

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

for appointment as

Lecturer in Chinese
(Confirmation Path)

Chinese Programme

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

About the University

The University of Otago, the oldest university in New Zealand is based in Dunedin, a city of approximately 120,000. There are currently over 20,000 equivalent full-time students enrolled at the University of Otago, which makes Dunedin very much a university city. The University of Otago is New Zealand's most research-intensive university and is also the New Zealand's top-ranked university for research quality.

The Division of Humanities

The Division of Humanities is distinguished by excellence in teaching and research. All teaching is research-informed, and annual student surveys have confirmed that student satisfaction with the quality of Otago Humanities courses and teaching is very high. The results for the government's last Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) confirmed the Division as one of the top research institutions in New Zealand in the arts, social sciences, and humanities.

Humanities subjects at Otago cover two main areas of learning: the Arts and the Social Sciences. Together they comprise those subjects that explore the processes and systems of the human world, and the ways in which men and women interpret and represent their experience of it. Professional programmes in Law, Social Work, Teaching and Theology are an integral part of these studies.

Further information about the University is available on the University of Otago website: www.otago.ac.nz, including the University's mission statement and strategic direction. Key statistics relating to each Division and to the University can be found in the Annual Report. Other useful sources of information are *He Kitenga* (an annual report on research) and the *University of Otago Magazine*.

City and Environs

Dunedin was originally modelled on Edinburgh in Scotland and is one of the best preserved Victorian and Edwardian cities in the Southern Hemisphere. The colourful city centre, just a few minutes' walk from the historic campus area, is full of cafés, restaurants, bars, boutiques and shopping centres of an international standard. Dunedin hosts a modern public art gallery that houses one of New Zealand's best international art collections, and has theatres, museums and libraries which rank among the country's oldest and finest. Modern infrastructure, including an airport, public transport and health facilities, service the population. Dunedin has a fine harbour, interesting marine

wildlife on adjacent beaches, close proximity to skiing, hiking and other recreational activities. The province of Otago contains some of New Zealand's most remarkable scenic highlights and tourist destinations.

About the Department

The Department of Languages and Cultures at the University of Otago was established in 2004. It currently comprises twenty two permanent academic positions and one fixed-term position in five language programmes and two interdisciplinary study programmes. The Department offers up to five introductory language papers at the Otago Summer School each year in January and February.

Languages and Cultures is one of the larger non-faculty units in the Division of Humanities. Spanish is the largest language programme in the Department, followed by French, Japanese, German, and Chinese. Most students are enrolled in language acquisition papers. Enrolments in culture papers offered by the Department also remain strong. Overall, the Department has achieved success over the last few years in increasing retention in both language and culture papers into the upper levels of its undergraduate curriculum.

The Department of Languages and Cultures offers a full range of courses in its core languages from introductory level for beginners to Honours and postgraduate programmes for advanced students. Our aim is to promote the continuous and cumulative development of language acquisition and communication skills, both oral and written. Students are able to engage with native speakers in small-group classes in all the languages we offer.

In addition, our students are progressively introduced to the rich cultures that infuse and underlie the languages we teach. Our programmes highlight the importance of literature and political and historical culture. The language programmes of the Department have concluded formal arrangements with a considerable number of overseas partner universities in countries such as Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Spain, France, Germany, China and Japan. These arrangements allow our students to travel on exchange programmes to overseas institutions in the second or third year of their BA. Students who take their fourth or Honours year are also required to include a semester of in-country study at a partner university. On their return, Honours students complete their dissertation and the remaining course requirements at the University of Otago.

The Department has a vigorous research culture. There is a regular departmental research seminar to which both full-time academic staff and postgraduates are expected to contribute. Academics from other Departments at Otago and from universities outside Otago are regularly invited to present. In addition, staff of the Department often present research papers to other multidisciplinary seminars at Otago. The University and the Division of Humanities encourages and supports all full-time staff to actively participate in least one national (Australasian) and one international conference annually.

Postgraduate student enrolments in the Department have been increasing in recent years in the postgraduate diploma, the research-only master's degree and the PhD. The Department has achieved a gratifying level of postgraduate completions since its inception and currently has 15 PhD and several MA enrolments.

The Chinese Programme

Chinese is available as a major or a minor for the BA, as a BA Honours, and also as a component of the major in International Business. Chinese can also be taken within the Diploma of Language (DipLang) and the Diploma of Language and Culture (DipLangC). Chinese is also available for the postgraduate diploma, the research-only master's degree and the PhD. Otago University has established student exchange relationships with five Chinese universities (Tsinghua University, Fudan University, Dalian University, Chinese University of Hong Kong, University of Hong Kong) and with the National University of Singapore. Students who opt to study BA (Honours) will be given an opportunity to study at one of the Chinese universities, to complete their In-Country Study programme. This programme offers a wonderful opportunity for students to master the language and first-hand knowledge of China and its culture, experience which is reflected in the research project completed as part of their degree requirement. Students who are accepted for participation in the In-Country Study programme very often gain scholarships from the Chinese government for an all-expenses-paid study.

Papers on offer in 2013 are:

CHIN131 Introductory Chinese 1 CHIN132 Introductory Chinese 2 ASIA 101 Introducing Asia
CHIN 231 Intermediate Chinese 1 CHIN 232 Intermediate Chinese 2 CHIN 242 Survey of Chinese Cinema CHIN 241 Introduction of Chinese Civilization CHIN 243 Modern Chinese Literature CHIN 244 Chinese Language and Culture ASIA 201 Asian Popular Cultures ASIA 202 Special Topic
CHIN 334 Advanced Chinese 1 CHIN 335 Advanced Chinese 2 CHIN 342 Survey of Chinese Cinema CHIN 343 Modern Chinese Literature CHIN 344 Chinese Language and Culture ASIA 301 Topics in Asian Studies ASIA 302 Special Topic
CHIN 441 Advanced Topics in Chinese CHIN 451 Studies in Chinese (overseas credits) CHIN 452 Studies in Chinese (overseas credits) CHIN 490 Dissertation

Duties and Responsibilities

Applicants must have a PhD in Chinese. We welcome applicants whose research encompasses areas of classical or modern Chinese humanities, including cultural and literary studies, Sinophone studies, and thought. Strong commitment to research and scholarly publications are required; a track record of applying for and acquiring research funding is also desirable.

The successful candidate will demonstrate evidence of native or near-native ability in both Chinese and English and will be expected to teach all levels of language, courses in literature in translation, culture courses, contribute actively to cross-disciplinary research and teaching (e.g., papers in Asian Studies) as well as advising graduate students.

The new appointee will be responsible to the Head of the Department of Languages and Cultures, and will have responsibilities as follows:

- To pursue, foster and publish high-quality research
- To contribute to the teaching and curriculum development of papers in Chinese language, literature and culture at undergraduate and graduate levels
- To contribute to the teaching and curriculum development of papers in Asian Studies, as required
- To coordinate the Chinese and Asian Studies programmes, as required
- To supervise the research of graduate students at MA and PhD level
- To contribute to the on-going development of the Chinese programme as a research and teaching area at the University of Otago
- To liaise effectively with other Departments in the University interested in working with the Chinese programme
- To liaise effectively with Chinese communities and institutions in New Zealand, in China and elsewhere
- To be an effective and co-operative team member of the Chinese programme and in the Department of Languages and Cultures as a whole

Workload Expectations

In general, the University of Otago expects academic staff to devote 40% of their work time to research, 40% to teaching, and the remaining 20% to administration and community service.

In Chinese, established staff typically teach 4 papers each academic year (2 per semester) or, if their graduate research supervision workload is at the upper level, 3 papers a year.

Date of Appointment

Applicants are asked to indicate the earliest date on or after June 10, 2014 when they would expect to be available. The academic year comprises two semesters, from late February to late June, and from mid-July to mid-November.