



What skills can graduates gain?

Through studying a degree in Chinese, graduates develop a valuable set of skills and competencies. These can include:

- Reading, writing, listening and speaking Chinese
- A better understanding of the global interactions which shape contemporary society
- Oral and written communication skills
- Interpretive and analytical thinking
- Thinking critically and creatively, and challenging ideas
- Problem solving skills
- Research and computing skills
- Time management, planning and organisation.

Applied learning

Applied learning opportunities are available through internships and study tours with international partners in locations such as China and Taiwan. These experiences can deepen graduates' skillset, awareness of others, working knowledge and employability.

What do employers look for?

Many employers look for generic skills such as communication, client/customer-focus, bicultural competence, cultural awareness, teamwork and initiative.

With technology, globalisation, and other drivers changing society, skills such as resilience, problem solving, and adaptability are important.

Skills that are likely to grow in importance include analytical and creative thinking, systems thinking, technological literacy, AI and big data.*

*World Economic Forum: www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/05/future-of-jobs-2023-skills

How can these skills be developed?

- Some skills are gained through studying
- Extra-curricular activities can help, such as getting involved in clubs, mentoring, cultural groups, part-time work or volunteering
- Be open to professional and personal development opportunities, whether it is undertaking work experience, overseas exchange, skills seminar, or joining an industry group.

Where have graduates been employed?

Learning about influential languages and cultures is advantageous for many careers around the world as graduates are increasingly required to be culturally competent, globally aware and ready to work internationally. Chinese graduates can be employed by:

- Local and central government e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Professional and research-based organisations
- Tourism, transport and related industries
- Educational institutions
- International traders, import/export businesses
- Business, finance and law firms.

Lawyers, accountants, engineers, managers, teachers and other professionals with Chinese skills and knowledge can find work in Aotearoa New Zealand, China and other Asian countries.

What jobs and activities might graduates do?

Graduates with this degree are employed in a range of jobs — see some examples below.

Interpreter

- Translate spoken language from one language to another, often simultaneously
- Keep abreast of up-to-date meaning of words
- Research specialist topics, travel with groups and present to different audiences

Translator

- Convey the content of the source text into the target language
- Research terminology or technical words and language trends
- Often works collaboratively as part of a team of translators

Teacher of English for speakers of other languages (TESOL)

- Assess a student's reading, writing, speaking and listening skills and needs
- Design and prepare learning materials
- Present lessons, including on local knowledge

Do you have any advice for new students?

Go on exchange! Anywhere around the world. But in particular I'd encourage them to choose somewhere outside their comfort

