



Brief Program Description

Administered through the Department of Asian Languages and Literature, the program in Chinese focuses on language, linguistics, literature, and culture. Practical training in language skills and a vigorous study of literature in cultural context complement each other to prepare students for further studies or careers in teaching, translation, or business.

Who May Apply

Chinese majors (Post-BA, and M.A. graduate students) and graduate students in other programs may apply as long as they satisfy Standard I Preparation in Chinese.

Getting Started

Applicants to the Chinese Teacher Licensure Program must have completed foundation language courses and/or have the target language proficiency. They also need to demonstrate a strong commitment to both language teaching and their potential for leadership.

Admission Process and Criteria

Qualified students interested in obtaining licensure must complete a formal written application to the Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP) in the School of Education. Applications should be submitted to the Teacher Education & Curriculum Studies office at 117 Furcolo Hall. Students entering the program in foreign language teacher training must pass the Communications and Literacy Skills portion of the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL) prior to being admitted into the program. Applicants also must have completed most if not all of their Standard I courses as designated by the Chinese Teacher Licensure Guidelines. Chinese language candidates will then have to pass the MTEL licensure test in Chinese prior to beginning their student teaching experience. Acceptance to the program is based on the following criteria: personal statement, grade point average, letters of recommendation, and results on the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure test. Information on the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (e.g. Communication and Literacy test, Foreign Language Subject Test in Chinese) can be obtained at <http://www.doe.mass.edu> or <http://www.mtel.nesinc.com>.

Course of Study

Candidates for the secondary license in Chinese should take a methods class, Chinese 580: Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, in which they study both the Standards for Chinese Language Learning and the State

Frameworks. They also take courses from the School of Education required by the STEP program.

Advising

Professor Zhijun Wang will direct students for program advising.

Career Opportunities and Job Placement

Candidates will be directed to appropriate professional membership (e.g. Chinese Language Teachers Association, Massachusetts Foreign Language Association), and other sources of information, according to their individual needs and interests.

For further information, please contact:

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Also, please check for information with regard to the department and major requirements on the website: <http://www.umass.edu/lc/>

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LICENSURE INFORMATION AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL): The MTEL is required for licensure by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The test has two parts: the Communication and Literacy Skills (C&LS) test and the Subject area test(s). The University's policy is that:

- Undergraduates must achieve a passing score on the C&LS test as a pre-requisite for admission.
- Post-baccalaureate and graduate students must achieve a passing score on the C&LS test in their first semester of study.
- All students must pass the Subject test(s) (if one has been developed for that licensure field) before enrolling in the practicum.

Licensure Application Process: The Educator Licensure Office (ELO) in the School of Education coordinates the licensure application process for all University Educator Preparation program students who have completed all licensing requirements. The ELO provides information to guide students in using the Electronic Licensure and Recruitment system (ELAR), a system in which students apply for educator licenses online. The ELAR system requires a student to apply for his/her license online (including the payment of license fees) and send an official copy of his/her transcript to the ELO in Room 130 Furcolo Hall (being sure that the transcript includes the "Institutional Recommendation for Educator Licensure"). After individuals have applied online, the ELO endorses/recommends candidates for licensure via ELAR. The University Licensure Officer also assists students in completing applications for licensure in other states, as necessary.

Career and Job Search Assistance: The School of Education, in collaboration with Career Services, sponsors a Job Fair for prospective educators. The Job Fair draws school districts from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont and New Hampshire. In addition, Career Services provides information and registration for the Massachusetts Educational Recruiting Consortium (MERC), a recruitment fair attended by school districts from across the nation.

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