Dietrich College (DC) Concentration in Chinese Studies  

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A BHA concentration in Chinese Studies promotes not just language proficiency but also an understanding of Chinese culture. Students who arrive at Carnegie Mellon with previous language study and/or who have high Advanced Placement, an International Baccalaureate, a Cambridge GCE Advanced level or internal placement exam scores will be able to begin taking courses in the concentration earlier in their undergraduate program. In all cases, progress in the concentration will be accelerated by study abroad, which is recommended for all students.

BHA students take at least 9 courses in their DC concentration, for a minimum of 81 units. A completed DC Concentration Declaration Sheet must be approved by the concentration advisor and submitted to the BXA office by spring mid-semester break of the student’s sophomore year. BHA students who are admitted through internal transfer must have chosen a DC concentration at the time of their application, which serves as declaration.

Prerequisites

Intermediate level proficiency in Chinese. This is equivalent to the completion of three courses (two at the 100-level and one at the 200-level) or exemption based on Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Cambridge GCE Advanced level or Carnegie Mellon internal placement test scores.

Core Courses in Chinese Studies  

(4 courses, 36 units minimum)

82-232 Intermediate Chinese II *  

or 82-235 Fables, Legends and Stories from Ancient Chinese Civilization (9)  

82-331 Reading into a New China I: Population, Youth, Marriage, & Housing  

82-332 Reading into a New China II: Transportation, Education, Pop Culture, & Health  

82-333 Chinese Language and Culture  

* Students who place out of 82-232/82-235 must take a minimum of 9 additional units chosen from Chinese Studies Electives at the 400-level.

Core Courses in Modern Languages  

(1 course, 9 units)

Complete one course.

82-239 Crazy Linguistically Rich Asian Languages  

82-280 Bilingual & Bicultural Experiences in the US  

82-281 Contextual Thinking in Modern Languages  

82-282 Interpreting Global Texts & Cultures  

82-283 Language Diversity & Cultural Identity  

82-284 Multicultural Pittsburgh: VR Storytelling  

82-285 Podcasting: Language and Culture Through Storytelling  

82-286 Cultural Complexities  

82-287 Multicultural Immersion: Relating Your World in Virtual Reality  

82-383 Second Language Acquisition: Theories and Research  

82-388 Topics in Second Language Acquisition  

82-480 Translation Technologies  

Note: In consultation with the concentration advisor, students may substitute a Modern Languages course elective with one related to language analysis, language learning, or acquisition of language and culture from the listings in Chinese Studies or from another department. Examples: 80-180 Nature of Language, 85-421 Language and Thought. In addition, students may choose to take 82-580 Senior Seminar in Modern Languages (9 units). The selected course may not double count in the Electives category.

Core Courses in Chinese History & Society  

(1 course, 9 units)

Complete one course in consultation with the concentration advisor.

79-261 The Last Emperors: Chinese History and Society, 1600-1900  

79-262 Modern China: From the Birth of Mao … to Now  

79-309 The Chinese Revolution Through Film (1949-2000)  

82-138 Comparative China: Perceptions through YouTube and TikTok  

82-230 Cultural Topics in Chinese Studies  

82-234 Topics in Chinese History  

82-238 Topics in Chinese Culture: Gender & Sexuality in China  

82-333 Chinese Language and Culture (must be a different section than the one used for the core requirements)  

Chinese Studies and Interdisciplinary Electives  

(3 courses, 27 units minimum)

Complete two courses from Chinese Studies Electives and one course from Interdisciplinary Electives in consultation with the concentration advisor.
Chinese Studies Electives:

82-235 Fables, Legends and Stories from Ancient Chinese Civilization 9
82-334 Structure of Chinese 9
82-335 Chinese Culture Through Legends and Folktales 9
82-337 Mandarin Chinese for Oral Communication I 9
82-338 Mandarin Chinese for Oral Communication II 9
82-339 Business Language & Culture in China I 9
82-340 Business Language & Culture in China II 9
82-431 China and the West 9
82-432 Chinese Popular Culture: A Game of Learning * 9
82-433 Topics in Contemporary Culture of China * 9
82-434 Studies in Chinese Traditions * 9
82-436 Introduction to Classical Chinese 9
82-439 Modern China Through Literature 9
82-440 Studies in Chinese Literature & Culture * 9
82-505 Modern Languages Undergraduate Internship Var.
82-531/532 Special Topics in Chinese Studies (independent studies) Var.
82-533 Cultural Topics in Chinese Studies * 6

* Students may repeat these courses with new topics.

Interdisciplinary Electives:

This list is compiled from possibilities such as but not limited to the following. Students should consult SIO and the concentration advisor for the most up to date interdisciplinary electives appropriate for the Chinese Studies curriculum. Courses may be suggested to the concentration advisor for approval as a substitute. Note that not all courses are offered each semester.

Business
70-342 Managing Across Cultures 9
70-365 International Trade and International Law 9
70-430 International Management 9

English
76-318 Communicating in the Global Marketplace 9
76-386 Language & Culture 9

History
79-261 The Last Emperors: Chinese History and Society, 1600-1900 9
79-262 Modern China: From the Birth of Mao ... to Now 9
79-309 The Chinese Revolution Through Film (1949-2000) 9

Institute for Politics and Strategy (Choose in consultation with the concentration advisor.)
84-226 International Relations 9
84-310 International Political Economy 9
84-362 Diplomacy and Stagecraft 9
84-369 Decision Science for International Relations 9
84-370 Nuclear Security & Arms Control 9
84-380 US Grand Strategy 9
84-388 Concepts of War and Cyber War 9
84-405 The Future of Warfare 6

Modern Languages
82-137 Chinese Calligraphy: Culture and Skills 9
82-138 Comparative China: Perceptions Through Youtube & TikTok 9
82-139 Topics in Chinese Language, Culture and Society 9
82-198 Research Training: Modern Languages Var.
82-230 Cultural Topics in Chinese Studies 9
82-234 Topics in Chinese History 9
82-238 Topics in Chinese Culture 9
82-280 Bilingual & Bicultural Experiences in the US 9
82-281 Contextual Thinking 9
82-282 Interpreting Global Texts & Cultures 9
82-283 Language Diversity & Cultural Identity 9
82-284 Multicultural Pittsburgh: VR Storytelling 9
82-285 Podcasting: Language and Culture Through Storytelling 9
82-286 Cultural Complexities 9
82-287 Multicultural Immersion - Relating Your World in Virtual Reality 9
82-283 Second Language Acquisition: Theories and Research 9
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82-480 Translation Technologies 9
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