

The BA in Chinese Studies has embarked at University of Houston!

The Chinese program of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages at the College of Liberal Arts and Social Studies at the University of Houston is pleased to announce a Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Studies. Students may now declare Chinese Studies as a major! For further information, please see the webpage: www.class.uh.edu/MCI/Chns/about.asp, or contact Ms. Debra Frazier, dfrazier@uh.edu, Undergraduate Advisor, or Dr. Xiaohong Sharon Wen, Director of the Chinese Program, MCL, CLASS, the University of Houston.

The requirements of the BA in Chinese Studies include language courses and courses of interdisciplinary perspectives on the culture, history, literature, and linguistics of China. Language courses develop students' communicative skills and interdisciplinary courses address topics and issues deeply rooted in the nature of Chinese studies.

One of our most popular programs is the Summer Study Abroad. We have students returning every summer. Students may take up to three courses (nine credit hours) toward the Chinese Major / Minor in five weeks while in Beijing and Shanghai. The program is academically vigorous and culturally enriching. It offers intensive course work in a culturally rich language immersion environment, and travel at the beginning of the program and on weekends.

In addition to the BA degree and Summer Studying in China, the Chinese program provides a high quality academic program as evidenced by the fact that our student, Brian Pawlic, won First Place in the International Chinese Speech Tournament (Hanyu Qiao 汉语桥) in Beijing, 2005. The program organizes various events: teacher training and workshops for K-12 teachers, Chinese Language Speech Contests, Chinese film festival and Film Month, ethnic festival celebrations, and lecture series.

The Chinese program at the University of Houston has 600 students who are taking courses offered by the Chinese program annually, and a network among alumni who minored in Chinese Studies. We have about 40 alumni who are studying and working in China and other Asian countries at present.

First International Symposium on Chinese Applied Linguistics

The First International Symposium on Chinese Applied Linguistics will be held at The University of Iowa on April 11-12, 2008. The Symposium will be co-organized by The University of Iowa and East China Normal University.

This Symposium will serve as a platform for researchers on Chinese applied linguistics around the world to generate ideas, cross disciplinary boundaries, and disseminate research about issues and concerns in the learning and teaching of Chinese as a non-primary language (including heritage language learning) across different acquisition stages in different settings. The symposium is also connected to the launching of a new refereed journal entitled Journal of Chinese Applied Linguistics. Proposals of theory-based and original studies on the following topics are invited:

- * Language acquisition
- * Language pedagogy
- * Curriculum development and/or material development
- * Language testing and assessment
- * Language and technology
- * Articulation
- * Program development and/or program evaluations
- * Learner characteristics
- * Teacher development
- * Sociolinguistics and Pragmatics
- * Sociocultural and language learning research
- * Corpus linguistics and language teaching

Abstract requirements:

Papers are presented within a twenty-minute period. All abstracts will be blind and peer reviewed. Submissions include two separate files: 1) the abstract and 2) author information.

Abstract

Abstracts should include the following components: title of paper, significance of the study, theo-