# Chinese for Beginners

# Why financial aid?

I am privileged to have had access to primary education in Argentina, a roof over my head and food on my plate every night. I made and make the best I can from every situation. I’ve gone to science and math competitions, helped NGOs developing apps to improve the processes and taught others what I had learned after years of studying programming online.

Now I want to expand in other directions, like languages, but I am constrained by my family's resources and the local situation in Argentina. I believe education is extremely important, but I do not want to add to my family's financial burden. Inflation is rampant, regularly exceeding 50% annually. My family's wages lag behind inflation, and because of this our purchasing power decreases year after year. On top of that currency depreciation exceeds inflation, so our purchasing power in US Dollars decreases even faster than in Argentine Pesos.

Buying something from outside of the country is prohibitively expensive and I, currently a student with not option to work, cannot afford it. I currently live with my family, so if I decided to take a course, it would need to be paid by them, and I do not want to burden them with extra expenses.

# Goals

I am passionate about technology, but because of where I was born, I usually only have exposure to developments taking place in a limited number of countries / societies. Having been born in Argentina and knowing Spanish and English, most of the people I am in contact with belong to Occidental countries.

There is a ton of innovation currently taking place in countries like China, to which I have very little direct access (mainly through news articles). I would like to be able to keep up with them and ideally, contribute. I believe that people from both sides collaborating, and sharing ideas and progress is the key to success.

To help break down these silos, I would like to understand Chinese. Moreover, just understanding the language is not enough, and that is why I would also like to get a better grasp of Chinese culture (traditions, festivities, relationships, etc.).

I believe this Coursera course is a good starting point.

# Loan

Argentina has rampant inflation. I can't be committed to any loan tied to a foreign currency because even if the interest is 0% annually, it will feel as 50%+ because of our inflation issue.

Inflation in 2019 was 53.55%, in 2020 it was 42.02% and it is predicted that it will be 60%+ by the end of 2021.