Norwich University: Program in Chinese

Why major in Chinese?

1. China is one of the world’s oldest and richest continuous cultures, over 5000 years old.
2. China is the most populous nation in the world, with 1.28 billion people.
3. One fifth of the planet speaks Chinese. Mandarin Chinese is the mother tongue of over 873 million people, making it the most widely spoken first language in the world.
4. China is the second largest economy in the world.
5. China is one of largest trading partners of the United States.
6. Many US companies do business in China and have long-term investments there.

See: http://www.dantedurban.com/#/learn-chinese/ce6d

Why Chinese is a smart career investment?

1. International businesses prefer to hire people who speak more than one language. China has become a huge market, and business leaders are looking for people who can speak Chinese and operate successfully in a Chinese cultural context.
2. Knowing Chinese may give you an edge when competing for an important position.
3. China will play a major role in world affairs in the future. As China now has opened up to the West, there are opportunities for employment in all areas.
4. China is a wonderful country in which to teach English while developing your language and cultural skills. The experience is great, and it’s something you will never forget. See: http://www.dantedurban.com/#/learn-chinese/ce6d
**Approaches to Teaching Chinese**

**Communicative and interactive at all levels**

- For both Chinese majors and minors, strong audio-video program facilitates learning language from native speakers through visual and oral patterning
- Language and culture courses
- Literature and civilization courses

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**Chinese Events**

Each year students and faculty organize a celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival and the Chinese New Year in collaboration with [ROTC Project GO Scholarships](#). Department of Modern Languages with food and student performances. Lots of students, faculty and staff participate. The lively Chinese-language club is one of the more active student organizations on campus. Weekly Club activities include watching movies, workshops in Chinese painting and calligraphy, student presentations and faculty lecture series. Annual Chinese chess championships, mahjong games, and Chinese dumpling making.

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**Chinese as a critical language**

Chinese has been listed as a critical language under the National Security Language Initiative because of our strategic business and security interests in the Chinese-speaking world, as well as a heritage language due to the number of American citizens of Chinese heritage.

For US Army, USAF, and USMC, Chinese is listed as a category A language that may qualify for top Foreign Language Pay.  
(Source: Army Foreign Language Program. AR11-6 2009)

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**Areas where Chinese is spoken**

In addition to the People’s Republic of China and Taiwan, Mandarin Chinese is also spoken in the important and influential Chinese communities of Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, the Philippines, and Mongolia.

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**Study Abroad**

At Norwich, we offer Study Abroad Language and Culture Programs with Beijing Language and Culture University, Fudan University in Shanghai, Southwest Minzu University in Chengdu, and other well-known universities in China. Students have the opportunity to spend a summer, semester, or year studying Chinese.  
[Commission-track cadets should apply for ROTC Project GO Scholarships](#) to study Chinese Abroad. (See your professor of Chinese for details.)

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**Want to know more**

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