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3700 Walnut Street
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CHINESE EDUCATION

Master of Science in Education - M.S.Ed.
&
Recommendation for Instructional 1 Certification,
Pennsylvania Department of Education

Matriculation and Sub-matriculation



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Chinese Education

The Specialization in Chinese (Mandarin) Language and Culture

The Graduate School of Education is pleased to announce a new Teacher Education specialization in Chinese (Mandarin) Language and Culture. Penn is uniquely positioned to offer this program given its strong international focus, its highly regarded teacher education program, and its expertise in language education. This program is a collaboration of Penn GSE and Penn's Center for East Asian Studies (Penn CEAS) and is designed for aspiring and practicing teachers.

Penn has a long history with the School District of Philadelphia (SDP) and Penn GSE regularly prepares teachers for this district as well as surrounding districts and independent schools in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. Many districts have expressed interest in hiring qualified teachers of Chinese. This interest, coupled with the strong inquiries we receive from potential candidates for such a program, has led to this new program for preparing and certifying teachers of the Chinese language. In line with the recent Asia Society (2005) report on this topic, Penn is working to create multiple opportunities to fast-track teacher preparation for Chinese speakers in the United States. For example, candidates who would benefit from additional preparation in the Chinese language itself (e.g. pronunciation or composition) can take an elective course, Chinese for Chinese Teachers.

This year long program begins in the 2008-2009 school year. In 2007-2008, students may enroll in a limited number of courses designed to introduce them to the program as general admission students or as undergraduate sub-matriculants. This program is open to sub-matriculants in "The Quaker Consortium," which cross-registers undergraduates interested in Teacher Education at Bryn Mawr, Haverford, and Swarthmore Colleges, as well as from Penn.

Overview of the Teacher Education Program

The newly formed specialization in Chinese Language and Culture is located in the Penn Teacher Education program and prepares students to become reflective, collaborative, and visionary teacher leaders. It is designed for students who have a solid undergraduate background in the liberal arts and sciences and experiences with, and a commitment to, working with young people in grades 7-12, particularly those who live in urban areas. All graduate coursework is intended to support students in developing critical thinking about theoretical underpinnings, current research on teaching and learning, and contemporary issues in education. Our teacher education graduates leave inspired to use the power of teaching to deepen student learning, transform schools, and increase educational equity and opportunity.

Students simultaneously pursue certification and earn their master's degrees. Coursework and supervised student teaching experiences mutually inform one another; course assignments are integrated with fieldwork experiences so that students learn to think deeply and reflectively about their practice in the classroom. Student teaching placements are carefully selected to provide meaningful experiences. Students are clustered within schools and each student has a Penn mentor who visits weekly to provide in-depth feedback on student teaching and learning, responds to journal postings, and facilitates site meetings among the school teams.

In keeping with the format of the Teacher Education Program, the Specialization in Chinese Language and Culture is full-time, and ordinarily ten-months in duration.

Certification

Students will be recommended to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) for Instructional I certification to teach in public schools when they have completed the degree requirements and passed all portions of the Praxis examinations required by the PDE. In addition, students are required by the PDE to have completed the following academic requirements in their undergraduate coursework: one course in English or American literature; one course in writing; one standard, college-level math course; and a second math-intensive course (which could be another standard math course, or a math-intensive course such as micro- or macro-economics or statistics). Prospective students can learn more about Pennsylvania requirements for undergraduate coursework relative to specific subjects by consulting our website:

http://www.gse.upenn.edu/degrees_programs/tep

Program offerings are also guided by Standards for Foreign Language Learning of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

Master of Science in Education M.S.Ed.

The M.S.Ed. degree in secondary education requires completion of 11 course units of approved graduate work. Because of the interdependence of the teacher education program's coursework and fieldwork, students may not transfer in credits from other graduate programs. Students are expected to participate in the program on a full-time basis, beginning in mid-July and finishing the following May. Each student must complete a culminating portfolio project, which includes an artifact collection and an extensive analytical essay based on a research question that frames a review of her/his year of learning.

Secondary Education and Chinese Education

Program requirements include courses in sociocultural and psychological foundations for learning. Two semesters of content-specific methods courses are required, which allow students to integrate their rich content knowledge with appropriate curriculum design and teaching methods. Topics such as technology, health and human sexuality, learners with special needs, multicultural and multilingual education, classroom management, pedagogy, and curriculum development are addressed in special seminars. During the initial summer term, students work with youth in informal learning settings. All student teachers are assigned to a full-year placement in an appropriate local school.

Students in the Chinese Language and Culture specialization will take courses in the following areas: teaching language forms and concepts in a natural context; research findings on the teaching and learning Chinese as a foreign language; assessing and offering constructive comments on student proficiency; understanding the structure, function, and discourse of Chinese literature, film, arts and media; evaluating textbooks, courses, and online materials.

Courses include:

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| Summer | School and Society |
| EDUC 544 | Teaching and Learning in Urban Contexts |
| EDUC 554 | Chinese for Chinese Teachers (elective) |
| Fall | Field Seminar in Secondary Education |
| EDUC 515 | Interacting Processes with Adolescents |
| EDUC 557 | Teaching Methods in Chinese (Mandarin) |
| EDUC 627 | Teaching Chinese Culture |
| EDUC 545 | Advanced Field Seminar |
| Spring | Topics of Teaching Chinese Language |
| EDUC 555 | |
| EDUC 657 | |

Admissions and Financial Aid

Admission requirements include submitting the application form and fee, GRE scores, a resume, transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions, three letters of recommendation, and a statement of purpose. After a review of the admission application, a brief interview is scheduled (either in person or by phone).

All applicants are considered for the Dean's Urban Education Scholarship at the time of admission. (The program does not offer assistantships, as students are engaged in full-time studies and do not have time to engage in academically-related research.) These scholarships offer partial support for tuition costs and are awarded based on a combination of academic achievement, demonstrated commitment to urban youth, and potential for contributing to a robust and diverse student cohort.

In addition to the Dean's Urban Education Scholarship and other subject-specific scholarships, the program offers another opportunity for full tuition and general fee awards. The Puente Forchic Scholarship is awarded to two M.S.Ed. degree candidates in either elementary or secondary education each year. The deadline process for applying, and more information about the Puente-Forchic Scholarship can be found on our website:

http://www.gse.upenn.edu/admissions_financial/scholarships.php#puente

