Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Program Type: 

Degree Type: 

Teaching Chinese as a Second Language

Provide a brief summary of the proposed program changes and describe the rationale for the change(s):

DLLC would like to offer a Master of Arts Degree in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language, which will offer formalized training in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language. The program is designed to train qualified teachers of Chinese: students learn contemporary language-acquisition theory combined with various kinds of practical approaches for classroom success, according to the standards of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Heightened pedagogical skills and expertise enable students to work in a variety of Chinese language teaching settings, including K-12 schools, higher education institutions, and study abroad programs in China, US and other English-speaking countries all over the world.

There are two tracks in this program. Track one identifies candidates from the United States who have completed a B.A or equivalent in the target language/literature; or in another appropriate discipline. Students in this track spend two years here to complete their MA degree.

The second track partners with Xiamen University in a joint degree venture. Students who are enrolled at Xiamen University and are pursuing an undergraduate major in the Chinese language/ literature or related disciplines may apply to our program in their junior year. These students spend three years on the UD campus to fulfill their joint BA (from Xiamen University) and MA (from UD).

List new courses required for the new curriculum. How do they support the overall program objectives of the major/ minor/ concentrations)?

CHIN courses will have dual listings in all the 4xx level and 6xx levels. The following 6xx courses are currently being evaluated in Curriculog:

CHIN605

CHIN651

CHIN652

CHIN655

LLCU607

Resolutions:

WHEREAS,     the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (DLLC) in the College of Arts and Sciences has offered a successful program for the BA in CHIN offering students skills for successfully developing linguistic proficiency, and

WHEREAS,     over the past decade, the demand for Chinese instruction has dramatically increased in the United States, and

WHEREAS, at the local level in the State of Delaware and the Delmarva region, there has been an increasing demand of qualified Chinese language teachers, and

WHEREAS, In March 2017, UD’s Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures was contacted by Caesar Rodney school district to inquire as to the possibility of duel-enrollment  for their Chinese immersion program students in UD’s advanced-level Chinese classes, and

WHEREAS, the Graduate Program (MA) in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language is designed to train qualified teachers of Chinese for schools of all levels, and

WHEREAS, the need for qualified teachers of Chinese has been explicitly expressed by the State of Delaware, and

WHEREAS, DLLC has partnered over the last several years with Xiamen University in study abroad programs, and in partnership with the Confucius Institute; be it therefore

RESOLVED,   that the Faculty Senate recommends provisionally for five years the approval of the establishment of a new MA in Teaching Chinese in a Foreign Language.

Prospective Curriculum:\*

**Track One: Standard Track**

Description

Admission Requirements

Track one: Standard Track

B.A or equivalent in the target language/literature; or in another appropriate discipline;

Students who are non-native speakers of Chinese must show that they have earned a score of Intermediate High or above on the OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview) in the target language. The department reserves the right to conduct oral examinations to evaluate the candidate’s Chinese proficiency level.

For students who are non-native speakers of English, TOEFL score 90 and above or IELTS score 7 and above are required. The department reserves the right to conduct oral examinations to evaluate the candidate’s English proficiency level. Final admission decisions are contingent on students’ meeting required English proficiency level after completion of designated English classes provided by UD’s English Language Institute.

Candidates for admission must submit 3 letters of recommendation, preferably from professors who know the applicant well and can comment on his/her academic performance in the Chinese language and/or literature, as well as on his/her current Chinese language proficiency (if the applicant is a non-native speaker of that language). If the applicant has been away from the academic world for some years, a letter from an employer may be substituted for one academic letter.

Candidates must submit a personal statement (in English) describing interests, intellectual goals, past study abroad experience, and how this program would meet their goals and objectives. A resume in English and a writing sample in Chinese with at least 1000 words (this may be a paper written for an undergraduate class.) are required.

Degree Requirements

1.         30 graduate credits are required for the Master of Arts in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language.  Five courses (15 credits) in Chinese language/literature/pedagogy. A minimum of three courses (9 credits) in the fields of foreign language pedagogy. The remaining courses are selected with the prior approval of the student's advisor, from Chinese, foreign language pedagogy, or related fields, i.e. relevant courses in Education, Linguistics, literary theory, or English, etc. Upon completion of a total of 30 graduate credit hours of course work following the required sequence and completion of a comprehensive examination administered by a faculty/professional panel, students will receive a Master of Arts Degree in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language. For students in UD-Xiamen Joint Program Track, up to 12 additional credits may be “dual-counted” toward the Bachelor’s degree at Xiamen University and Master’s degree at the University of Delaware. The minimum grade for a dual-counted course is B+.

Courses

CHIN 605 Translation Between Chinese and English: Theories and Practice

CHIN 651 Readings in Chinese Literature

CHIN 652 Readings in Chinese Culture

CHIN 655 Classical Chinese

LLCU 607 Methods in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language

LLCU 622 Language Syllabus Design (3cr.)

LLCU 624 Second Language Testing (3cr.)

LLCU 626 Foreign Language Pedagogy Research Seminar (3cr.)

1 Elective 6xx (3 credits) in China-related or pedagogy/linguistic/education course, upon approval with advisor

1 LLCU 4xx/6xx language pedagogy (3 credits)

**Track Two:**

Description

Admission Requirements:

Students who are enrolled at Xiamen University pursuing an undergraduate major in the Chinese language/literature or related disciplines with minimum of 60 undergraduate credits and a GPA equivalent to at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale in all prior undergraduate college-level course work. Students with a minimum of 90 credits are required before starting the UD-Xiamen Joint Program.

TOEFL score 100 and above or IELTS score 7.5 and above are required. The department reserves the right to conduct oral examinations to evaluate the candidate’s English proficiency level. Those whose scores are under 100 (90-99) and 7.5 (but above7) may be given conditional admission. Final admission decisions are contingent on students’ meeting required English proficiency level after completion of designated English classes provided by UD’s English Language Institute.

Candidates for admission must submit 3 letters of recommendation, preferably from professors who know the applicant well and can comment on his/her academic performance in the Chinese language and/or literature, as well as on his/her current Chinese language proficiency (if the applicant is a non-native speaker of that language). If the applicant has been away from the academic world for some years, a letter from an employer may be substituted for one academic letter.

Candidates must submit a personal statement (in English) describing interests, intellectual goals, past study abroad experience, and how this program would meet their goals and objectives. A resume in English and a writing sample in Chinese with at least 1000 words (this may be a paper written for an undergraduate class.) are required.

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Expected Outcomes

Students in this program are expected to graduate with the proficiency and skill set required to teach Chinese as a Foreign Language to K-12 classrooms in the state of Delaware and beyond.

Direct measurement of students’ learning outcomes will be reflected in their teaching portfolios. Please see the program policy document for further detail.

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