

# TAIWAN'S MANDARIN LEARNING RESOURCES

EDUCATION DIVISION, TAIPEI ECONOMIC & CULTURAL OFFICE (TECO) IN AUSTRALIA

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## TAIWAN'S FREE ONLINE MANDARIN LEARNING RESOURCES

BY EDUCATION DIVISION  
TECO IN AUSTRALIA

Do you want to learn Mandarin language? Difficult characters and pronunciation keeping you from improving? No worries. In Taiwan, there are many online Mandarin language resources open for global learners. All resources listed here are free and available to help you access high-quality, online Mandarin language lessons.

Online resources are not designed to replace the need for face-to-face language lessons. It is here to support anyone interested in studying in Taiwan. Lessons are designed for different levels of experience and approved by professionals to ensure the content is of high quality.

### coursea

#### Learning Chinese: Start From Scratch 零到一學中文

This is a six-week introductory course in Mandarin Chinese conversation. The main objective is to learn practical conversation. By watching videos showing various kinds of situations, learners will recognise and understand vocabulary, pair everyday words together with grammar to form short phrases, and learn the correct way to express words used in day-to-day life. Provider: The National Taiwan University [VIEW LESSON](#)

#### Adorable Taiwan - Intermediate Level

是誰在說話--可愛的台灣

This course uses four scenic locations in Taiwan as the main topics. Besides an emphasis on teaching vocabulary, grammar and text comprehension, each lesson will feature a non-human protagonist, retelling the past and present of each location. Starting from the north and heading south, each lesson combines the historical, cultural and modern faces of these landmarks. Provider: The National Taiwan University [VIEW LESSON](#)

### Future Learn

#### Fall in Love with Mandarin

Learn everyday Chinese Mandarin and discover Taiwan culture in the process. This course will introduce you to the fundamentals of everyday speaking Mandarin, teaching you basic vocabulary for a range of daily situations. The course will also take you on a tour of Taiwanese culture, placing the Mandarin language in the context of the daily life of the island. Provider: The National Chiao Tung University [VIEW LESSON](#)



A selection of videos uploaded by the Taiwan Mandarin Educational Resources Centre to give easy access to global Mandarin learners exploring all possibilities to learn through Taiwan's enormous range of resources. Provider: Taiwan Mandarin Educational Resources Centre [VIEW LESSON](#)

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Huayuworld.org website was established by the Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC) for the purpose of assisting global learners with heritage background to learn Mandarin and its culture. It provides a rich variety of teaching resources, including Mandarin language and cultural resources.

The trick for new users will be registering an account. Though the content of website is mainly in Chinese, English-speaking users will have a basic entry point to work around opening an account.

### Let's Learn Chinese 學華語向前走

There are different textbooks offered by Huayuworld and a particularly good set for English-speaking learners would be "Let's Learn Chinese". It's entirely free but you're required to sign up first. With an account, you'll be able to download the textbooks and workbooks as mp3s. If you manage to complete the entire series, you will reach high intermediate level.

### Treasure Chest of Taiwanese Culture 文化百寶箱

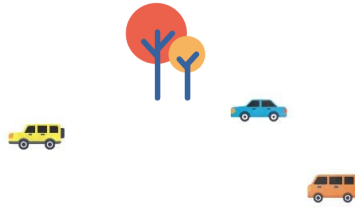
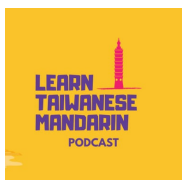
The 'Chest' includes the following categories:

- Short clips on teaching folk art and dance
- Newsletters of learning Mandarin materials, which are uploaded fortnightly
- Digital books on supporting cultural learning
- Videos on Hakka culture
- Taiwan Panorama Magazine: published monthly, it showcases Taiwan's ongoing political, economic, social and cultural evolution with insightful writings
- Videos of animations/ songs to inspire children at K to year 2 to learn Mandarin language

Provider: Huayu World [VIEW LESSON](#)

### Podcast

A few podcasts selected for learners who are interested to familiarise themselves on the island's way of living and news.



### HUAYU 101 華語101

This lesson focuses on practical conversations designed for 12 learning scenarios such as greetings, shopping, ordering meals, asking for help, etc. You may like to learn before your departure to Taiwan. [Download APP](#)

Provider: Taiwan Mandarin Educational Resources Centre [VIEW LESSON](#)



### FUN MANDARIN with WENWEN Laoshi

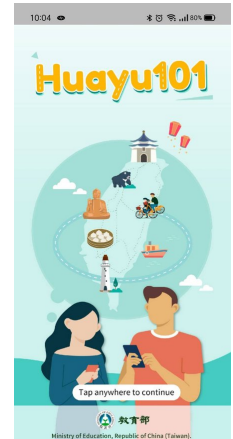
Wen Wen Laoshi came to Australia as a teaching assistant in 2014 under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Education. She enjoyed her time at Melrose High School and made lifelong friends with the school community. Ever since her return, she has been delivering Mandarin classes at the National Chung Hsing University. Now she is going high-tech, turns to Youtube to deliver lessons on practical phrases, cultural exchanges with her foreign students, and cultural tourism. If you ever wonder how a Mandarin course is delivered at one of Taiwan's 62 Mandarin language centres, it's worthwhile to give it a go. [VIEW LESSON](#)



TaiwanLIFE is a lifelong learning platform providing MOOCs from various academic institutions. It is generally for domestic users. For international users, it is an eye-opening experience to browse through what Taiwan can offer in education. There is a dedicated category for language learners in which of course includes Mandarin language.

### Mandarin in 300 Sentences

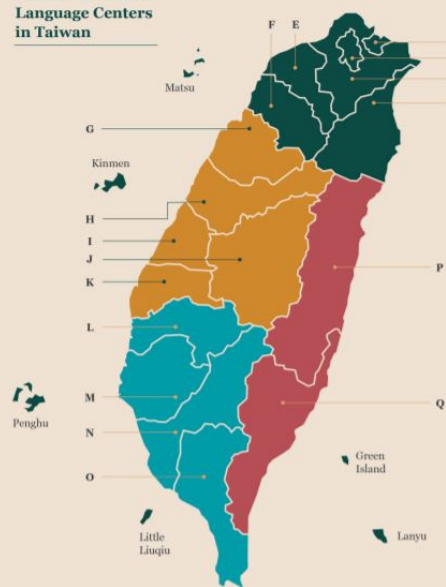
There are 10 themes designed to relate to Taiwan's daily life, which will enable the learners to familiar themselves with useful phrases, and speak Mandarin naturally. Provider: The National Open University [VIEW LESSON](#)



*Do you want to learn Mandarin language? There are many open online Mandarin language courses designed for different levels of experience and approved by professional Mandarin language teachers to ensure the content is of high quality.*

# Chinese Learning Centers in Taiwan

Mandarin Chinese Language Centers in Taiwan



## 學華語到臺灣

Taiwan is an ideal place for international students looking to learn Mandarin Chinese. Traditional character forms have been preserved in Taiwan which are essential for any future translator and allow you to fully appreciate the Chinese language across the centuries. [VIEW MORE](#)

Throughout the island state, 62 legitimate Mandarin Chinese language centres offer a wide range of course to suit all ages, interests and study aims. These centres affiliate with universities and receive funds from the Ministry of Education, yearly reviews make sure they are keeping up to the standard.

In this edition, we selected language centres from 7 cities: Taipei, Changhua, Tainan, Yilan, Taichung, Yunlin and Taitung. Most of all, some of these centres open online courses for participants to learn at their own home.

政大華語教學中心  
Chinese Language Center  
National Chengchi University

2021線上華語課  
NCU Online Mandarin Courses

### Chinese Language Centre of National Chengchi University (NCU)

NCU provide customised one-on-one and small group programs designed by professional educators. Both online program's content, teaching hours, and course hours are adjustable according to individual needs.

Group online programs are also available. The program starts in four terms (spring, summer, fall, and winter). Each term offers a 10-12 weeks program.

Each class lasts for 2 hours in Class A, with a total of 6 hours of class per week; Class B lasts for 3 hours, with a total of 15 hours per week. We will arrange the program for students according to student's language proficiency. [View More](#)



彰化師大線上華語課程  
NCUE Online Mandarin Course

### Language Center of NCUE in Changhua

#### NCUE online Mandarin Course

NCUE launched a set of online classes for Mandarin learners at different proficiency levels. These classes are scheduled to take place at 3 different routines. The aim of the course is to nurture learners' Mandarin through practicing on various topics. [VIEW MORE](#)

#### Weekend Classes

- Duration: 9 October-27 November
- NT\$4,600, 5 hours per Saturday

#### Morning Classes

- Duration: 4 October-26 November
- NT\$7,360, 4 hours per week
- NT\$4,600, 2.3 hours per week

#### Night Classes

- Duration: 4 October-26 November
- NT\$7,360, 2 hours per week

國立成功大學華語中心  
National Cheng Kung University Chinese Language Center

2021秋季線上華語課  
NCKU Online Mandarin Courses

### Chinese Language Center of NCKU

These 11-weeks intensive online classes are organised for those who can't travel to Taiwan during COVID-19 pandemic. Participants are placed into three proficiency levels: intermediate-low, intermediate-mid and intermediate-high.

Free online resources will be provided by the course for learners to practice after each course. At least 8 hours per week, you'll be supervised by Mandarin teachers as your tutors to assist your home assignments. [VIEW MORE](#)

#### Duration & Fees

- September 13 to November 26, 11 weeks
- Fees: NT\$27,800





When border restrictions ease, you have made the decision to go to Taiwan to learn Mandarin. Moving to Taiwan to learn Mandarin is a fantastic step in your learning journey. Making such a big move and investing so much time and money you want to be sure that you will go to the best language school for your needs. But how can you know which is the best language school out there for your particular needs?

To help you make this decision, we have curated a list of resources offered by Mandarin language centres and reviews by Asia Options, an Australia blog site for the youths overseas opportunities. We added some local produces and tourism tips nearby for your consideration.



## 木柵 MUZHA 綠竹筍 BAMBOO SHOOT

### The National Chengchi University (NCCU), MUZHA , Northern Taiwan 國立政治大學

NCCU is a Taiwan-based national research university. It is also considered as the earliest public service training facility of Taiwan. Located in Muzha the south-eastern suburb area of the capital city, Taipei, NCCU is surrounded by Zhinan Hills and is a prestigious university to go to.

Although Muzha is the outskirts of Taipei, there are many buses and Taipei Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) to take you to NCCU from inner Taipei city.

- **Maokong Gondola**

Located in the southern tip of Taipei City, Maokong has evolved into a favorite tourist destination for locals and visitors, who go there to visit its tea plantations and tea houses.

- **MUZHA Taipei Zoo**

The Taipei Zoo is one of the largest city zoos in Asia. For the Northern Taiwan attractions [VIEW MORE](#)



## 彰化 CHANGHUA 草仔粿 CAOZAIGUO

### The National Changhua University of Education (NCUE), Central Taiwan 國立彰化師範大學

NCUE has been dedicated to the cultivation of a balanced program of teacher education, scholarly research, student development, and community service. The university employs a systematic training for middle school teachers and is an established contributor to various academic fields, such as education, art, science, technology, etc.

#### Testimonial by from Namkyung LEE, Korea:

Everyone always asks me why I choose to study at NCUE. What made here especially better is, it is about to experience Taiwanese culture instead of just studying Chinese. The campus which is surrounded by mountains is calm and refreshing. ...I'm sure it would be a lovely place for someone who might want to see other sides of Taiwan.

For the Central Taiwan attractions [VIEW MORE](#)



## 台南 TAINAN 鳳梨酥 PINEAPPLE CAKE

### The National Cheng Kung University (NCKU), Southern Taiwan 國立成功大學

NCKU is located in Tainan, an ancient city full of the richness of Chinese traditional culture. The city offers a fascinating mix of ancient and modern Taiwanese culture. The cost of living is much cheaper than Taipei. There are also less people who speak English forcing students to use their Chinese in everyday interactions with locals.

**Verdict by Asia Options** NCKU is best suited for adventurous types who want to experience life in southern Taiwan, and Tainan is a fantastic city. Even if the course is not as rigorous as some of the courses in Taipei, by default living in Tainan your opportunities to speak Chinese are exponentially better. People in the south of Taiwan are known as being friendlier and more welcoming than those in the north so meeting locals and chatting with them will be part of everyday life.

Many centuries-old heritage sites were located in Tainan. At the same time, Tainan is not short of modern infrastructures. 1.5 hours on Taiwan high speed rail will take you to Taipei City. For the Southern Taiwan attractions [VIEW MORE](#)



## 宜蘭 YILAN 三星蔥 SANXING GREEN ONION

**Chinese Language Instruction Center, Fo Guang University (FGU), East Coast Taiwan 佛光大學**  
FGU aims to inspire learners' passion for learning Chinese. The theme of the Center is "fun of learning Chinese language with experiences from exploring nature and activities." For the Chinese language program of FGU [VIEW MORE](#)

### Sailing and Chinese Language program 暑期風帆中文夏令營

It is a seasonal program which is only offered in summer. The Center plays a role to bring learners who are interested in sailing from various nations to gather together at the Center, study Chinese language together, sailing as a team work as well as cultural exchange.

For the YiLan County attractions [VIEW MORE](#)



## 雲林 YUNLIN 青木瓜絲 GREEN PAPAYA SALAD

**YuanTech Language Centre, National Yulin University of Science & Technology (NYUST), Central Taiwan 國立雲林科技大學** [VIEW MORE](#)

NYUST is a green university, located in the picturesque neighbourhood of central Taiwan. Its resources can be expended to the nearby TransWorld University (TWU), another young and vibrant campus. TWU's host family program could be ideal for someone looking for the experience of connecting and learning from the locals.

### Sustainable Tourism Resources 生態旅遊 [VIEW MORE](#)

If you're a keen athletic, it's worthwhile to check out TWU's sustainable tourism department to support your learning in a comprehensive way. Its seasonal theme tours can take you on a memorable learning journey through distinctive outing activities like no others: tree climbing, biking and exploration activities.

**The Southwest Coast National Scenic Area** covers parts of Yunlin County, Chiayi County, and Tainan City. You might want to check out more information on this official website [VIEW MORE](#)



## 台中 TAICHUNG 珍珠奶茶 BUBBLE TEA

**Chinese Language Centre, the National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), Central Taiwan 國立中興大學**

**Why Taichung** NCHU is located in Taichung, a city with a pleasant climate, a rich culture and a comfortable life style.

Located in Central Taiwan, Taichung is the transportation hub of the region. Whether by bus, train, high speed rail, or MRT: there are plenty of convenient connections to the surrounding areas and to other parts of the island. And within the city limits, buses are free of charge within 10 kms. Compared with Taipei, living expenses are lower, while quality of life is equivalent. Taichung's dining and shopping, entertainment, housing and public transportation are among the best in Taiwan.

Watch 3-mins film review **MÓNICA and JUAN STUDYING IN NCHU** [VIEW MORE](#)

For the course information of NCHU Chinese language centre [VIEW MORE](#)

For the central Taiwan attractions [VIEW MORE](#)



## 台東 TAITUNG 金針花 ORANGE DAYLILY

**Chinese Language Centre, the National Taitung University (NTTU), East Coast Taiwan 國立台東大學**

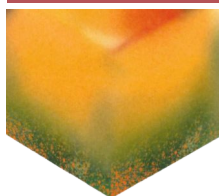
What if you decide to go to a remote part of the island nation on the east coast to explore its natural beauty? NTTU in Taitung might be one of your top choices.

NTTU offers onsite and online one-on-one Chinese class that learners can decide what they like to learn. Business, tourism, Chinese medicine, all levels of Chinese, Chinese for international students, and other courses, according to their favorite content to learn Chinese.

Online courses [VIEW MORE](#)

Onsite courses [VIEW MORE](#)

For the east coast Taiwan attractions [VIEW MORE](#)



**Photo Credit: FEN RAO candle feat. Taiwan food**  
Luo Qiao Yun, Wu Zong Han  
Kao Yu Xin, Chiang Wei Hsuan  
Hua Hsin Yu, Wang Shiou Ru



In addition to free online learning resources and fee-paying courses for age 16 up, there're classes designed for learners at age 6-9.

In response to the global crisis of COVID-19, the National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU) has launched a series of online Mandarin classes for Mandarin learners.

**Mandarin Online E-camp** is designed for learners at age 6 to 9. Young learners can participate E-camp from the comfort of their own home, either during weekends or weekdays.

#### Features

- **Professional Classification:** The classification is based on CCCC, CEFR and ACTFL. The teachers adopt interactive teaching materials, which help students learn Mandarin step by step.
- **Small-Sized Class:** There are 5-10 students in a class only, so the teachers can track in time the learning progress and performance of students.
- **Diverse Topics:** In order to improve students' skills of oral expression, interactive activities and materials are provided such as E-book, Jamboard, Kahoot or Quizlet, so the students may find entertainment in learning.
- **Easy Operation:** You can learn Chinese on your desktop, laptop or mobile devices anytime and anywhere!

#### WEEKEND CLASSES

- **Weekend Duration:** September – December 2021, Taiwan Time(GMT+8) 40 mins per class and 3 times per session
- **Weekend Fees:** NTD3,500 (AUD175) per session



#### WEEKDAY INTENSIVE CLASSES

These intensive classes are organised on weekdays from June and onwards. It is expected that after attending the intensive Mandarin classes for two weeks in a row, the students will improve their pronunciation and reading ability. Yet, various online teaching materials would be beneficial to enhance their learning motivation.

- **Weekday Duration:** September – December 2021, Taiwan Time(GMT+8) 3 times a week (Mon. & Wed. & Fri.) 40 mins per class and 2 weeks per session
- **Weekday Fees:** NTD 6,000 (AUD299) per session

**Online Application System** [View More](#)

**Mandarin Online E-camp - Home Page** [View More](#)

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## MY MANDARIN LEARNING TIPS FROM BEGINNER TO TOCFL LEVEL 5

BY BEN FISHER 胡鬱

2021 MOE TAIWAN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Learning Mandarin is a life-long pursuit. I have been studying Mandarin on-and-off since 2012, beginning with my very first university course, Chinese Introductory 1 at Monash University. Since then, I've studied Mandarin in Australia, China and Taiwan. I first came to Taiwan after graduating from Monash in 2018, on a brief stopover to Beijing. I ended up staying for four months, and never went to Beijing as planned.

In 2019 I was fortunate enough to receive a Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarship to take full-time Mandarin classes in Taipei, and this year, 2021, have been awarded the Taiwan Scholarship to pursue a Master of Chinese Literature at National Taiwan University. Taiwan is a great place to study Mandarin, for students of any level. Language schools are generally associated with universities, which offer their library services, clubs, social events, and often the opportunity to enrol in university courses for credits. Taiwanese people are incredibly friendly, and Taiwan's open, multicultural society feels familiar as an Australian.

We all learn best at our own pace, and in our own ways. I tend towards a more traditional approach to language learning: getting immersed in the native environment, speaking as much as possible, and not relying too much on technology. That can be hard in a digital age, but it's worth the effort. That said, some resources and strategies can be helpful to push you through to the next level.

For beginners, using flashcards will allow you to memorise and revise effectively, flashcard apps can help you keep track of your studying schedule. If you're still in Australia - or stuck in lockdown - but want to try out the native language environment, virtual worlds such as [Chinese Island](#), developed by the Chinese Studies Department at Monash University, can help you to do so.

For intermediate and advanced students, I found that using a Mandarin dictionary for native speakers helped me to start thinking in Mandarin, and understanding the language on its own terms, independent of my mother tongue. I use the [MOE Online Mengdian Dictionary \(萌典\)](#), as it is based on the Ministry of Education's Guoyu Dictionary and is easy to navigate.

If you're preparing for advanced exams such as the TOCFL Level 5-6, it's best to get a grasp of your strengths and weaknesses. If you're in Taiwan, register for the pre-test (預試) and see how you go. It's relatively inexpensive and you sometimes get a souvenir for completing it! While preparing for the Level 5 exam, I knew that my listening comprehension was not up to scratch, so each day after class I would listen to Taiwanese public news for an hour or two, without looking at any visual material, and after a few months the results were clear.

My first professor always stressed that learning Mandarin shouldn't be rushed, and it can't be crammed. The first record in the Analects, written by the disciples of Confucius, says: "To learn and then practice time and again, isn't that also a kind of joy?" (學而時習之，不亦說乎). Settling into your own learning pace, reflecting on your progress and balancing discipline with unbridled curiosity can be key in the long run.

**"Taiwan is a great place to study Mandarin, for students of any level. I tend towards a more traditional approach to language learning: getting immersed in the native environment, speaking as much as possible, and not relying too much on technology. That can be hard in a digital age, but it's worth the effort", said Ben Fisher.**







## HIGHLIGHTS FROM LEARNING MANDARIN PLUS A TAIWANESE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

BY EDUCATION DIVISION  
TECO IN AUSTRALIA

Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Australia collaborates with the Taiwanese Association of Canberra, Australia (TACA) Mandarin School to host two sets of language and cultural experience classes for students and adults in August and October.

The first term is set on the theme of Taiwan's beloved food culture while the second term focuses on the way of everyday living. It's open for Mandarin language learners age 16 and up at beginner and intermediate levels in Canberra.

One of the highlights of this course is the pre-commercial cultural materials acquired through collaboration with Taiwan's young designers and Shang Hsin tea room in Dadaocheng.

As the oldest district in Taipei city known for gathering talents of local artisans, Dadaocheng remains an inspiration to young creators that many old fashion stores are keen to renew their products and services to be more approachable.

*Beauty's New Trick* (美人新計) was originally created in 2019 an award winning Taiwan design for tea packaging. Young designers used anime/manga style to tell the story of Formosa tea. Yet it integrates a sense of modernity into Taiwan's tea-drinking traditions with a twist to refashion the healing power of Chinese herbs.

Manga, the Japanese illustration style popularised by animations has seeped into the pop culture of Taiwanese youngsters over the last 5 decades. The use of animated characters as product mascots has been a growing trend, for instance, Taiwan's historical city Tainan used manga icons - Xiaoman & Sway-Shin to take tourists sightseeing its historical landmarks and heritage sites.

Here in Canberra you will see that signature manga style applied to tea packaging. To combine the tea packaging and enjoyment of selected tea as a unique cultural and visual experience, participants will have the chance to taste the freshness of Taiwanese tea accompanying a demonstration of tea serving and etiquette.

Apart from tea tasting, 5 classes of term 1 will gradually introduce Taiwan's food culture from traditional eateries to convenience store; recipes will be shared to learners to recreate authentic tastes at home. Participants will learn how to communicate in Mandarin on the Taiwanese food culture and everyday life through activities such as tea tasting, trying snacks, making flip books, tile coasters etc.

To conclude term 1 in September during the mid-autumn festival celebration, stories of the moon festival will be presented with a variety of cakes to enjoy which are custom baked by a Canberra based Taiwanese bakery.

For more information and register at the QR code or the website [link](#)

Photo credit: Islander Design Taiwan

Designers of *Beauty's New Trick*: Zhang Chen-Yu, Chen Ying-Ting, Xu Ya-Xiong, Chung Yu-Huan.



Register

**Experiential language classes for people who want to learn Taiwanese culture and have conversations on selected topics in Mandarin in a small class. It is scheduled to take place every Saturday 10:30am-12:30pm from 21 Aug. to 6 Nov. at the Alliance Francaise, 66 McCaughey St, Turner ACT 2612.**