

Training teachers of Chinese as a foreign language in Poland

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Poland is currently experiencing a boom learning Chinese – more and more people are choosing an academic system of Chinese studies in universities or turning to non-academic training institutions. The number of Chinese teachers, however, remains relatively small, and good teachers are in short supply. In order to meet the growing demand for Chinese, more of qualified Chinese language teachers need to be sent from China and more of local Chinese language teachers need to be trained

In my speech I will present five aspects that have to be taken into consideration when training Chinese language teachers and, at the same time, five types of skills that a good Chinese teacher in Poland should possess: 1) linguistic knowledge and skills both in Chinese and Polish; 2) knowledge of the cultural differences between China and Poland as well as cross-cultural communication abilities; 3) understanding of the personal profile of the students in order to help them overcome their learning difficulties 4) being familiar with pedagogical theory and teaching methodology of the Chinese language; and 5) overall teaching quality, including a professional attitude, willingness to adopt new techniques and professional ethics of the teachers

I am convinced that by implementing these five points into the Chinese teacher training process, Chinese language education in Poland could be greatly improved and the increasing demand for Chinese could be satisfied.