Applications
All applications are considered as they come in. In past years early applicants have had higher acceptance rates than later ones, because spaces in the program tend to fill up quickly. Therefore you are advised to apply early if you can.

Applications must be received no later than January 31, 2018.
The application fee of $60 is nonrefundable.

Admission and Financial Aid
Admission decisions are based on merit only. For students who are accepted, generous need-based financial aid awards are available. You will be asked to provide information on your preexisting financial award at your home institution in your application form online.

“Everything here at PiB has really been fantastic. I especially like the individual sessions and Chinese Table opportunities to engage our professors on a more personal level. While difficult, I have enjoyed every aspect of PiB and have greatly improved my Chinese.” – PiB student c/o 2017


DATES AND DEADLINES

PiB Applications Available: Early October 2017
Financial Aid Applicant Deadline: January 15, 2018
General Application Deadline: January 31, 2018
Notification of Admissions Status: February – April, 2018
PiB Handbook Sent to All Students: Late March 2018
Tuition Due: April 15, 2018
Students Arrive in Beijing: June 22, 2018
Classes Begin: June 25, 2018

Financial Aid
Generous need-based grant, available to Princeton and non-Princeton students.

Director Chih-ping Chou (周质平) Professor of East Asian Studies, Director of the Chinese Language Program, Princeton University. Ph.D., Indiana University.

The Faculty includes instructors from Princeton University and other American universities. The American faculty teaches together with faculty from universities in China, producing an overall student-teacher ratio of less than 2.5:1.

Program Manager Henry Zhao (赵扬) M.A., Beijing Normal University; B.A., Michigan State University. Studied and lived in Beijing, China for 5 years.

Background Photo Credit: Winny Myat PiB c/o 2015
Princeton University.

student-teacher ratio of 2.5 to 1. All teaching from universities in Beijing, producing an overall American faculty teaches together with instructors University and other American universities. The Fengshui to Yin-yang Theory. “Spirit of Modern Chinese Literature, “ and “From China’s Policies and Actions, “ “Starting a Non-profit lecture topics have included “Climate Change: on various aspects of Chinese studies. Previous excursions, and in campus life, and special lectures sessions in the afternoons, constant contact with developing a series of Chinese language textbooks based on the belief that a strong foundation with an established its own distinctive pedagogy while based on the natural environment of Beijing, in which students can freely practice their language skills – especially speaking and listening – with and among the people of China. This stress on accuracy, integrated with the Beijing language environment, is one of the unique features of Princeton in Beijing.

The Princeton Chinese Language Program has based on the belief that a strong foundation with an emphasis on accurate pronunciation and grammar is absolutely necessary for language mastery. The “total immersion” approach includes: a student pledge to speak no language other than Mandarin Chinese throughout the session, individual tutorial sessions in the afternoons, constant contact with faculty at special Chinese table meals, weekend excursions, and in campus life, and special lectures on various aspects of Chinese studies. Previous lecture topics have included “Climate Change: China’s Policies and Actions; “Starting a Non-profit Organization in China; “Sino-US Relations; “The Spirit of Modern Chinese Literature; “and “From Fengshui to Yin-yang Theory.”

The faculty includes instructors from Princeton University and other American universities. The American faculty teaches together with instructors from universities in Beijing, producing an overall student-teacher ratio of 2.5 to 1. All teaching materials and methods, as well as techniques of testing, grading, and course evaluation, are from Princeton University.

The host institution, Beijing Normal University, is one of China’s premier institutions of higher learning. It is widely recognized for its strong academic faculty and the caliber of its students. Princeton in Beijing students live with their teachers in a full-service dormitory on campus. The rooms are doubles with air conditioning, a telephone, mini refrigerator and TV; all have private, fully equipped, bathrooms. Dining facilities and convenience stores are located on campus, and dozens of restaurants and specialty markets are located just outside the campus gates.

English Normal University is located in the northwestern part of Beijing between the second and third ring roads, close to the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square, with convenient access to all parts of the city via subway, public buses, and taxis.

Classes are held five days a week, with two hours of class sessions and two hours of drill sessions in the morning. Fifty- to sixty-minute individual tutorial sessions are held in the afternoons, and office hours are held in the evenings. Assistance is available 24/7 throughout the entire 8 weeks.

In order to maintain the best possible language environment for every student in the program, all students are required to sign a pledge stating that they will use only Mandarin Chinese for the duration of the program. The pledge is a crucial part of the learning process. Violations will lead to expulsion from the program.

Language Pledge

Another special feature of the program is Chinese Table, or 中文桌子, which is offered twice a week for students to chat freely with their teacher, in groups of 2-3 people, over lunch or dinner. These occasions give students opportunities to freely practice Chinese with their teachers and to get to know them better.

Chinese Tables

Is Fluency Without Accuracy Really Fluency?

We say no. The emphasis at Princeton in Beijing is on fluency through accuracy, on building a solid foundation in pronunciation and syntax that enables students to strive for genuine fluency in the Chinese language. This stress on accuracy, integrated with the Beijing language environment, is one of the unique features of Princeton in Beijing.

The total immersion program is located in Beijing, students are able to take advantage of two distinct language environments. The first is the natural environment of Beijing, in which students can freely practice their language skills – especially speaking and listening – with and among the people of China. The second is the classroom environment, in which students are able to take advantage of structured presentation and rigorous language training. This combination allows students to learn the language in the classroom and to master it on the streets of Beijing.