



Chinese Studies at the University of Cambridge

4 year course including a year abroad in China

Intensive language training and a wide range of content courses

Access to Cambridge's unparalleled resources in Chinese language and culture



Chinese gives you China in its own words. You encounter a sophisticated civilisation and the most vibrant economy in the world today. You delve into its 3,500 years of recorded history, poetry and philosophy to understand how they shaped the tumultuous changes of modern times, and to engage with contemporary society. Chinese Studies at Cambridge brings together a vibrant community of students, graduate students and scholars. Your instructors are internationally distinguished in their fields and care deeply about delivering the best possible education tailored to you as individuals.

By choosing to study Chinese Studies with us at Cambridge, you will:

- Master Mandarin Chinese to an advanced level rarely offered in other centres of higher education.
- Develop in-depth understanding of China within the wider East Asian region.
- Develop transferable skills that are highly sought-after by employers and will help lead you towards a successful career.

Most of all, our Chinese Studies programme teaches you to think creatively and critically and to develop the flexibility to relate to diverse cultures, all essential skills in today's world.

Our areas of teaching and research

Staff in Chinese Studies are actively researching in the areas of anthropology, history, manuscript studies, linguistics, cultural history, literature, media and popular culture. Between us we teach and research China from the pre-imperial period (Warring States) right the way through to the present day. Cambridge is also home to experts on Chinese law, contemporary politics, history of science, and art, among other subjects.

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| UCAS Code TT46 BA/ AMES | Course duration Four years (Year 3 spent abroad) | Typical A Level offer: A*AA IB: 40-41 points, with 776 at Higher Level |
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Required subjects for entry

No previous knowledge of Chinese is required to study with us. We do not require any formal training in any foreign language, although a GCSE or A-level in a language will give a good indication of your motivation and commitment to this kind of study. There are also no requirements regarding what other subjects to choose. Our BA in Chinese Studies is not suitable for native speakers of Chinese.

Choosing a College

Members of the Chinese Studies academic staff are Fellows and/or Director of Studies at the following Colleges:

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| Clare | Prof. Roel Sterckx |
| Churchill | Dr Boping Yuan |
| St. Catharine's | Prof. Hans van de Ven |
| St. John's | Dr Adam Chau |
| Robinson | Dr Imre Galambos |
| Sidney Sussex | Dr Noga Ganany |
| Trinity Hall | Dr Heather Inwood |

Other colleges will accept applications to study Chinese, in which case your Director of Studies may be a specialist in Japanese or Middle Eastern Studies.



An overview of our course

Our course ('Tripos') is unique for combining intensive and fast-paced study of the Chinese language with the chance to specialise in specific areas of China according to your own interests. Lectures and seminars are combined with personalised supervisions to create a catered form of education that empowers each of you as active learners while providing caring support and thoughtful guidance.

First year (Part IA): Gaining solid grounding

The focus in the first year is on language learning. You will devote roughly 75 percent of your time to the study of all aspects of Chinese. By the third term you will have already acquired the skills that will enable you to read real world texts. While developing a solid grounding in the language, you will study Chinese history and culture within the context of the wider East Asian region.

Second year (Part IB): Going deeper and broader

Language classes in the second year take you through intermediate to early-advanced Chinese as well as more advanced literary Chinese, building on what you learned in your first year. Meanwhile you further your studies in a variety of disciplines, including imperial and modern Chinese history, and Japanese literature, society and politics. You can also take a cross-departmental paper on East Asian and Middle Eastern cinema. With the help of your instructors, you will start identifying the area and topic that you wish to research for your fourth year undergraduate dissertation.

Third year: Year abroad

Your year abroad will either be spent at Peking University in Beijing or China Ocean University in Qingdao, Shandong province. You will continue to study similar courses to those you take in Cambridge, but taught fully in Chinese in classes with just your Cambridge classmates. During this year you also carry out preliminary work on your dissertation, such as collecting research materials and carrying out interviews.

Fourth year (Part II): Generating knowledge

Your Chinese is so advanced that you can now understand and discuss a variety of original sources. Chinese language is still taught with the aim of preparing you for professional Chinese-speaking environments. You can also choose from a range of elective papers through which to gain a deeper understanding of the disciplines that interest you, including literary Chinese, contemporary society, modern history, modern literature, and politics. Your dissertation now comes together in an original piece of writing that opens new horizons in the field of Chinese Studies.

The admission process: a few simple steps

Submit your UCAS application by **15 October**, followed by your supplementary questionnaire

Wait to hear if you have been invited for an interview

Interview in Cambridge (early **December**)

Wait to hear whether you have a conditional offer (**January**)

Get the necessary grades in your exams

Beyond your time at Cambridge

We keep in regular contact with our alumni who have established rewarding careers in a wide range of professions around the world, including law, international trade, teaching, translating, interpreting, banking, academia, publicity, journalism, diplomacy, and many many more.

For more information please visit our faculty website at: www.ames.cam.ac.uk or email us via ug_progadmin@ames.cam.ac.uk. We can also be found on Facebook and Twitter.