Course: Classical Chinese

Classical Chinese is the language of many important texts in Chinese history, including Confucian classics, historical documents, and philosophical treatises. The course aims to provide students with the skills necessary to read and understand Classical Chinese texts in their original form.

The course will begin with an overview of Classical Chinese grammar and syntax, including sentence structure, grammar particles, and word order. Students will then move on to reading and analyzing a selection of Classical Chinese texts from various periods of Chinese history. Emphasis will be placed on developing a deep understanding of the texts and their cultural context.

By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in Classical Chinese language and will be able to read and analyze Classical Chinese texts with confidence. They will also have gained a deeper understanding of the rich cultural heritage of China and the role that Classical Chinese language plays in it.

3 credits

Course: Modern Chinese Literature

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the literary landscape in China from the 20th century to the present day. The course emphasizes the analysis of authors and their works against their social and cultural background, providing students with a deep understanding of the role that literature has played in shaping Chinese society.

Through the analysis of various literary works, students will explore the cultural and historical contexts in which they were written, examining the themes, motifs, and literary techniques used by authors to express their ideas. Students will also consider the impact of these works on Chinese society and the ways in which they reflect the broader cultural and political movements of the time.

In addition to reading and analyzing literature, students will engage in class discussions, write critical essays, and conduct research on specific authors and their works. By the end of the course, students will have developed a sophisticated understanding of Modern Chinese Literature, gained insights into the cultural and social contexts in which it was created, and developed the critical thinking skills necessary to analyze literary works.

3 credits

Course: Contrastive Studies of Chinese and English

This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the similarities and differences between the Chinese and English languages. The course covers a range of topics including phonetics, morphology/lexicology, syntax, semantics at the micro level, and
pragmatics, cognition, sociolinguistic issues at the macro level. The theoretical as well as pedagogical and comparative perspectives adopted by the course serve to prepare students to teach in a bilingual environment.

Through the exploration of language structures and cultural differences, students will gain a deeper understanding of the unique features of each language and the challenges faced in translating between them. In addition, students will examine the pedagogical implications of these differences and explore teaching strategies for a bilingual environment.

By the end of the course, students will have developed a sophisticated understanding of the linguistic and cultural differences between Chinese and English and be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to teach in a bilingual environment. This course is essential for any student or educator who is interested in Chinese and English languages and their implications for cross-cultural communication.

3 credits

Course: Seminar on Chinese

This course is designed for American teachers of Chinese that delves into a range of issues related to the Chinese language. Taught by distinguished professors at Nanjing University in China, the course covers topics such as phonetics, grammar, vocabulary, and cultural nuances unique to the language. The course is intended to enhance the teaching skills of American teachers of Chinese and enable them to develop a deeper understanding of the Chinese language. In addition to language-specific topics, the seminar explores broader issues related to Chinese culture and society, including the impact of the language on the country's history and current geopolitical climate. By the end of the seminar, participants will have gained valuable insights into the nuances of the Chinese language and a deeper appreciation for its rich cultural heritage.

3 credits

All the credits are at the graduate level.