



## Learn Chinese and Travel to China

*Learn a language spoken by over a billion people*

*Explore a culture rich in history and diversity*

Starting Fall Semester 2020, SPIRAL International is offering students and schools an exciting new program from our Center for Chinese Learning. **Learn Chinese and Travel to China** is an online program that offers students instruction in Chinese language skills and the opportunity to explore Chinese culture. These small-group classes will be taught by Chinese native-speaking teachers via Zoom. Each student will receive learning materials that support the online instruction.

Classes in the **Learn Chinese and Travel to China** program are offered to students with little or no Chinese language skills. Over 11 weeks from October 5-December 18, these introductory classes will teach common words and phrases while guiding students through this early learning stage smoothly. There are four 50-minute classes each week:

- Two classes of Chinese language instruction.
- Two classes devoted to learning about Chinese culture.
- The course will be taught by a Chinese native-speaking teacher and may be co-taught with an American teacher.
- Upon successful completion, students will receive a certificate of completion which may entitle them to academic credit.
- These classes are designed to integrate with future educational trips to China for school groups that are interested in that option.

The Chinese language ranks second among the top ten most spoken languages in the world, but its learning difficulty ranks first. English-speaking students often encounter many difficulties at the beginning stage, such as pronunciation, tone, recognition of Chinese characters, rules of word formation and sentence formation. Many beginners may feel that they are struggling to make breakthroughs and are under great pressure which may lead them to become discouraged.

To help students stay motivated, the **Learn Chinese and Travel to China** program is built on themes and concepts that combine "learning and practice" with "exploration and fun". The goal is to stimulate student interest in learning about the Chinese language and culture. The classes use multimedia teaching aids, cartoons and comics, ballad stories and situational dialogues. Such teaching methods create a learning atmosphere that we know from cognitive research is the best way to engage students. This program makes learning fun to spark student curiosity about Chinese language and culture, through an approach that goes step-by-step through the progression of learning.

To learn more about how to sign up for the program, please contact Jia (Jason) Shi at: [jason.shi@spiralinternational.org](mailto:jason.shi@spiralinternational.org) or Lauren Chapman at: [admin@spiralinternational.org](mailto:admin@spiralinternational.org)