

Chinese Language Program

Our Mission

- To offer high quality instruction in Chinese language in order to meet students' various needs.
- To conduct research on Chinese linguistics and teaching Chinese as a second language.
- To function as a center for Chinese language teachers' training.



REGULAR LANGUAGE COURSES

CHINESE FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

	N (no background) Non-heritage track	W (with background) Heritage track	
<i>Level 1</i>	First-Year Chinese N I (UN1101) This is the regular 5-credit first-year course. If you have zero knowledge of Chinese, register for this one. Introductory Chinese B (UN1011) This is a <u>2.5-credit</u> course. You are expected to have learned the basics of the Chinese sound system, writing system, and some basic grammar.	First-Year Chinese W I (UN1111) If you grew up listening to Mandarin through family members and you have conversational fluency in the language but your literacy skills—reading and writing—are zero or very limited, you belong to this course.	
<i>Level 2</i>	Second-Year Chinese N I (UN2201)	Second-Year Chinese W I (UN2221)	
<i>Level 3</i>	Third-Year Chinese N I (UN3003)	Third-Year Chinese W I (UN3005)	Business Chinese I (GU4012) The 2 nd semester of this course is slightly more advanced than the regular level-3 class.
	Conversational Chinese (UN3009) This is a 2-point course with a prerequisite of 2 years of Chinese.		
<i>Level 4</i>	Fourth-Year Chinese N I (GU4015)	Fourth-Year Chinese Adv I (GU4017) This course is open to students with native or near-native proficiency in Chinese, who are able to read Chinese newspaper articles but would like to further improve their writing skills through a wide range of reading materials.	Media Chinese I (GU4014) This course is slightly more advanced than the regular Fourth-year Chinese (GU4015), and requires the instructor's permission. Adv Business Chinese (GU4112) Prerequisites of this course are at least 3 years, preferably 4 years, of Chinese or 1 year of Business Chinese (GU4012).
<i>Level 5</i>	Fifth Year Chinese N I (GU4516)		
Introduction to Classical Chinese I (GU4301); Readings in Classical Chinese (GU4507)			

If you do not know any Mandarin Chinese and are planning to take first-year Chinese at the Chinese Language Program, you can choose to complete the first-year curriculum of Chinese in one of the following ways:

A. The ordinary route:

Completing the first-year curriculum in 2 semesters

Fall 2025 (First Year Chinese I, 5 credits) →

Spring 2026 (First Year Chinese II, 5 credits)

B. The slow route:

Completing the first-year curriculum in 3 semesters

Spring 2026 (Introductory Chinese A, 2.5 credits) →

Fall 2026 (Introductory Chinese B, 2.5 credits) →

Spring 2027 (First Year Chinese II, 5 credits)

Additional Notes:

- Introductory Chinese **A** (2.5 credits) + Introductory Chinese **B** (2.5 credits) = First-year Chinese **I** (5 credits)
- Students who complete Introductory Chinese **A&B** (2.5+2.5 credits) will continue with First-Year Chinese **II** (5 credits) to complete their first-year Chinese curriculum.

CHINESE PLACEMENT TEST

- The Placement Test will be conducted both **In-Person** (Test-Out for certificate) and **Online via CourseWorks and Zoom** (Place-In for class recommendation). It consists of a Written Test (Multiple Choice and Timed Composition, 8/24-26 for Place-In and 8/28 for Test-Out, 3 hrs) and a Speaking Test (8/28 for Place-In and 8/29 for Test-Out, 10 mins). You need to enroll in the Chinese Placement Exam System to take the exam.
- If you have a high school (excluding international schools) or college diploma from a region where Chinese is the official language, you do not need to take this exam. Please contact **Dr. Yanwen Wu** (yw4033@columbia.edu) to receive the language certificate, which will exempt you from the 2-year foreign language requirement.
- EALAC graduate students do not need to sign up for the Speaking Test. Please contact **Prof. Lening Liu** (ll1172@columbia.edu) to schedule your Oral and Translation Test.
- For updated and detailed information about exam time and portal, please go to the website of the Chinese Language Program: <http://ealac.columbia.edu/program/language-programs/chinese/clp-placement/>
- For other Placement Exam related questions, please contact **Dr. Kaidi Chen** (kc3640@columbia.edu).

SUMMER PROGRAM

Chinese courses (1st- to 3rd-year levels) offered through SPS at Columbia

<https://summer.sps.columbia.edu>

STUDY ABROAD

Summer, Semester & Year Programs through IUP at Tsinghua Univ., Beijing, China

<https://iupchinesecenter.org/studying-iup/#semester-year>



Lunar New Year

LANGUAGE & CULTURE



Chinese Night



Chinese Traditional Music



Chinese Speech Contest



For questions regarding the Chinese Language Program or Chinese language courses in general, please visit the website: <http://ealac.columbia.edu/language-programs/Chinese/>
Or contact Dr. Zhirong Wang at zw30@columbia.edu