign-language-literatures/>)

Related Programs

- French (<http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/majors-minors-certificates/french/>)
- Spanish (<http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/majors-minors-certificates/spanish/>)
- Chinese and Asian Areas Studies (<http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/majors-minors-certificates/chinese-asian-area-studies/>)

Chinese Minor Requirements

(18 Credits)

Note: Our 18-credit minor creates a comprehensive learning experience with courses in Chinese language, culture, literature, composition, and phonetics and conversation. Students must receive a grade of “C” or better in courses required for the major or minor in the department. If a student receives a grade lower than “C” in a required course, the student must meet with his/her academic advisor to discuss the appropriate action that must be taken to remedy the situation.

Some of the requirements for the minor may be met by Study Abroad, upon agreement by the department. Students must enroll in at least one upper level course upon completion of a Study Abroad program.

Note that CHI 101 Chinese II counts towards the minor, which means you can use this course for both Foreign Language (Core) requirements and Chinese minor (double-dipping). Once you complete Chinese II, you are only 5 courses (15 credits) away from completing the minor.

Code	Title	Credits
Chinese		
CHI 101	Chinese II ¹	3
CHI 200	Chinese III ¹	3
CHI 201	Chinese IV ¹	3
Select three of the following:		9
IND 210	Global Encounters	
CHI 300	Advanced Chinese Reading and Composition	
CHI 307	Images of Women in Chinese Literature and Film	
CHI 310	Chinese Culture and Civilization	
CHI 311	Calligraphy As a Window to Chinese Language and Culture	
CHI 490	Independent Study: Research and Creative Expression	
CHI 500	Democracy, Revolution/Reform and Literary Movement in Modern China	
Total Credits		18

¹ If original placement test is determined to be above these courses, 300- or 400- level courses may be taken instead.

Courses and Descriptions

CHI 100 Chinese I 3 Credits

This course is designed to foster mastery of the basic skills of Mandarin Chinese: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The focus of the course is on communicative competency and accuracy. Together with Chinese 101, the course provides a thorough foundation in basic Chinese grammar. Students will have opportunities to work extensively with audio and/or video resources/ materials and other technology, and above all, students from China. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CLAS general education curriculum.

Prerequisite(s): placement test if Chinese has been studied elsewhere.

CHI 101 Chinese II 3 Credits

A continuation of CHI 100. This course continues to foster mastery of the basic skills of Mandarin Chinese: speaking, listening, reading and writing. The focus of the course is on communicative competency and accuracy. Together with Chinese I, the course provides a thorough foundation in basic Chinese grammar. Students will have opportunities to work extensively with audio and/or video resources/ materials and other technology and above all, students from China. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CAS general education curriculum.

Prerequisite(s): CHI 100 or placement test.

CHI 200 Chinese III 3 Credits

This course is designed to foster mastery of the intermediate skills of Mandarin Chinese: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The focus of the course is on communicative competency and accuracy. Together with Chinese 201, the course provides intermediate-level Chinese grammar, vocabulary, and cultural knowledge through the use of film clips, simple newspaper articles, the Internet, and other multimedia resources. Students are required to work extensively with audio and/or video resources/ materials and other technology and they have a unique opportunity to work with students from China. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CLAS general education curriculum.

Prerequisite(s): CHI 101 or placement test.

CHI 201 Chinese IV 3 Credits

This course is designed to foster mastery of the intermediate skills of Mandarin Chinese: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The focus is on communicative competency and accuracy. Together with CHI 200, the course provides intermediate-level Chinese grammar, vocabulary, and cultural knowledge through the use of film clips, simple newspaper articles, the Internet, and other multimedia resources. Students are required to work extensively with audio and/or video resources/ materials and other technology and they have a unique opportunity to work with students from China. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CAS general education curriculum.

Prerequisite(s): CHI 200 or placement test.

CHI 300 Advanced Chinese Reading and Composition 3 Credits

This course develops Chinese reading and writing skills within a cultural context and aided by a systematic review and expansion of grammar and vocabulary. Using literary, journalistic, business and other sources, students learn various writing discourses and their Chinese variants including narration, description, exposition, and journalistic, business documentation and letter writing. Some translation is used to encourage linguistic analysis. Interviews with native speakers, Chinese Americans, and working with students from China enhance the cultural understanding of students necessary for meaningful reading and writing.

Prerequisite(s): CHI 201 or placement test.

CHI 307 Images of Women in Chinese Literature and Film 3 Credits

This course will introduce students to the (change of) status of women in China through literature and film. Students will explore the rich Chinese literary traditions and examine how the images of women are represented by both male and female writers/directors in fiction and film of different historical periods. In the process of such exploration and examination, students will also examine how the literary movements and their historical, social, cultural and political contexts shape, and are shaped by, each other. They will learn to understand how diverse the experiences of Chinese women are. While students will be exposed to both classic and modern/contemporary literary traditions, the focus will be on the latter, such as May 4th New Culture Movement, Maoist revolutionary literature, (Post-Mao) Wound/Scar Literature, Root-Searching Literature, etc. Classes are in English.

CHI 310 Chinese Culture and Civilization 3 Credits

This course introduces students to Chinese Civilization and Culture. Through reading, viewing, discussion, and presentation, students will have a chance to “experience” Chinese cultural riches and “interact with” its long history, religions, philosophies, literature and art, politics, as well as its different peoples and diverse customs. We will learn about China’s ancient dynasties and its cultural and aesthetic achievements in the past, and its modern revolutions, nationalism, communism, and post-Mao economic and political reforms today. We will also explore Chinese customs, particularly festivals, and try to gain an appreciation of different social relationships and diverse cultural practices. No knowledge of Chinese required. This course offers an optional TRIP TO CHINA during Spring Break or in May WHICH WILL EARN 3 ENGAGED LEARNING POINTS. Interested students must register for the travel course separately from taking CHI 310.

CHI 311 Calligraphy As a Window to Chinese Language and Culture 3 Credits

This course provides students with a chance to gain an intimate knowledge of Chinese language and culture through calligraphy. Students will learn the basic principles and techniques of writing Chinese characters with the writing brush. They will be introduced to the pronunciation, the composition and evolution of Chinese characters so that they will be able to read and understand what they write. Students will also learn how calligraphy is immersed in various aspects of Chinese culture. The main content of the course derives from examining applications of calligraphy to poetry, painting, and core concepts of Confucianism, Daoism and Buddhism. They will have a chance to cross time and space, having dialogues with Confucius, experiencing Buddhist bliss of final “awakening” or “enlightenment” and abandoning themselves to the Daoist spontaneous flow with the movement of Nature and the cosmos. No knowledge of Chinese language is required.

CHI 490 Independent Study: Research and Creative Expression 1-4 Credits

Independent Research and Study allows juniors and seniors in good academic standing to investigate topics of interest under faculty supervision. Projects must be approved by the faculty member, department chairperson, and academic dean no later than the third week of the semester in which the project is to be conducted. Only one project can be scheduled in a semester, and for no more than four semester hours; up to 12 semester hours of independent research and study may be counted toward graduation. Note that individual departments may have additional restrictions.

CHI 500 Democracy, Revolution/Reform and Literary Movement in Modern China 3 Credits

This course will exam representative works in modern and contemporary Chinese literature from the May 4th period to the “Red Classics Era” or to various Post-Cultural Revolution literary movements, situating them in their social, political, and historical contexts, exploring them as an imaginary space where various cultural and political values are contested, a space where modern Chinese identity is defined and redefined, and a space against which the trajectory of China’s search for democracy and modernization is mapped. The literary movements that will be examined are May 4th Literary Movement at the beginning of the 20th century; Maoist / Communist Literature from 1949 to the Great Cultural Revolution (1966-1976); Wound/Scar Literature from the late 1970s to early 1980s; Root-searching literature from mid-1980s to the late 1980s; Postmodern Play Literature and Reform Literature from 1990s to the present.

IND 210 Global Encounters 3 Credits

This course provides students with an exposure to foreign cultures consisting of both travel and study components. Destinations may include countries in Europe, Latin America, or Asia. While traveling, students will be required to attend lecture/discussion sessions, site tours, and other planned activities. This experience will be preceded and/or followed by additional academic work to be conducted on campus. Study topics may include aspects of the historical, social, economic, political, and aesthetic cultural components appropriate to the location(s) visited. The travel component of the course will be scheduled to avoid conflict with normal semester offerings. A travel fee is required. No foreign language skills are required unless otherwise indicated.