



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

## 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.



## 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.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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