UW–Madison offers an M.A. and Ph.D. degree in Chinese, specializing either in linguistics or in 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, sociolinguistics, second language acquisition, pedagogy, 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, drama, film, and new media.

The graduate program in Chinese is housed in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, 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.