Chinese, Ph.D.

UW–Madison offers an M.A. and Ph.D. degree in Chinese, specializing either in linguistics (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-program/chinese-linguistics) or in literature and culture (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-program/chinese-literature-and-culture). The program provides broad foundations and focused training in these two specialties, assuring that our graduates are amply prepared to teach and conduct research.

The linguistics specialty excels in areas of historical linguistics, phonology, prosody, grammaticalization, interface study between syntax and phonology, dialectology, language education, and pragmatics.

The literature and culture specialty covers periods from the pre-Qin through the modern and contemporary, including study of fictional and historiographical narrative, poetry, and drama.

The graduate program in Chinese is housed in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures (https://alc.wisc.edu), along with the Japanese and the Asian Languages and Cultures Program. As such students will have opportunities to interact with all faculty, staff, and graduate students affiliated with the department to examine their area of specialty in broader regional and disciplinary contexts.

ADMISSIONS

Thank you for your interest in our programs. The Department of Asian Languages and Cultures (ALC) offers a graduate program in Asian Languages and Cultures (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/asian-languages-and-cultures), Chinese (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/chinese) and Japanese (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/japanese).

Prior to submitting application and materials, applicants should carefully review the information regarding the program of interest and the faculty's expertise (https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty) to determine the fit between their interest and the program. To this extent, prospective applicants may contact a specific faculty to discuss their research interest prior to submitting applications.

Applicants should also review the Graduate School’s admission process (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/asian-languages-cultures/chinese-phd/%20https://grad.wisc.edu/apply), Graduate School’s minimum requirements (http://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/requirements), and program requirements and information prior to submitting the online application and fee. The application fee cannot be waived or refunded.

DEADLINES

We accept applications for the fall term only.

In order to be considered for fellowships, project assistantships, and teaching assistantships (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/costs), all application materials must be in by January 10.

If you do not need any funding support, you may submit applications by April 15.

APPLICATION PROCESS

New applicants to UW-Madison apply to programs through the Graduate School application process. Complete the online Graduate application (https://apply.grad.wisc.edu/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f) and select the Asian Languages and Cultures (major code 596) or Chinese (major code 171) or Japanese (major code 583) program.

If you are a currently enrolled UW-Madison graduate student and would like to add or change your current graduate program to Asian Languages and Cultures, Chinese, or Japanese, you do not need to fill out the online application. You will need to submit the following to the ALC Graduate Program Coordinator (1244 Van Hise):

- Grad School "Add/Change Program (https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/change-program)" form (click on link and look for form in the "Academic Forms" box)
- Letters of recommendation
- CV or Resume
- Statement of purpose

The applications from current UW–Madison graduate students will be reviewed every spring, together with new applications submitted.

GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet requirements of both the program(s) and the Graduate School. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/admissions).

FUNDING

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Students applying to the Department of Asian Languages and Culture and students currently enrolled in the department may apply for fellowship support. Most fellowships are handled through the department. However, some are available through sources outside of the department and have different application procedures.

Graduate Studies Costs

For tuition and living costs, please view the Cost of Graduate School page (http://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/cost). International applicants recommended for admission to the Graduate School are required to show sufficient funds to attend the University during the course of studies (tuition, food and housing, incidentals and health insurance) to be officially accepted by the Graduate School.

Financial Assistance

Our department offers financial assistance in the forms of fellowships, teaching assistantships (TAships), and project assistantships (PAships). These positions are highly competitive as applicants are competing against other applicants across the department, and across campus...
in some cases. **Please make note of the deadline of January 10 for financial assistance consideration.** All necessary materials including test scores must be submitted by the deadline.

If you are an international applicant and receive a fellowship, PAship or TAship, please make note that you will likely be required to show additional financial documentation to meet the minimum required for your official acceptance to the Graduate School.

**Fellowships.** Students applying to the Department of Asian Languages and Culture and students currently enrolled in the department may apply for fellowship support. Most fellowships are handled through the department. However, some are available through sources outside of the department and have different application procedures. Some examples are as follows:

- **Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships:** FLAS fellowships are funded by the U.S. Department of Education and administered by the UW’s National Resource Centers to assist students in acquiring foreign language and either area or international studies competencies. FLAS awards are only available for specific languages (https://flas.wisc.edu/Languages.html), and are contingent on federal funding. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Applications by students in professional fields are encouraged. Preference will be given to applicants with a high level of academic ability and with previous language training. Academic Year and Summer FLAS awards are **two separate competitions** requiring **two separate and complete applications**. Complete details about FLAS at UW-Madison are available on the FLAS FAQs (https://flas.wisc.edu/FAQS.html) (your first stop) and the FLAS Languages & Coordinators (https://flas.wisc.edu/Languages.html) pages (should you have additional questions).

- **Advanced Opportunity Fellowship (AOF):** This fellowship is awarded to highly qualified underrepresented students. To be considered for AOF funding, prospective students must be new to the Graduate School and be admissible to a graduate program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. For further information: https://grad.wisc.edu/diversity/oeid/

**Project Assistantships.** Availability of PAship vary from one year to another, depends on the types of projects the departmental faculty are engaged in. PAs assist faculty members’ research projects and/or respond to some programmatic needs of the department and other campus units.

**Teaching Assistantships.** Availability and type of TAship vary from one year to another, depending on the department’s curricular needs and the student enrollment. TAs will support a number of our language and culture courses, typically team-teaching with faculty members. If you are interested in being a teaching assistant in our language programs, you must submit the TA application and necessary materials through the Graduate School application system by January 10.

**Other Forms of Financial Aid:** Loans and some on-campus job openings are handled through the Student Financial Services Office (https://financialaid.wisc.edu). Please contact them to obtain more information.

Please also refer to the Graduate School’s Funding Information for New and Current Graduate Students (https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/currentstudents) page for additional information.

Students may also obtain information from the Grants Information Center (https://www.library.wisc.edu/memorial/collections/grants-information-collection) in the Memorial Library, Room 262, 728 State Street, Madison, WI 53706. Phone 608-262-3242.

If you encounter questions or difficulties with the application process, please contact the Graduate Coordinator at rweiss@wisc.edu.

---

**REQUIREMENTS**

**MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

**MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

**MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mode of Instruction Definitions**

- **Evening/Weekend:** These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Online:** These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Hybrid:** These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Accelerated:** These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

**CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>51 credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Credit Requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>32 credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>All 51 credits must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement

- 3.00 GPA required.

Other Grade Requirements

- Ph.D. candidates should maintain a 3.5 GPA in all coursework and may not have any more than two Incompletes on their record at any one time.

Assessments and Examinations

- All students must take a comprehensive written preliminary examination, covering fields defined in consultation with the advisor and other committee members.
- A dissertation proposal must be presented to the members of the Ph.D. committee and accepted within one semester of passing the preliminary examination.

Language Requirements

- Advanced proficiency in modern Chinese is required.
- Students must demonstrate reading proficiency in classical Chinese and one additional research language.

Doctoral Minor/Breadth Requirements

- All doctoral students are required to complete a minor.

REQUIRED COURSES

Four seminars beyond the M.A. level (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/asian-languages-cultures/chinese-ma/#requirementstext) (see below) are required. With the consent of the major professor, courses above the 700 level (exclusive of independent-reading courses) may be substituted for up to two of the seminars.

Requirements for the M.A.

All students must take

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 701</td>
<td>Proseminar in Chinese Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 651 &amp; E ASIAN 652</td>
<td>History of Chinese Literature and History of Chinese Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 631 &amp; E ASIAN 632</td>
<td>History of the Chinese Language and History of the Chinese Language</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 671 &amp; E ASIAN 672</td>
<td>Literary Studies in Chinese Drama and Literary Studies in Chinese Fiction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one semester of one other history sequence</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one of the following in the chosen track:</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 932</td>
<td>Seminar in Chinese Linguistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 951</td>
<td>Seminar in Chinese Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 971</td>
<td>Seminar in Chinese Thought</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

2 These may be substituted with other appropriate courses with the approval of the advisor. It is recommended that Chinese linguistics students take E ASIAN 431 Introduction to Chinese Linguistics and E ASIAN 432 Introduction to Chinese Linguistics.

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School’s Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

GRADUATE PROGRAM HANDBOOK

The Graduate Program Handbook (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/chinese) is the repository for all of the program’s policies and requirements.

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned ten years or more prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate

With program approval, no more than 7 credits of graduate coursework (as defined above) completed while a UW–Madison undergraduate may be counted to satisfy degree requirements. Coursework earned ten years or more prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework (as defined above) taken as a UW–Madison Special student. Coursework earned ten years or more prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION

A semester GPA below 3.5 will result in the student being placed on academic probation. If a semester GPA of 3.5 is not attained during the subsequent semester of full time enrollment, the student may be dismissed from the program or allowed to continue for 1 additional semester based on advisor appeal to the Graduate School. A student on probation may not take the preliminary examination.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Starting Fall 2018, all students are required to be supervised by co-advisors. One of the co-advisors must be a member of the Japanese Program, but the other co-advisor can be identified from related fields outside of the Japanese Program.

At the point of beginning work on the dissertation, a single dissertation advisor (most likely one of the co-advisors) may be chosen, or the co-advising arrangement may continue for the dissertation as well.
Dissertation committees must have at least 4 members representing more than one graduate program, 3 of whom must be UW-Madison graduate faculty or former UW-Madison graduate faculty up to one year after resignation or retirement. At least one of the 4 members must be from outside of the student’s major program or major field (often from the minor field).

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**
15 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**
A candidate for a doctoral degree who fails to take the final oral examination and deposit the dissertation within five years after passing the preliminary examination may be required to take another preliminary examination and to be admitted to candidacy a second time.

**OTHER**
The program offers limited financial assistance in the form of fellowships and teaching assistantships to candidates who are highly qualified. Applicants should consult the program website for selection criteria and application materials for assistantships.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**
1. Demonstrate a thorough and in-depth understanding of research problems, potentials, and limits with respect to theory, knowledge, or practice in at least one of the following areas of study: Chinese literature and culture, Chinese linguistics, and Transasian studies.
2. Formulate ideas, concepts, designs, and/or techniques beyond the current boundaries of knowledge within the specialized field(s).
3. Create scholarship and advance knowledge that makes a substantive contribution to the field(s).
4. Articulate and communicate complex ideas in a clear and understandable manner to both specialized and general audience.
5. Recognize, apply, and foster ethical and professional conduct.

**FACULTY**

**Rania Huntington, Professor**
huntington@wisc.edu
Areas of Expertise: Ming and Qing narrative and drama, literature of the weird and supernatural, memory in literature, depiction of women in literature
Current Research: Memory, kinship, and genre in the works of the Yu family of Deqing, 19th-early 20th century. Plays depicting the Taiping Rebellion. Chinese literature of the supernatural, a general introduction.

**William Nienhauser, Professor**
whneinha@wisc.edu
Areas of Expertise: Early traditional fiction and history; early poetry (especially Du Fu and Tao Qian).
Current Research: Shiji of Sima Qian, Tao Qian, Soushen ji, Tang chuanqi tales, Du Fu.

**Hongming Zhang, Professor**
hzhang6@wisc.edu
Areas of Expertise: Chinese linguistics; syntax-phonology interface; prosodic phonology; poetic prosody; history of Chinese language; teaching Chinese as a second language
Current Research: Prosodic phonology, language change, rules/forms of classical poetic composition (with respect to tonal pattern and rhyme scheme), and teaching Chinese as a second language (esp. tonal acquisition).

**Weihua Zhu, Assistant Professor**
wzhu34@wisc.edu
Areas of Expertise: Discourse Analysis, Pragmatics, Pedagogy and Second Language Acquisition

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**
Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**
The Graduate School Office of Professional Development (OPD) coordinates, develops, and promotes learning opportunities to foster the academic, professional, and life skills of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers and scholars.

Professional development topics include Individual Development Plans (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/idp), communication, mentoring, grant writing, dissertation writing, career exploration, job search strategies, and more. OPD collaborates with the Writing Center, Libraries, DoIT Software Training for Students, Delta, career centers, and others to provide a wealth of resources and events tailored to the needs of UW-Madison graduate students.

The office developed and maintains DiscoverPD (https://my.grad.wisc.edu/DiscoverPD), an innovative tool for UW-Madison graduate students to advance their academic and professional goals. DiscoverPD introduces nine areas (or “facets”) of professional development, includes a self-assessment, and provides a customized report of areas of strength and weakness. The report comes with recommendations to help graduate students strengthen their ability within each area.

More information on campus resources for student professional development is available at Graduate Student Professional Development (http://grad.wisc.edu/pd). Students may keep up-to-date by reading GradConnections (https://grad.wisc.edu/new-students), the weekly newsletter for graduate students, and bookmarking the Events Calendar (https://grad.wisc.edu/events) to keep tabs on upcoming workshops of interest.
Current Research: Interactional features of Mandarin Chinese speakers in natural conversation; Speech behavior and pragmatic perception; Teaching Chinese as a foreign language