

BYU Chinese Program Class Placement and Credit Transfer: A Letter for Incoming Students

Dear students,

Welcome! We are excited to have you join the BYU Chinese program. This program is one of the top Chinese programs in the U.S. that holds students to the highest standards of learning. We hope to equip students with near-native Chinese language skills and a proficient cultural literacy, help prepare them for careers in fields such as business, military, government, science, education, and more. Every year, approximately 850 students enroll in our program. According to a large-scale program assessment conducted in Winter 2023, students in this program can expect to achieve the following proficiency levels:

Chinese 101 – ACTFL Novice mid

Chinese 102 – ACTFL Novice high, HSK 1

Chinese 201 – ACTFL Intermediate low (non-RM), Intermediate high (RM), HSK 2

Chinese 202 – ACTFL Intermediate mid (non-RM), Advanced low (RM), HSK 3

Chinese 301 – ACTFL Intermediate high to Advanced low, HSK 4

Chinese 302 – ACTFL Advanced low to Advanced mid, HSK 4

Chinese minor graduates – ACTFL Advanced mid, HSK 5

Chinese major graduates – ACTFL Advanced mid to Superior (working proficiency), HSK 5/6

Chinese Flagship graduates – ACTFL Advanced high to Superior (working proficiency), HSK 5/6

This letter is to help you understand how to get started with class placement and how credit transfer works.

CLASS PLACEMENT

For students who served a Chinese-speaking mission:

The first class you can take after your Chinese-speaking mission is Chinese 201. If you speak with proficiency but have had little to no practice with characters and writing skills, it is highly recommended that you first take Chinese 112, a class designed specifically for high-level speakers and low-level readers/writers. This class focuses on beginning-level character building in preparation for taking Chinese 201.

For students who were enrolled in the Chinese dual immersion program:

Bridge students who received a score of 3 or 4 on the AP Chinese Exam may register directly for Chinese 201 without having to take any of the lower-division Chinese courses or placement test. Bridge students who received a score of 5 on the AP Chinese Exam taken may register directly for Chinese 202 without having to take any of the lower-division Chinese courses or placement test. Please email Dr. Rachel Yu Liu (rachelyuliu@byu.edu) and provide her with the AP certificate.

For students who took Chinese classes in middle or high school:

The first class you can take is Chinese 112 or Chinese 102. Chinese 112 focuses on beginning-level character building. If you mostly typed but rarely handwrote Chinese characters previously, please first take Chinese 102 to acquire basic writing skills. In BYU Chinese language classes, all homework and exams are expected to be handwritten.

For students who were enrolled in the Chinese dual immersion program and served a Chinese-speaking mission:

The first class you can take is Chinese 202. If you have very strong Chinese reading and writing skills, you may be able to take Chinese 301 directly. However, you will be required to take a placement test first.

For students who grew up speaking Chinese but didn't learn how to read or write:

The first class you can take is Chinese 112, a class designed specifically for high-level speakers and low-level readers/writers. This class helps students to acquire basic writing skills. In BYU Chinese language classes, all homework and exams are expected to be handwritten.

If you don't belong to the above categories or have unbalanced skills, we suggest that you take an **online placement test**. This test can be completed on a computer at home and includes five parts (listening, reading, character, grammar, writing), which takes about 25 minutes. Please email Professor Julie Lefgren (jlefgren.byu@gmail.com) to get access to the test. In the email, please explain your Chinese learning background and provide your BYU Net ID.

If you have taken any standardized Chinese proficiency test, such as **ACTFL OPI** (Oral Proficiency Interview, United States), **ACTFL WPT** (Written Proficiency Test, United States), **HSK** (Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi, China), or **TOCFL** (the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language, Taiwan), we can directly determine your class placement based on your scores. Please email Dr. Rachel Yu Liu (rachelyuliu@byu.edu) and discuss with her.

CREDIT TRANSFER

BYU	U of U	UVU	Textbook
CHIN101	CHIN1010	CHIN1010	<i>Integrated Chinese 1</i>
CHIN102	CHIN1020	CHIN1020	<i>Integrated Chinese 1</i>
CHIN112	CHIN2010	CHIN2010	<i>Integrated Chinese 2</i>
CHIN201	CHIN2020	CHIN2020	<i>Integrated Chinese 3</i>
CHIN202	CHIN3010	CHIN3010	<i>Integrated Chinese 4, Reading Into a New China</i>
A Bridge course can be used as a substitute for <u>Chinese 311R</u> , which can count toward the Chinese major or minor course requirements. Please email Dr. Rachel Yu Liu (rachelyuliu@byu.edu) and provide her with the transcript.			

Should you have any questions, please reach out to Dr. Rachel Yu Liu (Head of Chinese Section), at rachelyuliu@byu.edu.