

Express course in the Oriental

Confucius Institute: China is one of the world's fastest growing economies, and has the world's largest population and largest pool of consumers, meaning learning Chinese will pay dividends for students.

The Far Eastern country is Ireland's sixth biggest trading partner and the fastest growing. Many economists predict China will overtake the US as the world's economic superpower.

The Chinese language can be daunting at first. Luckily, the International Chinese Language Council is here to help.

Along with Renmin University of China and UCD, the council set up the UCD Confucius Institute at the Belfield campus in order to work with the Irish government, business and academic communities to develop stronger educational, cultural and commercial links between Ireland and China.

While Mandarin Chinese has been increasing in popularity in schools in Europe, until 2006 there was no systematic provision for its teaching in

Irish schools. A survey last year found while 33 per cent of schools believe it is important to include Mandarin Chinese in the Junior and Leaving Certificate curricula, only three per cent had ever run Mandarin courses, while fewer than eight per cent ran any Chinese cultural events.

With the support of the UCD Confucius Institute, more Irish secondary schools are now introducing Mandarin teaching programmes.

The institute also offers a range of evening courses open to anyone with an interest in China, its language and its culture, as part of its mission to strengthen links between the two nations.

www.confuciusinstitute.ie



Creative courses at Portobello Institute

Fancy working in a creative environment? Enrolling on a make-up course at Portobello Institute could be the answer.

Many graduates of Portobello have gone on to have successful careers as make-up artists for cosmetic and film production companies, working on fashion shoots, catwalks, editorials and in advertising and theatre.

Over the next few weeks, **Gemma Fous**, a professional body painter and make-up tutor at the college, will be visiting shopping centres around Dublin to demonstrate the art of theatrical make-up and body art, an area that not only requires technical skill but vast amounts of creativity. Portobello Institute representatives will be on

hand to talk to you about the type of courses available and the possible progression route in employment.

Portobello Institute offers a number of make-up career-focused programmes, which run on a full-time and part-time basis



and cover areas such as facial and theatre make-up and special effects. ITEC accredited courses are recognised by industries in Ireland and abroad.

Portobello and Gemma will be at the Pavilions shopping centre in Swords tomorrow. www.portobelloinstitute.ie

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Medical Ambulance Training announces the launch of its Emergency Response Training Programme. This programme offers both the Cardiac First Response (CFR) and the Emergency First Responder (EFR) courses together for the 1st time.

The Programme will run on Monday and Wednesday evenings in Dublin over six weeks (total 36 hours) commencing 27th October 2010. Covering the initial management and care of cardiac, medical and trauma patients, the programme is open to the public and no prior experience is necessary. E-mail training@medical.ie or call (01) 4966933. Places limited and on a first-come basis.

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