
CHINESE HOUSE FOR 2011-2012

**Proposal for the Continuation of
a Living/Learning Center Program**

Respectfully Submitted by

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OVERVIEW

The Chinese House has been a Living and Learning Center program since the fall semester of 1998. It provides a living and learning place for students who are interested in Chinese culture, especially those who are also interested in studying Chinese language. It is also a place where American and Chinese students can come together after class to have extracurricular activities that help to enrich their experiences with Chinese and American culture and to reinforce their Chinese and English language learning, with the assistance of language faculty members of the Chinese Language Program at UVM and visiting instructors or scholars from China.

RATIONALES

China has a recorded history of more than five thousand years, and this recorded history offers a wealth of knowledge in almost any field, such as philosophy, medicine, arts, architecture, law, government, mathematics, agriculture, astronomy, military, cuisine, and martial arts. All of these await our students to explore and utilize both in their study life now and in their future careers. The Chinese House will organize Chinese cultural activities for students to learn and experience Chinese culture.

Chinese language is the language spoken by one fifth of the people on the earth. To help students learn to communicate with Chinese people in Chinese, formal classroom instruction is not enough. Opportunities to interact with native Chinese speakers and other students learning Chinese are necessary. The Chinese House will try to create and provide such opportunities.

Last but not the least, China is the largest developing country and has had the fastest economic development in the past 20 years. It has become one of the largest markets for the United States. More and more students realize that having a good knowledge of Chinese culture and being able to speak Chinese will lead them to good career opportunities. The Chinese House will help students to get ready for these opportunities.

OBJECTIVES

I. To promote UVM students' understanding of Chinese culture.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Organize in each semester some of the following activities under the guidance of the UVM Chinese faculty and with the assistance of visiting instructors from China and Chinese House residents:
- 1) Invite teachers and students who have just come back from China to talk about their experiences in China and show their photos and slides taken of China
 - 2) Invite Chinese visiting scholars or native Chinese speaking students to introduce China
 - 3) Celebrate Chinese holidays, such as the spring festival (Chinese New Year) and the moon festival
 - 4) Have Chinese potluck parties and demonstrate how to cook Chinese dishes and food
 - 5) Introduce Chinese games such as Chinese chess and card games
 - 6) Organize excursions to China Town in Montreal or Boston
 - 7) Show Chinese movies that help to understand Chinese culture
- B. Incorporate some of the activities listed above into the course *Glimpses of Chinese Culture (AIS 005 in the fall)*. The residents of Chinese House and other students may register to take the course. The students taking this course will meet once a week in Living & Learning Center to learn about the following topics or go on a study trip during the spring break:

(In Fall Semester)
Chinese Holidays
Chinese Folk Songs
Chinese Acupuncture
Chinese Qigong
Chinese Martial Arts
Chinese Architecture
Chinese Tea
Chinese Music Instruments
Chinese Painting
Chinese Minority Nationalities
Chinese Chess

Chinese Cuisine

II. To enhance and reinforce students' Chinese language learning experiences after class.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Hold Chinese Tea Hour every week, during which visiting instructors from China meet and chat with students in Chinese and English on topics related to Chinese language and culture
- B. Watch Chinese movies on DVD at the Chinese House
- C. Subscribe to a Chinese learning magazine: *Xue Hanyu (Learning Chinese)* and Chinese magazine in English: *China Today* (see ATTACHMENT 3 for subscription information)
- D. Participate in the Chinese talent shows organized by the Chinese Language Program for students learning Chinese language

III. To prepare students for their possible future study and career related to China.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Be aware of the studying and living conditions in study abroad programs in China by communicating through e-mail with the UVM students already in China.
- B. Get to know the China related job market through the Internet and other media so as to be prepared for a China-related career

COMMUNITY SERVICE

All the activities, when appropriate and possible, are open to public. Any resident in or near Burlington area or in Vermont is welcome to participate in these events. Chinese House residents are also ready to reach out to the community whenever their help is needed

STUDENT RECRUITMENT PLANS

We will choose one or two previous Chinese House residents as our representatives to help the recruitment. We will especially encourage students who are taking Chinese courses to consider becoming Chinese House residents. To reach out to other students, we will participate in the Program Fair organized by the Living and Learning Center to help explain the purpose and the function of the Chinese House.

DISSEMINATION

All major program events that will be open to the public will be publicized through the activity calendar published by Student Activity Center at Davis, the Living and Learning Center's weekly calendar, and the Chinese Language Program Website.

PROGRAM SUITE REQUEST

In the academic year 2011-2012, we would like to continue to have **three suites on one floor (with one third of the residents as students from China and mingle them with other students) in the Living and Learning Center**, so that the Chinese House can be an important part of the Global Village.

EVALUATION

The quantitative and qualitative results of the standardized evaluation conducted by the Director's Office of the Living and Learning Center are examined. If necessary, additional evaluations of the Chinese House and of the activities can be conducted among the residents of the Chinese House and the participants of the activities to determine whether the goals are met and what improvements need to be made to meet the goals at the end of fall and spring semesters. The results of the additional evaluations are reported to the Directors of Living and Learning Center.

ATTACHMENT 1

PROPOSED PLANNING TIMELINE

Fall Semester

- Aug.: Open House Party* (the first Friday)
Chinese Tea Hour (Friday afternoon)
- Sept.: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
An excursion to China Town in Montreal*
- Oct.: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
Celebration of the mid-autumn festival*
A Show of photos and slides taken in China*
Study abroad in China meeting
- Nov.: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
- Dec.: Semester-End Chinese Dinner

Spring Semester

- Jan.: Reunion party for students back from China
Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Study abroad in China meeting
- Feb.: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Celebration of the Chinese New Year*
A taste of Chinese food: Potluck party*
A Chinese movie show*
Study abroad in China meeting
- March: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
A Chinese movie show*
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
A taste of Chinese food: Potluck party*
- April: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Chinese Talent Show*
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
Study abroad in China meeting

May: Semester-End Chinese dinner

* Activities with an asterisk are open to all residents of the Global Village and other Living/Learning Center programs; the rest are for the residents of the Chinese House and the students taking courses related to Chinese language and culture.

ATTACHMENT 2

PROGRAM BUDGET REQUEST

	Categories	Budget Request
1	Instructional Replacement	\$0.00
2	Student Wages	\$0.00
3	Office Support Total	\$0.00
	Copier	\$0.00
	Phone/FAX	\$0.00
	Postage	\$0.00
4	Honorariums (3 guest speakers \$750, 1 performer \$400)	\$1150.00
5	Program Advisor	\$0.00
6	Equipment	\$0.00
7	Supplies	\$0.00
8	Periodical/Journal (Learning Chinese, China Today)	\$100.00
9	Books	\$0.00
10	Films/Videos/Theater Tickets	\$300.00
11	Transportation (1) bus to Montreal and (2) bus to a Chinese cultural show	\$700.00
12	Miscellaneous (Chinese holidays, weekly Chinese Tea Hours, and semester-end parties)	\$600.00
13	Collaborative Programming	\$0.00
	Total	\$2,850.00

ATTACHMENT 3

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

1. ***Xue Hanyu/Learning Chinese*** A Bimonthly Magazine
This magazine is ideal for Chinese language learners studying at an intermediate level. Issues include entertaining and relevant sections that cover such topics as travel, food, contemporary Chinese culture, and everyday usages of the language. 6 issues per year. Surface mail. Price: USD\$52.2/year

Order from China Books at <http://www.chinabooks.com/>

2. ***China Today*** A monthly magazine with news about China. Includes special reports, news on the economy, society, life, tourism, and culture of China. Ships from San Francisco.
It can be ordered for USD\$34.4/year from China Books
<http://www.chinabooks.com/>