

CHIN 4041 Introduction to Classical Chinese (3 credit hours)

CHIN 4042 Readings in Classical Chinese (3 credit hours)

Why learn Classical Chinese?

② It's a great help in learning modern Chinese.

Knowing Classical Chinese makes you understand features of modern Chinese you'd otherwise have to just memorize.

Why call a close friend *zhīyīn* 知音?

What does *wú suǒ wèi* 無所謂 really mean?

Why is "Utopia" called "Peach Blossom Spring" (*táohuāyuán* 桃花源) in Chinese?

② Classical Chinese texts give you insight into essential Chinese cultural traditions. Experience with important names and texts and ideas in the original makes your knowledge of Chinese culture much deeper.

Who said *yǒu péng zì yuǎn fāng lái* 有朋自遠方來?

Did Mùlán 木蘭 have a dragon friend?

What does *lǐmào* 禮貌 mean?

② Classical Chinese literature is amazingly rich: wise & witty, funny & sad, clear & perplexing.

Why did it worry the great Tang poet Du Fu when he had a dream about his friend Li Bai?

What was the correct way to address one's husband in medieval China?

How come scholar Tan married a ghost?

