

Introducing the Master of Arts (MAT) in Teaching Chinese Language

The School of Education at Union Graduate College now offers a master's program that prepares graduates for initial and professional certification to teach Chinese at the 7-12th grade level. One of the first programs of its kind, our MAT in Teaching Chinese Language is designed for students who majored in East Asian Studies or Chinese. It is at the forefront of efforts to meet the growing need for this course of study.

According to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages^{1 2}, 5,000 primary and secondary school students were enrolled in school-based Chinese language study in 2000. That number soared to 50,000 by 2007—and is continuing to grow.

Our MAT in Chinese requires at least 16 courses. Five are in the Chinese subject area and include graduate-level research with Chinese language faculty. The program can be completed full-time in one calendar year (June - June) or on a part-time basis over two to three years.

Chinese subject area courses include:

- CHN 500 The Changing Face of China
- CHN 501: Newspaper Readings in Chinese
- CHN 502: Chinese Press and Television
- CHN 598/599 Master's Thesis

The remaining MAT courses are designed to develop reflective teachers who are effective problem solvers, able to connect theory with practice, and skilled in applying a broad range of teaching methods.

These courses include:

- EDS 540 Psychology of Teaching
- EDS 540L Microteaching Lab
- EDS 513 Curriculum and Methods of teaching Languages
- EDS 541 Essential Reading Literacy
- EDS 500C Field Experiences
- EDS 550A Special Needs Seminar
- EDS 550B Seminar in Assessment
- EDS 550C Seminar on School Reform
- EDS 544 Literacy for the Content Classroom
- EDS 551/552/553 Teaching Internship

A Singular Teaching Internship

Union Graduate College offers New York State's only year-long, mentored internship for aspiring secondary school teachers. Students spend a half day in a secondary school classroom, teaching side by side with a mentor teacher. Over the course of a year, students become familiar with the cadence

¹ <http://www.actfl.org>

² <http://www.csmonitor.com>

of the school year, from the excitement of the first day through the pressure of final exams. At graduation, our students are equipped with the experience, skills, and confidence to lead their own classrooms.

Model MAT Programs

Our MAT in Teaching Chinese Language is the latest example of Union Graduate College's commitment to offer innovative, effective programs that meet the needs of today's teachers and students. The program combines in-depth study of Chinese culture and language with the study of teaching and learning. It also includes extensive, hands-on classroom experience.

The Union Graduate College School of Education is the first in New York State to be nationally accredited by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC). Our MAT programs are aligned with National Board Certification standards and principles and serve as a model for certification programs in New York State. Equally important, our programs have earned an enviable reputation for rigor and quality—and for graduating teachers who are among the most qualified and sought after in the field.

Please feel free to contact me directly or refer students to me if there are questions about our MAT in Teaching Chinese Language program and the opportunities it provides for talented students. I can be reached at **518-631-9870** or snyderc@uniongraduatecollege.edu.

Sincerely,

Catherine Snyder, Ph.D.
Associate Dean
School of Education