



CONNECTICUT
COLLEGE

STUDENT EXPERIENCE



"I had lived in China during my junior year of high school. At Connecticut College, I improved my language skills. I also learned a lot about the

culture and history of the language by studying modern poetry and film.

In my junior year, I studied through the School for International Training in Yunnan province. At the end of the semester, I spent a month doing research in a rural village, Namu. I was the first Westerner who had been there since the end of World War I. Babies would see me and cry. I helped at the local school, teaching math, art and science — all in Mandarin — to children of the Dai ethnic group.

I stayed on in China for an internship, doing research on a pictograph language used by the Naxi indigenous population. I also got to translate and interpret at a UNESCO conference.

My time in China became the basis of my senior thesis on the effect of ethnic stereotypes.

An interest in children's rights led me to where I am now, New York University School of Law. I have worked at a free legal clinic in Chinatown. I've also worked as an interpreter for immigrant children and as a teacher of Mandarin for children adopted from China. My Mandarin skills even helped convince a landlord to rent me an apartment!

In the future I hope to work on children's rights and education reform, both in the United States and in China."

— Lauren Burke '06

Chinese language and literature



Chinese Language and Literature

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE established a department of Chinese in 1965, becoming one of the first liberal arts colleges to do so. Today Chinese, Japanese and Asian studies are united under a department of East Asian Languages and Cultures.

As a Chinese language and literature major, you will engage the culture through its linguistic characteristics and concepts. You will achieve advanced fluency in spoken Mandarin, an understanding of the cultural contexts shaping the language and a solid grounding in the Chinese literary tradition.

You will be in a language-intensive environment from the moment you set foot on campus. You'll be able to practice your language in the classroom or language lab or over meals at our Chinese language table in Knowlton House's international dining room. Eighty percent of Chinese language and literature majors study abroad, spending at least one semester in mainland China, Taiwan or Hong Kong.

At this pivotal moment in China's history and in Sino-American relations, graduates with language proficiency and knowledge of China are in great demand. Your skills in Mandarin will open doors in government, international relations, information technology, business, finance, tourism, entertainment, human rights, international law, translation, teaching and much more.

Special Opportunities

Be prepared for intensive, highly individualized interaction with your professors: You will have the constant attention of our faculty as you work through the major, from our rigorous year-long elementary Chinese course, to the cultural immersion of study abroad, to working under the close supervision of a thesis advisor in your senior year. You will have the opportunity to deepen your study of China through courses in its history, government, cinema, music and art. Connecticut College also houses a renowned collection of Chinese art, the Chu-Griffis Asian Art Collection.

You will have the opportunity to participate in the student advisory board for the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, as well as in CCAASA, the College's Asian/Asian-American Student Association. You might attend CCAASA's series on Asian cinema, travel to New York's or Boston's Chinatown, or take part in a Lunar New Year celebration.

Opportunities for study and internships abroad are available through the College's Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts and study abroad programs such as ACC (Associated Colleges in China). You might intern at an elementary school in Yunnan province, working with one of the area's ethnic minorities, or you might learn about traditional medicinal practices by interning in a Chinese hospital. We encourage and assist our students to apply for international programs such as the Freeman-Asia Awards and the Gilman International Scholarship. Some of our courses, known as TRIP courses, have a short travel component. The costs of the TRIP component are included in your comprehensive fee.

Faculty

Amy Dooling, *Associate*

Professor of Chinese,
Department Chair
B.A., M.A., Ph.D.,
Columbia University
Modern and contemporary
Chinese fiction; Chinese
women's writing;
history of the women's
movement and feminism
in China

Yibing Huang, *Associate*
Professor of Chinese

B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Beijing
University; Ph.D.,
University of California,
Los Angeles
Modern and contemporary
Chinese literature,
cinema, popular
culture; comparative
studies of modernism
and postmodernism in
China and in the West;
cultural translations
between Chinese poetry
and modern American
poetry

Tek-wah King, *Senior*
Lecturer in Chinese

B.A., National Taiwan
University; M.A., Yale
University; Ph.D. in
progress, Yale University
Chinese syntax; Chinese
language pedagogy

Qiang Ning, *Chu-Niblack*
Associate Professor of Art
History and Curator of
the Chu-Griffis Asian Art
Collection

B.A. Sichuan University;
M.A., Ph.D., Harvard
University
Chinese art and religion;
gender in Chinese art
and society

Sarah A. Queen, *Professor*
of History

B.A., Wellesley College;
M.A., Ph.D., Harvard
University
Early Chinese cultural
history; the spiritual
and philosophical
dimensions of
Confucianism and
Daoism; Confucianism

and human rights;
Confucianism and
democratization; and
Confucianism and
ecology

John Qunjian Tian,
Associate Professor of
Government

B.A., M.A., Nanjing
University; M.A., Ph.D.,
Cornell University
Chinese political economy;
East Asian political
economy; international
political economy;
comparative political
economy and politics

James Dale Wilson,
Assistant Professor
of Music

B.M., M.M., North Texas;
M.A., Ph.D., Columbia
University
Ethnomusicology; jazz;
Guangdong ritual and
ritual music; southeast
Chinese perspectives
on migration and
transnationalism



What can you do with a major in Chinese language and literature?

Jenn Dinaburg '02

Master's candidate in environmental
studies at Prescott College.

Managing a case study on value
and awareness of Tibetan medicinal
plants for the Center for Biodiversity
and Indigenous Knowledge, a non-
governmental organization in China.
Writing a thesis on the community-based
conservation strategies of a group of
Tibetan doctors in the northwestern part
of Yunnan province. Applying to Ph.D.
programs in geography to continue her
conservation studies in Yunnan.

Eric Schluessel '04

Studying at Xinjiang Normal University
in Xinjiang, China, as part of a Ph.D.
program in central Eurasian studies at
Indiana University. Studying Uyghur, a
Turkic language spoken primarily in the
Xinjiang region. His research focuses on
questions of language and identity in
ethnic minority areas of northern China.
Previously earned a master's degree in
linguistics at the School of Oriental and
African Studies in London.

Sample Courses

Intensive Elementary Chinese, Intensive Intermediate Chinese, Introduction to Classical Chinese, Advanced Chinese: Topics on Contemporary Chinese Society and Culture, Peripheries and Differences: Re-Imagining Contemporary China, Fiction and Film in Modern China, Chinese Poetry and its American Legacies, Modern Chinese Women's Writing in Translation

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College is a highly selective residential liberal arts college with 1,900 students from all over the country and the world. The academic program offers more than 50 majors in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities, as well as innovative interdisciplinary programs. Students engage with dedicated faculty and each other to create a vibrant social, cultural and intellectual community in which learning is valued for its own sake — and individuals' diverse perspectives enrich the experience of all.

For more information, visit
www.conncoll.edu/academics/