

Career Paths for Chinese Language & Literature Majors

Achieving an excellent education is about many things: becoming a well-educated citizen, gaining knowledge for thoughtful and well-considered decisions, engaging your curiosity, and developing skills that will contribute to the greater good, for example. In addition, your education also prepares you to pursue a wide variety of career paths.

Depth of knowledge generally refers to the information and ways of thinking that are directly related to your academic major. In addition, you have developed an *incredibly important set of more general skills*: to think analytically and critically; to view issues in context and from multiple perspectives; to ask and address questions about ethical and societal implications; to pursue research; to engage your creativity; and to communicate complex issues clearly. Thus, **Chinese Language & Literature majors** offer an array of skills which are **highly valued by employers** from all sectors.

Many Possibilities. Because your major is not narrowly focused on specific career paths, you have a wide array of professional options. While this kind of career flexibility is definitely good news, it does require you to be more *proactive* in identifying and articulating your skills to potential employers.

Ready for the Work World. Five top critical skills identified by employers in a recent national survey were:

- Ability to communicate clearly
- Interpersonal / Teamwork skills
- Problem-solving and decision-making abilities
- Ability to find and process information
- Ability to plan, organize, and prioritize

Perceive patterns, structures, relationships

Write, revise, edit, proofread

And many more!

You have undoubtedly developed these skills while studying at UW.

JOB SKILLS RELATED TO CHINESE LANGUAGE & LITERATURE MAJORS

Here are even more career-related skills and strengths that employers value:

Read/interpret/synthesize complex material
See situations from multiple perspectives
Communicate in more than one language
Produce effective persuasive writing
Write/revise for wide variety of audiences
Understand & appreciate cultural variations
Design and implement engaging presentations
Understand nuance and subtlety
Handle ambiguity adeptly
Apply mental agility to creative problem-solving
Understand the broader context
Gather, analyze, organize, interpret data
Summarize concisely and accurately
Link abstract concepts to practical applications

Understand human nature & its variations
Identify and explore implications
Propose and support recommendations
Simultaneously see big picture and details
Engage intellectual curiosity
Conduct research
Bring motivation, imagination, enthusiasm, initiative
Compare, contrast information / Draw conclusions
Work well individually and on teams
Understand how data can be interpreted in multiple
ways

NEXT PAGE: ACTUAL JOBS IN THESE THREE CATEGORIES:

- 1. Chinese is required/preferred and the job's primary duties directly relate to your major (Entry & beyond)
- 2. Chinese is required/preferred but job's primary duties aren't directly related to your major (Entry-Level)
- 3. Chinese isn't required/preferred but your transferable skills make you highly qualified (Entry-Level)

In some cases, actual employers are included to convey the variety of employers.

Most positions listed here are **entry-level**. Remember that, usually, you needn't have every single qualification in order to apply.

1. Your major is *Required* and the job's *primary* duties directly relate to your major (Entry-level & beyond)

Translator (oDesk, Baidu, YoNinja, many more)

Medical Interpreter/Translator
Interpreter/Linguist (FBI, Labat, many more)

Business Interpreter/Translator

Bilingual Healthcare Writer Cultural Ambassador

Legal Interpreter/Translator Chinese-English Translator (YoNinja.com)

Chinese Language Teacher (Fluent City, Global Language, public/private schools, many more)

2. Chinese is Required/Preferred but job's primary duties aren't directly related to your major (Entry-level)

Intelligence Collection Analyst (Central Intelligence Agency)

Export Coordinator & Logistics Coordinator (America Chung Nam)

Assistant Case Manager (Chinese Information & Service Center)

Security Analyst (and also) E-Sports Features Associate Producer (Riot Games)

Movie Journalist (MTime)

Foreign Language Analyst (CACI)

Entertainment Reporter (Tencent)

Intelligence Analyst (Lockheed Martin)

Study Abroad Advisor (Georgetown University)

Open Source Analyst (Central Intelligence Agency)

Marketing Representative -- Bilingual Chinese/English (Amerigroup-RealSolutions in Healthcare)

Customer Service Representative (Farmers Insurance)

Program Coordinator (Behavioral Health Recruiter)

Loan Counselor (Pace Business Development)

Client Service Associate (Causeway Capital Management)

Care Coordinator (Camba Health)

ESL and Citizenship Instructor (Chinese Mutual Aid Association)

Executive Assistant (US-China Policy Foundation)

Outreach Officer (New York University Institute of International Education)

Project Coordinator (Chinatown Community Development Center)

Community Organizer (Asian Pacific Environmental Network)

Program Officer (Critical Language Scholarship Program, American Councils for International Education)

Benefit Specialist (Food Bank)

Job Developer (Chinese American Planning Council)

Assistant Manager (America China Exchange Society)

3. Your major isn't required or preferred but your transferable skills make you highly qualified (Entry-Level)

Associate Account Strategist, SMB Sales, University Graduate (Google), Service Coordinator (Choice Program), Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator (EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases), Research Associate (Environmental Law Institute), Knowledge Assistant (Children's Law Center), Recruitment & Admissions Assistant (Fund for American Studies), Partner Support Coordinator (Kiva Microfunds), Assistant Community Outreach Coordinator (Next Step Living), Change Corps Assistant Organizing Director (Work for Progress), Investigative Advocate (Disability Rights Washington), City Year - Corps Member (City Year Seattle/King County), Financial Advisor (ING Financial Partners), Patient Services Representative (Seattle Reproductive Medicine), Outreach Coordinator (MedBridge Education), Junior Project Manager (HealthPath Education), Internet Marketing Specialist (Chair 10 Marketing), Immigration Assistant/Receptionist (Law Firm), Marketing Coordinator (Yext),

Account Coordinator, Employee Benefits (MCM), Executive Team Leader (Target)

More: Project Manager, Social Media Campaign Developer, Policy and Advocacy Specialist

These are just general examples. The Career Center can help you find positions that meet your goals!