

CHINESE STUDIES COURSE MODULES

Have a love for the Chinese language and culture, passion for educating young minds or a flair for business? Here's a course that marries all three. Armed with a Diploma in Chinese Studies [CHS], you will be a cut above the rest in meeting the rising demand for specialists in Chinese culture and language.

As the first and only such course offered at the polytechnic level, and with at least half of the course conducted in Chinese, CHS sharpens your language skills while preparing you for careers in the education, media, tourism and business sectors. As part of the programme, you will go on field trips to broaden your perspective of Chinese culture and society.

In the first year of study, you will gain a solid foundation in Chinese history, culture, literature, drama and communication. You will also be exposed to the fundamentals of translation.

In the second year, you can choose to embark on one of the three specialisations Education, Business Chinese or Early Childhood Teaching.

In the final year, you will spend a semester working on an industry project or undergoing an internship. Through industry exposure, you will gain valuable insights into industry sectors in Singapore such as education, early childhood, print and publishing, translation, or cultural and heritage.

LEVEL 1.1

General History of China

This module gives students an outline of Chinese history. It covers all the important events and major historical figures throughout all the dynasties in China. Students should be able to form a general idea about Chinese history and Chinese people, and have some insightful reflections to the development of Chinese history, so that they can read more extensively in Chinese culture and history and do some deeper thinking and analysis.

Introduction to Chinese Cultural History

This module introduces various aspects of Chinese cultural history, including the development of social culture, Chinese philosophy, ethical values, educational system, the arts as well as other aspects of Chinese culture. Students will also be encouraged to critically evaluate Chinese traditions, customs and lifestyles.

Speech Communication in Chinese

This module teaches students the basics of Chinese phonetics as well as speech communication styles in different social settings. It trains students to be effective, articulate, confident, composed and credible Mandarin speakers in a variety of professional situations. The module also explores how communication affects human behaviour and social development.

Written Communication in Chinese 1

This module aims to teach students the fundamental skills to write effectively in both academic and professional settings. On top of acquiring the basics of structure and style, students will learn to formulate and develop clear writing objectives. Students will be taught to write coherently and cohesively in formal, expository and creative styles, and use these styles in academic research paper.

Academic Writing & Presentation

This module focuses on critical thinking, academic writing as well as presentation and listening skills. The module aims to equip students with the skills for academic writing and presentation. Finding and evaluating academic sources, reading and annotation, essay planning and presentation skills will be developed in this module.

Career & Professional Preparation I

This module helps to give students a foundational introduction to their three-year diploma course curriculum and how it prepares them for industry. It will help them to embark on their three-year course with the end in mind, through guided reflection of their personal characteristics, and producing an overall game plan for their future

education and career goals. The module aims to deepen students' commitment to the sector that the course prepares them for.

Sports & Wellness[^]

This module helps students learn a sport as a recreational activity to keep fit and healthy. Team building and collaboration skills are developed as students interact with each other. There are a total of 19 sports electives to choose from: Aerobics, Badminton, Basketball, Cheerleading, Dance Movement, Dance Sport, Flag Football, Hip Hop, Life Saving / Swimming, Netball, Orienteering, Street Soccer, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Touch Rugby, Volleyball, Wellness Programme and Yoga.

LEVEL 1.2

Contemporary China

This module examines Contemporary China from its political, economic, societal and cultural aspects. In order to deepen their understanding of China, students will learn the challenges and impact that China faces. Topics such as economic development, urbanisation, and migration and others will be covered in the module.

Fundamentals of Translation

This module introduces students to fundamental strategies and techniques of English/Chinese (EC) and Chinese/English (CE) translation. Students learn the basic principles of translation and apply these principles to the translation of a variety of text genres. Students will also explore how a translator makes decisions in actual practice by considering a host of factors, including the author's intention, the desired function of the translated text as well as the needs of the readers.

Introduction to Chinese Drama & Theatre

This module aims to help students develop critical and creative thinking skills to produce short theatre pieces. Students will get to enjoy hands-on experiences in directing, writing and acting a short play. The module will also introduce techniques in the application of theatre and drama in various fields of work.

Introduction to Chinese Literature

This module surveys the development of classical Chinese literature from ancient times to the late Qing era. It introduces students to representative literary works of each period, ranging from the Book of Songs to the Qing novels. The module explores the historical background of literary works, the lives and experiences of major writers, as well as the structural and formal characteristics of different literary genres.

IT & Applications

This module develops e-competencies by equipping students with the essential computing concepts and necessary skills to use computer applications for information research, organisation, collaboration and presentation.

Mentoring Programme 1.2

This module guides students in deciding on career pathways and setting career goals. Students learn to make decisions about their career and education plans, and how to take positive steps to embark on them. Character values and work ethics which are important for students to excel in their career and in life will also be covered. In the first year of study, to help students transit smoothly from secondary school into polytechnic education, life skills such as emotional and stress management will be the focus.

Business Communication

The module prepares students to communicate effectively in business settings. Students will learn both oral and written communication skills that demonstrate concepts of business communication principles, interpersonal skills and intercultural skills. Topics such as business proposal and report writing, elevator pitch and professional presentation will be covered.

COURSE CURRICULUM

YEAR 1

Level 1.1 (24 hours per week)

General History of China	4
Introduction to Chinese Cultural History	4
Speech Communication in Chinese	4
Written Communication in Chinese 1	4
Academic Writing & Presentation	4
Career & Professional Preparation I	2
Sports & Wellness ^	2

Level 1.2 (25 hours per week)

Contemporary China	4
Fundamentals of Translation	4
Introduction to Chinese Drama & Theatre	4
Introduction to Chinese Literature	4
IT & Applications	4
Mentoring Programme 1.2	-
Business Communication	4

Notes:

^ For more details on Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) electives, please log on to www.np.edu.sg/is/

IS Modules

The School of Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) delivers a broad-based curriculum, which nurtures a new generation of professionals with multidisciplinary skills and an innovative and entrepreneurial spirit to meet the challenges of a knowledge economy. IS offers both prescribed modules and electives to challenge boundaries. Prescribed modules develop students' competencies in core areas such as Communication, Innovation and Enterprise, Culture and Communication, and Personal Mastery and Development, while elective modules provide insights into Arts and Humanities, Business, Design, and Science and Technology.