Asian Languages/Civilizations (Chinese), MA

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MA Asian Languages and Civilizations (Chinese)

The Chinese graduate program in the School of International Letters and Cultures offers an MA degree with a focus in one of two areas:

- literature, linguistics, religion and culture
- pedagogy

A focus on literature, linguistics, religion and culture prepares students for further academic training, for entrance to professional schools in such fields as law, business, journalism and translation, and for a general level of knowledge about the languages and cultures of China as an asset to a professional career. The pedagogy focus is intended for students whose major interest is in teaching modern Chinese in K-16 environments.

At a Glance

- College/School: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Location: Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis, or
30 credit hours including the required applied project course (CHI 593)

The plan of study for the master's degree includes a minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate-level work as approved by the candidate's supervisory committee, a thesis or an applied project option. The plan must include a 500-level bibliography and research methods course offered by the department. When approved by
the candidate's supervisory committee, nine credit hours of advanced-level work in another language or in closely related courses may be included in the plan. Students who are primarily interested in teaching at the secondary or community college levels may select a plan of study with a focus in language pedagogy.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in Chinese or a related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. writing sample
5. resume
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

The writing sample should represent the applicant's thinking and writing skills on a topic connected with Chinese culture.

Candidates for the master's degree should present the equivalent of an undergraduate major in Chinese upon entrance to the program. Those who lack this background but who show strong potential and meet the Graduate College admission requirements, including those with regard to English proficiency, may be admitted to a graduate program on a provisional basis, pending removal of specified deficiencies. These deficiencies must be completed in addition to the regular plan of study for the master's degree.
Contact Information

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