

Chinese Language and Culture Academic Learning Compact

The Chinese program at New College offers courses at all levels of Chinese language as well as courses and tutorials on Chinese language, literature and culture in English translation. Language courses are offered regularly, and cultural content courses change each year covering both surveys and special topics. Recently offered courses include First -year and Second-Year Modern Chinese, Classical Chinese Literature: A Survey, Modern Chinese Literature: A Survey, New Chinese Cinemas of Greater China, The Writing of the Strange in Classical Chinese Literature, Heroism and Chinese Narratives, as well as Revolution, Love and Modern Chinese Fiction.

Students with an Area of Concentration in Chinese are expected to develop a high level of proficiency in all aspects of the Chinese language, a broad historical and cultural knowledge of classical and modern Chinese culture, and in-depth knowledge of certain authors, genres, periods or themes. In light of the interdisciplinary nature of the Chinese program, students are encouraged to take courses from related fields and disciplines, and/or complete a combined AOC with another discipline.

To complete an AOC in Chinese, students are required to take a minimum of twelve courses, tutorials and ISPs, both within the Chinese program and in related fields, and a thesis focusing on any aspect of Chinese literature and culture. Students are encouraged to take more classes and do ISPs and tutorial in areas that interest them; and students are also welcome to come up with their own specific topics after consulting with the Chinese faculty members and do advanced work in a specific genre and/or a time period.

Required courses in Chinese include 6 semester-length language courses, one (1) advanced reading in classical or modern Chinese, one (1) survey courses in classical or modern Chinese Literature and culture, one (1) tutorial in subjects of students' interest and one (1) special topic course in classical or modern Chinese culture. Special topics and tutorials are interchangeable depending on course availability. In addition, students must take two (2) China-/East Asia-related courses in other disciplines of humanities and social sciences including but not limited to anthropology, art/art history, economics, history, political science, philosophy, religion, and sociology. To complete a combined AOC with another program, students are required to take 5-semester course (or equivalent) of Chinese language, two (2) courses in classical or modern Chinese literature or culture, and one (1) China-/East-Asia-related course in Humanities or social sciences.

Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad at universities in PRC or Taiwan for at least one (1) semester since studying abroad is essential to language mastery and cultural learning.

Expected Outcomes of an Area of Concentration in Chinese Language and Culture:

Communication Skills:

1. Students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the Chinese language. Students should demonstrate strong proficiency in Chinese grammar, be able to discuss both daily life and topics of special interests such as history, literature, and economical, political, and social issues. Students should be able to write short informative and argumentative essays that are clear and grammatically correct.
2. Students are also expected to be able to communicate their ideas effectively in English and write papers following MLA style.

Critical Thinking Skills:

1. Students should demonstrate the ability to investigate literary and cultural material both through close textual analysis and with respect to its historical and cultural context.
2. Students are expected to be familiar with resources in Asian/Chinese studies so as to conduct necessary research in print archives and electronic databases for their Senior Thesis/Project.

Content Knowledge:

1. Students are expected to demonstrate a broad historical and cultural knowledge of classical and modern Chinese culture, and in-depth knowledge of major authors, genres, periods or themes.
2. In light of the interdisciplinary nature of the Chinese program, students are expected to show knowledge about China/East Asia from related fields and disciplines such as art/ art history, history, literature, religion, and political science.
3. Students should also demonstrate knowledge of literary theory.

Measures for Tracking Student Progress:

Each semester, course evaluations track student progress in academic activities. At the 5th semester, students prepare a Provisional Area of Concentration form, listing completed and additional academic activities needed to reach the expected outcomes for an AOC in Chinese Language and Culture. Any requirements remaining are stated on the Thesis Prospectus form.

Specific Measures to Demonstrate each Graduate's Competencies:

The thesis advisor and Baccalaureate committee will evaluate the Senior Thesis for mastery of the subject matter, appropriate research, critical analysis and writing, and use of MLA style. The Baccalaureate exam will evaluate skills in oral communication and critical thinking in relation to the senior thesis and the entire undergraduate academic career. The Baccalaureate committee will record their evaluation of this oral exam on the Baccalaureate evaluation form.

Course Mapping

Course Title	Content	Communication (Chinese "C"/English "E")	Critical Thinking
First Year Modern Chinese I/II	X	C	
Second Year Modern Chinese I/II	X	C	
Third Year Modern Chinese I/II	X	C	X
Advanced Readings in Classical/ Modern Chinese	X	C	X
Classical/Modern Chinese Literature: A Survey	X	E	X
Heroism and Chinese Narratives	X	E	X
The Writing of the Strange in Classical Chinese Literature	X	E	X
The Cult of Love: Literature and Culture in Late Ming and Qing China	X	E	X
Revolution and Love in Modern Chinese Fiction	X	E	X
Cinema and Cultural Memory: "New Cinema" in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and China	X	E	X
In Pursuit of Happiness: Humor and Chinese Film Comedies	X	E	X
Advanced-level tutorials, Independent Study Projects, Study Abroad, Senior Thesis	X	C/E	X