CHINESE, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park

Program Description
Currently more than a billion people speak Chinese, making it one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. As a rising superpower with an increasingly global impact, China is a major international presence. The major in Chinese is designed to develop skills in speaking, understanding, reading, and writing Chinese, as well as to promote an understanding of the diverse literatures, cultures, and traditions of the Chinese-speaking world, ranging from China itself to Chinese-speaking America. The major can help students prepare for professional careers in which knowledge of Chinese, especially Mandarin, is useful. Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad.

Students planning to teach in public schools should schedule the appropriate courses leading to certification in consultation with an adviser in the College of Education.

What is Chinese?
The Chinese program provides students with an opportunity to concentrate on acquiring expertise in an important modern language and its culture. Giving students a strong working knowledge of the Chinese language and understanding of Chinese culture, the program can help prepare students for work in contexts where the language and culture are pertinent, to live and work in Sinophone areas of the world as informed and capable individuals equipped with appropriate intercultural skills and awareness, or for graduate study in China-related fields. Graduates may work in government service, domestic and foreign offices, or international agencies. Many go on to teach English in China, or to do translation work. Employment may also be available with trade organizations, international banking houses, or U.S. companies abroad. Domestic and multinational companies are increasingly seeking employees with backgrounds in multicultural studies as a way of dealing with the global market.

You Might Like This Program If…
- You are aiming for a career involving travel to Sinophone countries and interaction with native speakers of Chinese.
- You want to live or work in a Sinophone country.
- You want to learn about Chinese language, culture, history, or society.
- You are interested in Chinese language, culture, history, or society.

Entrance to Major
In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have third-semester classification (http://www.registrar.psu.edu/enrollment/semester-classification.cfm).

READ SENATE POLICY 37-30: ENTRANCE TO AND CHANGES IN MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/37-00-entrance-to-a-college-or-major)

Degree Requirements
For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Chinese, a minimum of 124 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>20-28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0-6 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 0-6 credits of General Education GA, GH, or GS courses.

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Recommended Academic Plan for your intended program.

General Education
Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)
- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains
- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)
- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements
First Year Engagement
All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.
Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

**Cultures Requirement**
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

**Writing Across the Curriculum**
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

**Total Minimum Credits**
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

**Quality of Work**
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

**Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition**
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 [http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80](http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

**B.A. Degree Requirements**

**Foreign Language** (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses [http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses](http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses).

**B.A. Fields** (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

**Other Cultures** (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

**Requirements for the Major**
At least 21 credits must be at the 400 level.

Students are strongly encouraged to take at least 12 of their credits as part of a study abroad program in a Chinese-speaking location. For curricular sequencing, the program encourages students to pursue this Education Abroad experience in the summer or fall semester of the junior year.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 [http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44](http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

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### Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate (IUG) Degree Program B.A. in Chinese and Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.)

The integrated undergraduate-graduate (IUG) degree program (B.A. in Asian Studies, Chinese, or Japanese/M.I.A. in International Affairs) provides an opportunity for strong students in these majors to complete a master’s degree with 5 total years of study.

An increasingly globalized economy is likely to escalate the demand for graduate training in international affairs. The career choices for graduates with this training will also expand sharply.

The integrated degree program prepares students for a variety of careers requiring an interdisciplinary background in Asian Studies or Asian languages and international affairs. Examples of types of entities hiring in these areas are federal, state, and local governments, international organizations, multinational corporations, international banking and financial institutions, media organizations and journalism, consulting firms, policy research centers, and development assistance programs and foundations. The School of International Affairs (SIA) Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.) represents a professional degree designed to prepare students to thrive in these increasingly global career paths.

**Admission Requirements**
Admission requirements listed here are in addition to requirements stated in the GENERAL INFORMATION [http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies](http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies) section of the Graduate Bulletin.
The number of openings in the integrated B.A./M.I.A. program is limited. Admission will be selective based on specific criteria set by the School of International Affairs. Students shall be admitted to an IUG program no earlier than the beginning of the third semester of undergraduate study at Penn State (regardless of transfer or AP credits accumulated prior to enrollment) and no later than the end of the second week of the semester preceding the semester of expected conferral of the undergraduate degree, as specified in the proposed IUG plan of study. Students must be admitted to the program prior to taking the first course they intend to count towards the graduate degree. Specific requirements:

1. Must be enrolled in the Asian Studies, Chinese, or Japanese B.A. program.
2. Must apply to and be accepted into The Graduate School and the M.I.A. program in the School of International Affairs. Students must complete the Graduate School application (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply). All applicants will submit GRE scores, two letters of recommendation, and a personal statement addressing their reasons for pursuing a graduate degree in international affairs and discussing their plans and goals.
3. Although the program has no fixed minimum grade point average, an applicant is generally expected to have a minimum overall GPA of 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) in undergraduate coursework and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in all coursework completed for the major.
4. Must include a plan of study identifying undergraduate credits to be applied to the M.I.A. degree elective requirements. The plan should cover the entire time period of the integrated program, and it should be reviewed periodically with an adviser.
5. Must provide written endorsement from the head of Asian Studies.

**M.I.A. Requirements for the Integrated B.A./M.I.A.**

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements stated in the DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies) section of the Graduate Bulletin.

M.I.A. portion of the integrated B.A./M.I.A. will require the completion of a minimum of 42 graduate credits, at least 18 of which are from six core courses consisting of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 801</td>
<td>Actors, Institutions, and Legal Frameworks in International Affairs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 802</td>
<td>Foundations of Diplomacy and International Relations Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 803</td>
<td>Multi-sector and Quantitative Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 804</td>
<td>Global Cultures and Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 590</td>
<td>Colloquium</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The remaining credits are attained through completion of the approved elective courses. A minimum of 6 credits must be at the 500-level.

In addition to the core curriculum and elective courses, M.I.A. degree candidates must complete either:

1. a master’s paper; or
2. a supervised internship placement.

If the first option is chosen and the candidate opts to complete a paper, he/she must complete 3 credits of Research Topics (INTAF 594). The master’s paper will involve integrating and showing mastery of the subject matter of the student’s curricular emphasis, and may also involve original research. If the second option is chosen, the candidate will complete 3 credits of INTAF 595. The student will participate in a supervised internship of sufficient depth and professionalism that will allow the student to experience the integration of his/her curricular studies in an actual professional environment. A reflective paper will be submitted as a part of this credit requirement.

In order to graduate, M.I.A. degree students also will need to demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English. Proficiency will be defined as follows:

1. four semesters of a Penn State language sequence or its equivalent (15 credits with a quality grade of B or better using a 4.0 scale);
2. native acquisition, as shown by the candidate’s personal history and approved by the SIA faculty; or
3. performance on a proficiency evaluation sufficient to equal four semesters of language learning: for this purpose, either Penn State’s proficiency certification process or another pre-approved proficiency assessment may be used.

Language study does not provide credits towards the M.I.A. degree.

If students accepted into the IUG program are unable to complete the M.I.A. degree, they are still eligible to receive their undergraduate degree if all the undergraduate degree requirements have been satisfied.

**M.I.A. Degree Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
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<td>Actors, Institutions, and Legal Frameworks in International Affairs</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 590</td>
<td>Colloquium</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Electives**

Course choices are from a pre-approved list in the SIA, or by SIA faculty-approved substitution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 594</td>
<td>Research Topics (Master’s Paper)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Capstone**

- INTAF 590 (Internship)

| Total Credits | 42 |

1 The graduate thesis or other graduate culminating/capstone experience (including any associated credits and/or deliverables) may not be double counted towards any other degree.

**Integrated B.A./M.I.A. Degree Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>INTAF 801</td>
<td>Actors, Institutions, and Legal Frameworks in International Affairs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Program Learning Objectives**

1. Students will have developed oral skills in Chinese to allow them to communicate efficiently in a range of settings from informal to professional.
2. Students will have developed literacy skills that allow them to both read and write in Chinese.
3. Students will have developed an understanding of the structure of the Chinese language.
4. Students will understand the role of culture in everyday interactions in Chinese speaking communities.
5. Students will be prepared for graduate study on a China-related topic or work in a Chinese-language context. They will have developed critical thinking skills that analyze and evaluate cross-cultural phenomena through constant reflection and comparison.

**Academic Advising**

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

**University Park**

Liberal Arts Academic Advising  
814-865-2545  
http://starfish.psu.edu  
http://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/education/majors-and-minors

**Suggested Academic Plan**

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2019-20 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contain suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

**University Park Campus**

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHNS 1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>CHNS 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15, 30, ESL 15, ENGL 137H, or CAS 137H†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138T†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Any level China-related course from Supporting Course and Related Areas List†</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Quantification (GQ)†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Credits                                                       | 16      | 16                                                                   |         |

**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHNS 3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>CHNS 110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Credits                                                       |         | 4                                                                     |         |
in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30 and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

**Bachelor of Arts Requirements:**

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures).

**Advising Note**

All incoming freshmen must take a First-Year Seminar (FYS) during Fall or Spring of their first year. Academic advisers can provide a list of FYS being offered and help the student enroll. Most FYS in the College of the Liberal Arts are worth 3 cr. and count as a General Humanities (GH) or General Social Sciences (GS) course. For this reason, the FYS is not listed separately on this eight-semester plan; most students will be able to fulfill the FYS requirement while also fulfilling a GH or GS requirement.

**Career Paths**

A B.A. in Chinese can be the basis for careers in the public sector (diplomatic corps, armed forces, intelligence, etc.), international law, business, public relations, journalism, travel and hospitality, careers requiring foreign travel or living abroad in Japan language specialist (translating, interpreting, teaching).

**Careers**

With a Chinese degree, you’ll be prepared for a career in a wide range of industries and professions, including the public sector (diplomatic corps, armed forces, intelligence, etc.), international law, business, public relations, journalism, travel and hospitality, careers requiring foreign travel or living abroad in Asia, language specialist (translating, interpreting, teaching).

**Opportunities for Graduate Studies**

International Affairs programs, law, or the study of Asia in various disciplines, such as art history, literature, history, religion, philosophy, political science, and sociology.

**Professional Resources**

- Association of Asian Studies (http://www.asian-studies.org)

**Contact**

**University Park**

DEPARTMENT OF ASIAN STUDIES
102 Old Botany Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-867-3250
asianstudies@psu.edu

http://asian.la.psu.edu