

TRANSFORMING THE TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE CURRICULUM

MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF THE GLOBALIZED 21ST CENTURY

**Vivian Ling
Chinese Flagship Program
Indiana University**

Rise of China as a global player



**Bar for the Chinese language teaching field
rose dramatically (by four times)**

Sputnik revisited



**Changing the paradigm in
the teaching of critical languages**

The goals Chinese learning in the 21st century

**Standing shoulder-to-shoulder
with our global peers and rivals**

Cultural literacy hand-in-hand with language ability

**What it takes to master Chinese
to professional functionality?**

Category I: 23-24 weeks (575-600 hours of instruction)
Romance languages/Norwegian//Swedish

.....

Category IV: 44 weeks (1100 hours of instruction):
**Greek/Hebrew/Hindi/Persian/Russian/Tagalog/Thai/
Turkish/ Zulu**

Category V: 88 weeks (2200 hours of instruction):
Arabic/Chinese/Japanese/Korean

Traditional 4-year college curriculum: 504 contact hrs.
5-year Chinese curriculum at IU: total 588 contact hrs

Necessary Conditions for Success in Mastering Chinese

1. Talented dedicated students
2. Start early
3. Sustained learning (no long interruptions)
4. Focused learning (not juggling too many balls)
5. Immersion in the target environment
6. Expert guidance, especially during foundation-building phase
7. Sustained motivation (must not burn out)

Period of transition

How is cultural literacy acquired?

**Interpreting the message
behind the surface words**

标题：建国初新疆域名之争及修改地名的历史回顾

结语：我国的民族理论，民族政策要与时俱进，敢于创新；毛泽东说过“没有革命的理论就没有革命的行动”。同理，没有民族理论的发展创新就没有新疆民族工作的新局面。也才能真正实现新疆的长治久安。

Title:

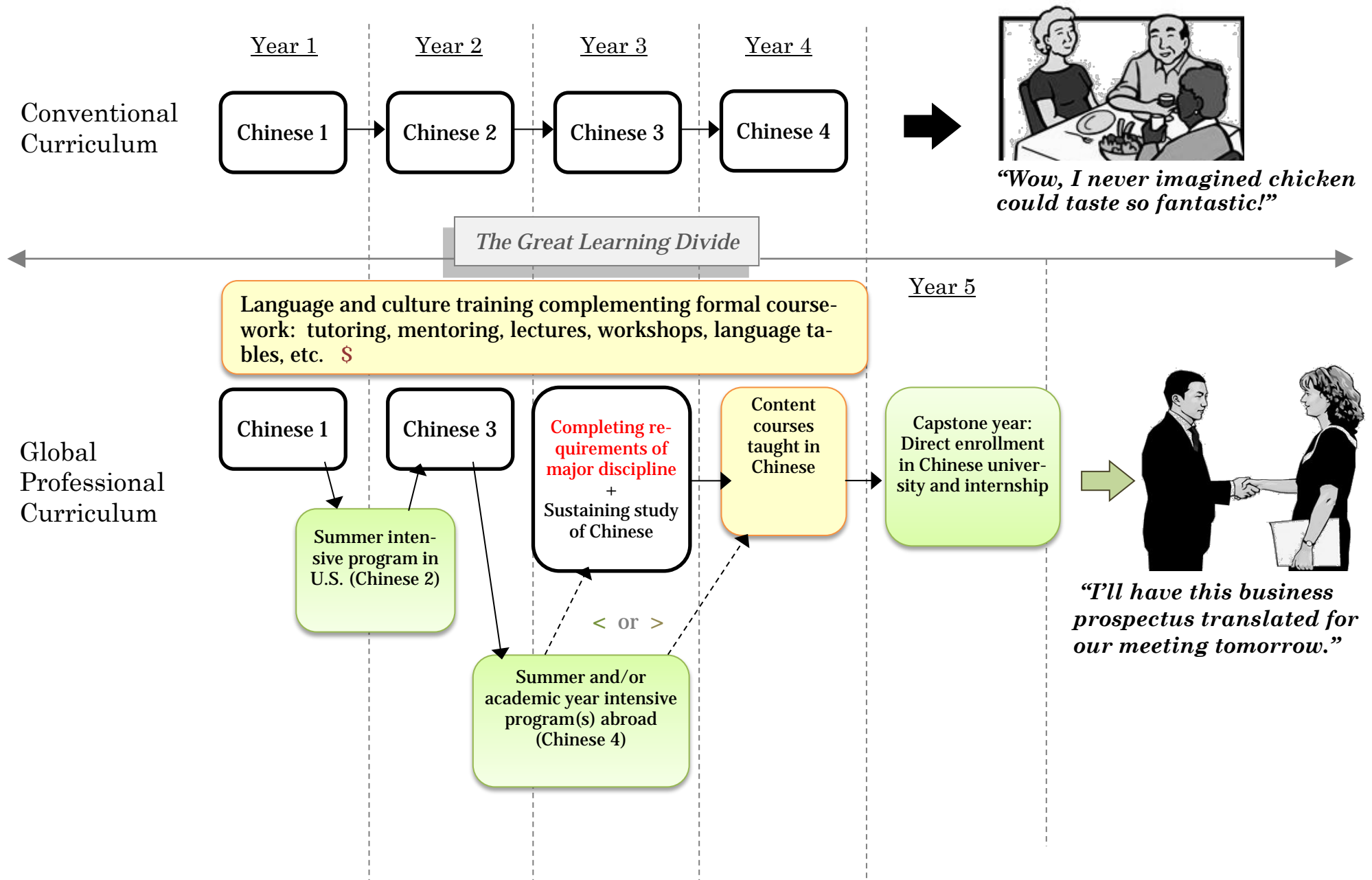
Retrospective on the debate over the name of Xinjiang in the early days of our nation and the subsequent revisions in place names in Xinjiang

Concluding paragraph:

Our nation's policies toward the ethnic minorities must change with the times, and we must courageously innovate. As Mao Zedong has said,... Without development and innovation in our concepts, there would be no breakthrough in our work,...only then will we be able to secure lasting political peace in Xinjiang.

**Where are we now
in navigating through this sea change?**

Training Global Professionals: Curriculum for Achieving Superior Proficiency in Chinese

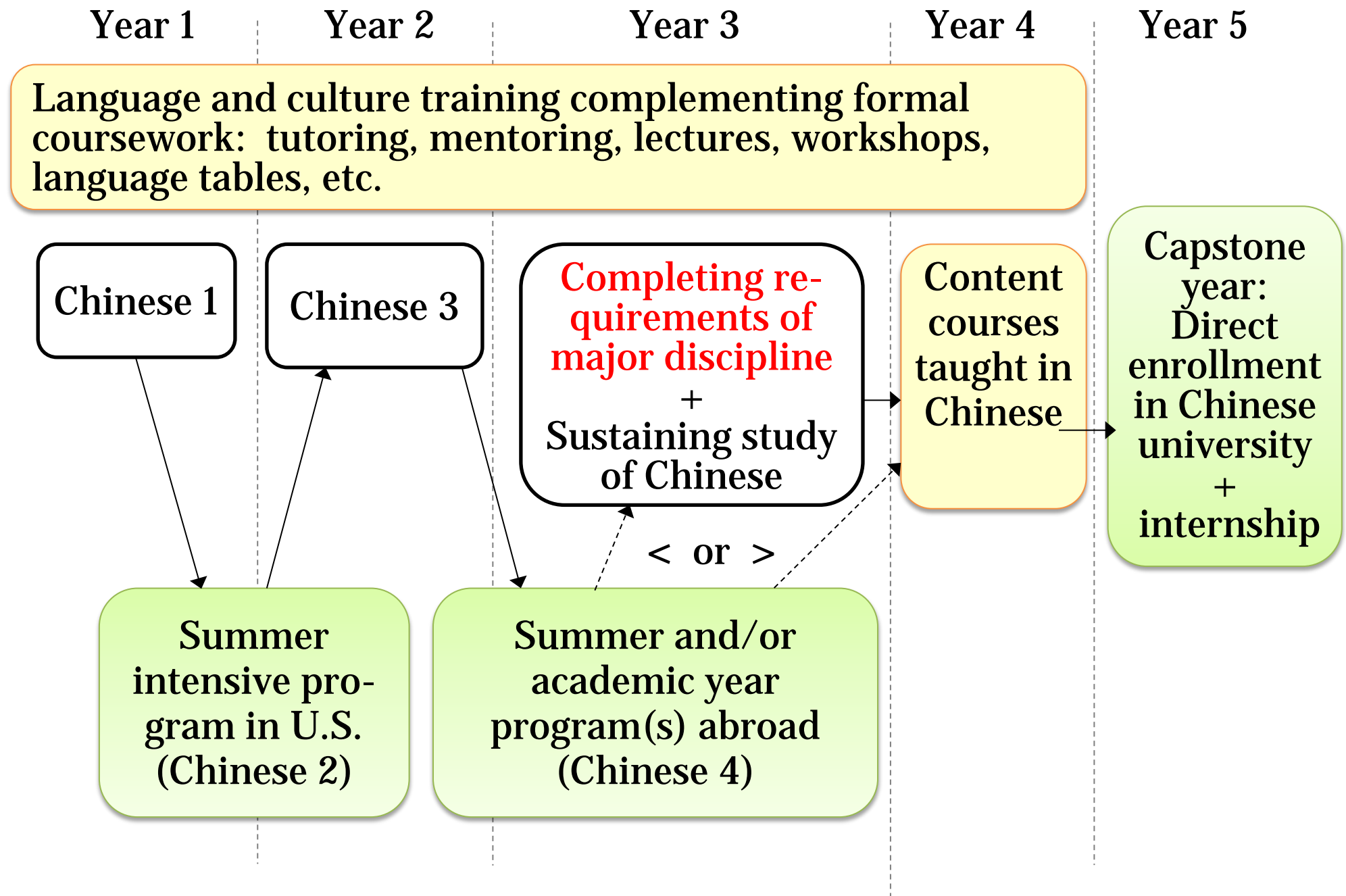


CREATING GLOBAL PROFESSIONALS



“I’ll have this business prospectus translated for our meeting tomorrow.”

CHINESE CURRICULUM FOR FUTURE GLOBAL PROFESSIONALS



Investment of time by students

Financial investment by various sectors

FLAGSHIP MODEL FOR TRAINING GLOBAL PROFESSIONALS: COSTS OF ACHIEVING SUPERIOR PROFICIENCY IN CHINESE

	Components			Funding source
	Four-year Undergraduate Education			Family, loans, and scholarships

The Great Funding Divide

Funding for Flagship Program	Extracurricular training	\$	} Federal grant	
	Content Courses	\$\$		} Institutional support
Funding for Individual Students (±\$30,000)	Summer intensive in U.S. (+Lost income from summer employment)	\$	} Additional Scholarships:	
	Summer and/or academic year abroad (+Lost income from summer employment)	\$\$		• Federal
	Capstone Year	\$\$\$		• Institutional
			• Private Foundations	
			• Foreign governments	
			Corporate philanthropy?	

