

# Why Learn Chinese?



**Plan for your future—and the world's!** Watch your career opportunities and earning potential explode as employers seek professionals who can navigate the language and culture of the world's second-largest economy (including two of the world's top five financial centers). Have a front-row seat to—and maybe a part in—China's changing role in global trade, politics and strategic alliances.



**Join today's conversations!** With 1.3 billion speakers in China plus tens of millions of "overseas Chinese" in Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia and beyond—including almost 3 million Chinese speakers in the U.S. Chinese is the world's most widely spoken language.



**Get in touch with history!** Chinese characters unlock 5,000 years of culture, from exploring Emperor Qin's Great Wall and Terra Cotta Warriors and Beijing's Forbidden City to reading Confucius, Mencius and Lao Tzu in their original form.



**Find some balance in your life** as you learn martial arts, "qigong" breathing exercises, traditional dances, meditation and the holistic wisdom of Chinese medicine. Learn why China has long had one of the world's highest rates of longevity, and incorporate those lessons into a healthier you.



**Eat with gusto!** From the wheat-based noodles and dumplings of China's northlands to southern rice and fish dishes, hot woks to hot pots, China to Chinatown, grab a menu and enjoy one of the world's most popular cuisines.



**Get in touch with your artistic side!** Whether you love the fluid concentration of calligraphic brushstrokes or the bold drama of Chinese opera, the intricacies of papercutting and embroidery or the subtlety of guóhuà painting, China has an art form for you.



**Be scientific!** The country that gave the world paper, tea, fireworks, silk, printing, kites and the compass still produces enormous scientific and engineering talent, and offers huge opportunities for non-Chinese researchers.



**Help others!** With more than 274,000 Chinese students attending school in the United States, many in the sciences, your language skills will allow you to be a global ambassador!



#LivetheLanguage

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