

# Carleton

Asian Languages and Literatures

507-222-5437

Hi Friend,

Welcome! Congratulations on your acceptance to Carleton! As chair of the Asian Languages and Literatures Department, I am delighted to hear of your interest in Chinese or Japanese language studies as well as Chinese or Japanese literatures and cultures.

China and Japan are among the most exciting regions in the world; highly advanced economically and socially but also culturally distinctive. Most students who take Chinese or Japanese at Carleton have no previous experience studying the language, but they develop their language skills immensely after their studies with us. The students who come in with more advanced levels of Chinese or Japanese will also find opportunities to improve their language. In addition, we also offer courses in English on Chinese and Japanese cultures. Together with courses on premodern Chinese or Japanese literatures, we also teach contemporary cultures; on literature and films in both countries as well as popular cultures such as online media in China as well as anime and manga in Japan.

We also offer attractive off-campus study programs in East Asia and many of our students spend at least a term or even a whole year studying in the region. We offer two programs in Japan: the [Associated Kyoto Program](#) and also [Japan Study](#) which is a program in Tokyo. Our courses will be your gateways to East Asia and its peoples that await you.

Many of our students who carry out OCS (off-campus study) in China or Japan complete a Special Major in Chinese or Japanese, or a Minor in Chinese or Japanese. Many of our alums return to East Asia for their career; or come back to stateside for graduate school and then return to East Asia. Many alums that work stateside remain connected with the region.

Before and after your OCS, the faculty offer ample opportunities for you to practice the two languages both formally and informally. Our Language Associates organize weekly cultural gatherings as well as language tables where faculty have lunch with students. For Japanese language activities at Carleton, please check out our [facebook](#) page. Carleton has a [Chinese Music Ensemble](#) too. We also carry out a variety of Chinese and Japanese holiday celebrations as well as excursions to the Twin Cities, only an hour away, to see a movie, a performance, or art exhibit.

You can find more about [our department](#) and our [East Asian Studies Minor](#). If you have questions, please don't hesitate to email me at [sguo@carleton.edu](mailto:sguo@carleton.edu) or call me at 507-222-5957.

欢迎同学们来卡尔顿学院！一緒に勉強しましょう！Let's study together; we look forward to seeing you at Carleton!

Yours sincerely,



Shaohua Guo  
Chair, Department of Asian Languages and Literatures

