

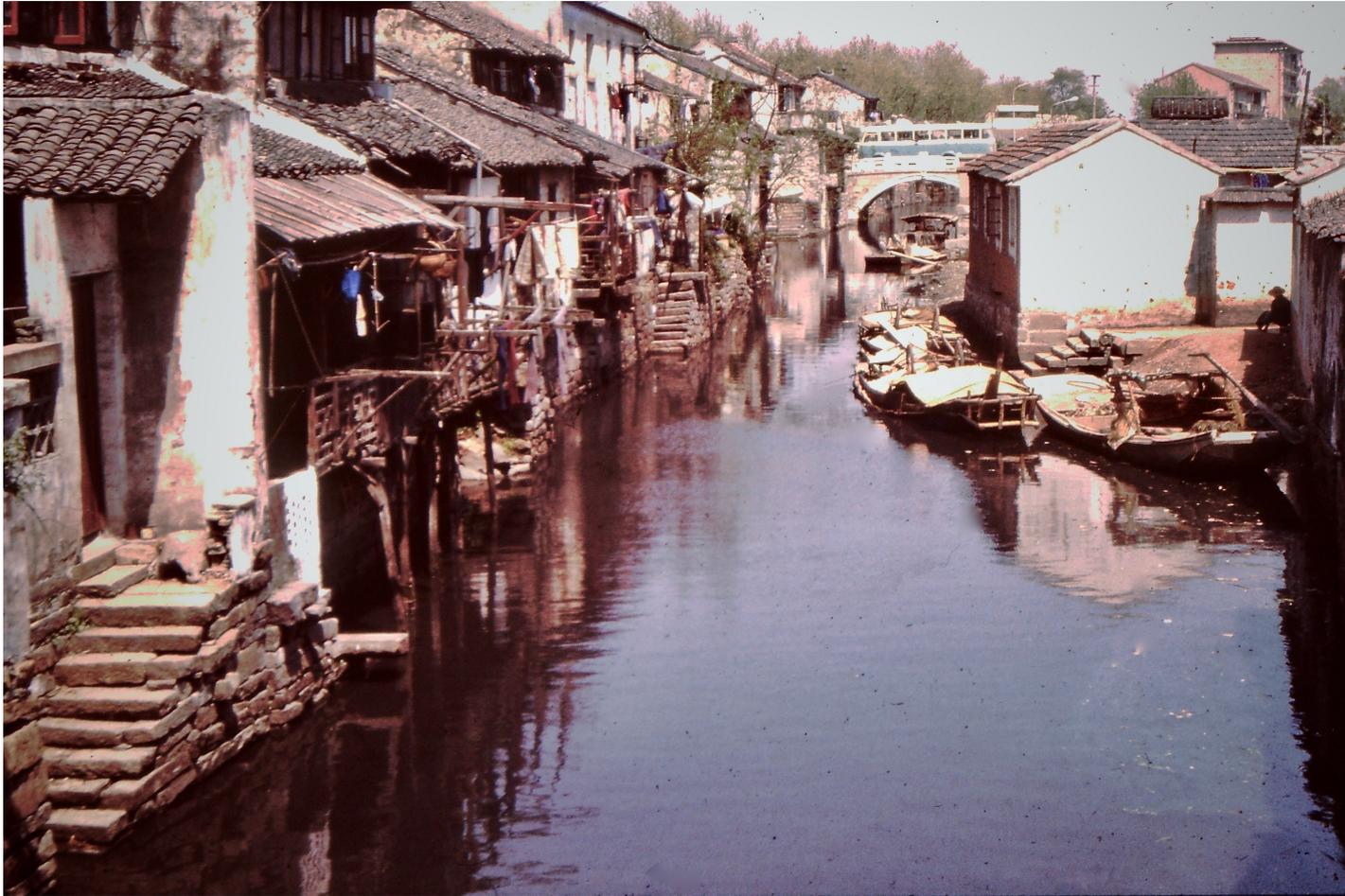
Welcome to  
the  
Department of  
Chinese Studies



University of  
St Andrews

FOUNDED  
1413

# Undergraduate degrees in Chinese Studies:



**MA (Honours) in Chinese Studies – 4 years**

**MA (Honours) in Chinese Studies (year abroad) – 5 years**

# **The MA (Hons) in Chinese Studies is a Joint Honours degree. Chinese Studies may be studied in combination with :**

- Arabic
- Art History
- Comparative Literature
- Economics
- Film Studies
- French
- German
- International Relations
- Italian
- Management
- Modern History
- Persian
- Russian
- Spanish



## **Chinese Studies at St Andrews :**

- **Standard Chinese, the national language**
- **Chinese literature in the national language**
- **Chinese culture of 20th & 21st centuries**



**China 中國/中国  
= the nation-state**

**Chinese = the national language**

(based on northern Chinese or 'Mandarin')

**Standard Chinese**

also known as:

***Guoyu* 國語 1920s-1949**

(and Taiwan 1949-2020)

***Putonghua* 普通话 1949-2020**

**Chinese literature**

**=**

**literature in the national language  
1920-2020**

# Chinese culture of 20th & 21st centuries

- Poetry, fiction, theatre
- Cinema and television
- Visual arts
- Popular music
- Electronic culture
- Cultural and intellectual history

# Geo-historical scope

## Mainland China

Republic of China (1912-1949)

People's Republic of China (1949- )

## Taiwan

Republic of China (1949- )

## Hong Kong/Macau

## Diaspora/Overseas Chinese/Exile Culture

# Chinese language teaching

## Standard Chinese

- taught initially using traditional characters *fantizi* 繁體字  
(Pre-1950s Mainland, Taiwan, Hongkong)
- phasing in after the first semester simplified characters *jiantizi* 简体字  
(Contemporary China, Singapore)

# Chinese language teaching

## Rationale for teaching traditional characters *fantizi* 繁體字

- ❖ to access pre-1950s texts in Chinese
- ❖ to enable exchanges with Taiwan and Hong Kong universities
  - ❖ to enhance career prospects

## FIRST YEAR

Students are required to take the following compulsory modules in their first year:

- **Beginners Chinese Language 1:** provides a grounding in Chinese grammar and cultural history. You will learn to speak the language with accurate pronunciation and tones, as well as recognise and reproduce 300 characters and 600 words. This module is designed for those with no background in Chinese.

- **Beginners Chinese Language 2:** building on 'Beginners Chinese Language 1', you will practise speaking the language, increase your understanding of tone, and follow lectures on cultural history. You will learn to recognise and reproduce 600 characters and 1,000 words.

*Modules subject to final approval*

## First Year, Semester 1

### **Introduction to Cultural and Intellectual History: China Before China (-7K—20thC)**

(including notions of pre-modern language 文言文)

Week 1 The peopling of 'Asia' - Archaeology and Archaeogenetics

Week 2 Pre-unification cultures and societies

Week 3 Organization of Knowledge (1) : After unification (221 BCE)

*Wenyanwen* 文言文 1 — the philosopher's language

Week 4 Scholar's 4 treasures, 5 organs, 5 metals, 5 agents 文房四寶 / 五臟 / 五金 / 五行  
文房四宝 / 五脏 / 五金 / 五行

*Wenyanwen* 文言文 2 — fundamentals

Week 5 Organization of Knowledge (2)

*Wenyanwen* 文言文 3

Week 6

Week 7 Painting 1 — Terminology 繪畫六法 / 一花六法

How to read a painting

Week 8 Buddhism

Han to Song

Week 9 The 'Barbarians' – the Mongols

Week 10 Ming-Qing

Week 11 Imagining the nation-state 1840-1921

## SECOND YEAR

Students are required to take the following compulsory modules in their second year:

- **Intermediate Chinese Language 1:** you will continue to acquire Chinese characters (900 characters and 2,000 words) while studying more complex texts and enhancing your spoken language skills. Cultural history will be broached by studying literary and visual texts.

- **Intermediate Chinese Language 2:** you will continue to acquire Chinese characters (1,200 characters and 3,000 words) while studying more complex texts and enhancing your spoken language skills. Cultural history will be broached by studying literary and visual texts.

*Modules subject to final approval*

# Honours: Years 3 and 4\*

If you take Chinese Studies in your third and fourth years, you must take the following compulsory modules:

- Sub-advanced Chinese Language 1:** you will study more complex texts and be able to recognise and use 1,700 characters and 4,500 words.

- Sub-advanced Chinese Language 2:** you will study more complex texts and be able to recognise and use 2,200 characters and 6,000 words.

- Advanced Chinese Language 1:** you will be able to speak, read and write at a high level and will be able to recognise and use 2,600 characters and 7,500 words.

- Advanced Chinese Language 2:** you will be able to speak, read and write at a high level and will be able to recognise and use over 3,000 characters and over 9,000 words.

\*Years 4 and 5 if you opt for the five-year degree

*Modules subject to final approval*

## Honours: Years 3 and 4 – Continued

You will also study the following modules

(alternative modules may be offered in future years):

### Creating China 1: Nation, Modernization, Contestation

*At the end of the 19th century China, the nation-state, did not exist. There was no national literature and no national language, both would be created by intellectuals and writers during the 20th century. This module examines that process from the end of the nineteenth century to the middle of the twentieth through language, writing and film. Up to 1949.*

### The Art of 20th Century China

*This module will provide an overview of developments in the visual arts of China from the beginning of the 20th century to the present day and will relate them to changes within the broader culture. You will study a range of visual materials, from painting in "traditional" and "western" formats, through graphics and photography, to the performance and installation art of contemporary China.*

### Creating China 2: Revolution, Opening-up, Clamping-down

*This module examines the history of cultural creativity in both its official and dissident forms through literature, stage, film and popular culture from 1949 to the present day.*

### Politics and Propaganda in Modern China

*This module will trace visual propaganda across art, media, film and ephemeral culture from the early 20th century to the present day: the dynamic print world of Republican China (1911-1949), the cultures of the Cold War in Mainland China and Taiwan, and the afterlives of authoritarian propaganda as soft power and kitsch in the hands of contemporary artists.*

**Dissertation.** In your final year, students also have the option of writing a dissertation on a topic of their choice, supervised by a specialist member of staff. This independent project enables students to develop key research skills which are desired by both prospective employers and by graduate schools offering postgraduate degrees.

*Modules subject to final approval*

# “Year abroad” explained:

## **MA (Hons) in Chinese Studies – 4 years**

**Upon return students fulfil the requirements for the final year of their degree.**

*If you decide to take the four-year option, in your 3rd year you **may** study at one of our partner universities in mainland China or Taiwan for a semester or a year. While abroad, or upon return, you must fulfill the requirements of the other subject you are studying in your joint degree.*

## **MA (Hons) in Chinese Studies (year abroad) – 5 years**

**Upon return students complete the remaining two years of their degree.**

*Frequently students taking a 5-year modern languages degree with year abroad find a placement – for instance, working as a teacher of English. This is **not** an advised route for Chinese Studies and we are working to put in place a year abroad concentrating solely on studying Chinese.*

(Year abroad module subject to approval)

# Application Deadlines

## September 2021 entry

UCAS (UK students): **15 January 2021** at 18:00 (UK time)

Common Application: **1 May 2021**

Direct application\*: **30 June 2021**

UCAS (overseas students): **30 June 2021**

\*If you are an overseas student applying solely to St Andrews

For complete information, and to verify these dates, go to:

<https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/apply/ug/>

If you have any questions,  
please don't hesitate to  
ask.

We hope to see you next  
September.

再見  
zài jiàn  
See you again.

Contact:  
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