



## Community-Based Program

### Background Information

**Institution:** Xilin NU Chinese School

**Program address:** 3125 Melrose Ct. Wilmette, Illinois 60091

**Web address:** [www.xilinNUchinese.org](http://www.xilinNUchinese.org)

#### Contact person:

**Name:** Jian Cao

**Title:** Principal

**Email:** principal@xilinNUchinese.org

**Levels:** Pre-K-12

**Languages/dialects taught:** Chinese/Mandarin

### Program Description

**Purposes and goals of the program:** The mission of the Xilin NU Chinese School is for all students to enjoy the encouraging environment of learning Chinese language and culture, for enhancing students' academic competitiveness and social skills, and for stimulating parents' active involvement in school's operation and supervision

**Type of program:** Bilingual program; Foreign language program; Content-based; Sunday academy

**Program origin:** 1995, funded by tuition and donations

### Parents

**Parents' expectations for the program:** Learning Chinese, experiencing Chinese culture and enhancing childrens' academic competitiveness

### Staff

**Instructors' and administration's expectations for the program:** Increase students' interest in learning Chinese, solid support and active participation from parents, and a well-run organization

## **Students**

### **Students:**

- First-generation immigrants
- Second-generation immigrants
- Third-generation immigrants
- Children of interethnic marriages
- Children of interethnic adoption
- Non-ethnic background

**Total student enrollment:** 130

**How the program determines the language background and language proficiency of students:** Oral interview –students read from a textbook; parent guidance

**Percentage of students who complete the program:** 99%

**Possible reasons for student withdrawal:** Transfer out of the area; too busy with their regular school work

**Students' attitudes toward the language varieties they speak:** Good

## **Instructors**

**Number of instructors in the program:** 20

**Languages in which instructors are proficient:** Chinese and English

**Proficiency level:** 100%

**Credentials:** Teaching experiences. In many cases, our teachers have a B.A. degree or higher.

**Professional development opportunities instructors have:** Seminar, open class

**Professional development opportunities instructors need:** Same

## **Instruction**

**Total contact hours per week:** Two hours

**Times per week:** One time per week

**Student grouping:** A combination of age and language background

**Hours devoted to language teaching:** Two

## **Language skills**

### **Heritage language skills (in Chinese classes):**

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

### **English skills (in enrichment classes):**

- Reading
- Writing

**Levels of language proficiency reached by the end of the program:** Over 1,500 Chinese characters; good writing skills

## **Culture**

### **Aspects of culture taught:**

- Festivals
- Arts and crafts
- Dances
- Chinese New Year celebration

**Kind of student identity program fosters:** Respect and responsibility

## **Methodologies**

**Methodologies and instructional strategies used in the program:** Multimedia

## **Materials**

**Textbooks:** Chinese, JiNan University Chinese, MaLiPing, Stanford University

**Technology used for instruction:** Multimedia: Computer projector

## **Assessment**

**Assessments used to evaluate students' progress:** Final exams

## **Articulation**

**How the program develops home/school connections or promotes parent involvement:** Newsletters; Volunteer work: The program seeks to stimulate active parent involvement in the school's operation and supervision.

**Opportunities for using the heritage language and developing cultural knowledge outside the program:** Home

## **What the program has in place**

**Financial support the program receives:**

- Tuition
- Parents
- Donation

**Solicitation of funding:** Board members with help from parents

**Assistance or funding the program would like to receive:** Teaching materials;  
Opportunity to exchange teaching experience with other teachers

**How students graduate and/or how they receive credit:** Exams

**Monitoring of overall achievement in school:** By survey