Course title: Readings in Chinese, Advanced Intermediate
Course code: CHIN 3011 CNAN
Programs offering course: Intensive Chinese Language and Culture
Language of instruction: Chinese
U.S. semester credits: 6.00
Contact hours: 104.00
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description

This intensive Chinese course is designed to improve students' integrated reading, writing, listening and speaking skills, especially reading and writing at the advanced intermediate level. It emphasizes key vocabulary, grammar points, sentence patterns, in-depth discussion, cultural comparison and writing exercises. The material in the textbook include dialogue forms and adapted material from Chinese newspaper and magazine articles to give students a better understanding of the people, culture, and social developments in contemporary China.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Master approximately 1,000 frequently used vocabulary, 350 sentence patterns and grammar points.
- Pose reading skills of texts in dialogue forms and texts adapted from Chinese newspaper and magazine articles.
- Demonstrate a solid understanding of some thought-provoking topics relevant to contemporary Chinese society.
- Compose essays to express thoughts on contemporary China with 600-800 words in length.

Course Prerequisites

Students should have taken four semesters of Chinese language courses at U.S. universities or its equivalent. They should have a mastery of approximately 1,500 commonly-used words and basic grammar points.

Methods of Instruction

On the premise of full preview, the instruction focuses on reading comprehension of the texts, explanation and drilling the vocabulary and grammar points, exercises in the textbook, and discussion of the text content.

Students are encouraged to raise questions, participate in discussion, use new vocabulary and grammatical points in and outside the classroom. In order to improve their ability to use Chinese practically, students are encouraged to read Chinese newspapers, watch Chinese TV programs and movies, communicate with locals in Chinese, write emails and texts in Chinese.

This course works in coordination with the Chinese speaking class using the same textbook. Teachers from both classes prepare the class together and each teacher teaches two classes per day in the hope of improving the students' listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the same pace. The classes require students fully prepared before class. Students need to learn the vocabulary and the content of the lesson completely and mark the places that they do not understand before class beforehand.

The first and second period of the classes are Chinese reading course. The course will mainly focus on the content of the texts, grammar points, and sentence structures. Students are asked questions based on the texts. Important grammar points will be practiced repeatedly by given contexts. Learning the text and 20-25 grammar points will be carried out in this way in the reading class.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Quizzes & Dictation: 15%
2. Homework: 10%
3. Written Exams 15%
4. Language Commitment 5%
5. Midterm 20%
6. Final Exam 20%
7. Participation 15%

TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements
Quizzes & Dictation

Quizzes are given nearly every day and typically take the form of dictation, in which you are asked to write 10-20 words, phrases and sentences. Make-up quizzes are rarely given, and only in serious illness and emergencies, e.g., be hospitalized or other very special circumstances.

Homework

Homework is assigned on a daily basis. Students should spend approximately 2 hours outside class on lesson preparation and homework assignments. It is important that you hand in your homework in the beginning of the class next day. Late homework is accepted up to one week after the deadline and will be marked down 1 point (out of 10) per day on each assignment grade. Missing homework more than one week after the deadline will not be accepted and not be given any points.

Written Exams

Every two weeks there will be a written exam covering the content of two weeks’ lessons. There are approximately five written exams a semester. The written exams include dictation, filling the blank, making sentences, reading comprehension and essay writing.

Language Commitment

You will sign a language commitment on the first day of classes. Language commitment is worth 5% of the final grade. Speaking Chinese is required in the classroom and the designated areas in the dorm building, including study center offices, student lounge, study room, hallway and dorms. Speaking Chinese is required when interacting with Chinese roommates/host families, tutors, other CIEE students and staff on campus. Speaking languages other than Chinese in these areas or environments may reduce your final grade in Chinese class by 1-5%.

Midterm

Final Exam

Mid-term exam will be in the seventh week and final exam in the fifteenth week. The written exams include filling the blank with grammar points, completing sentences, completing dialogues, translation, reading comprehension and essay writing.

Participation

Your active participation in each class is essential for successful language learning. It is important that you come to class well prepared.

All course work must be submitted directly to the instructor of record, unless the student has received other explicit, documented instructions to the contrary. You are required to keep hard copies of all assignments for up to one year after the completion of the program in addition to any digital copies required by the instructor. It is your responsibility to make sure the instructor has received all your required work. Failure to do so may result in no credit for lost assignments.

Attendance

Participation means both physical attendance and active engagement in class. Late to class or leaving early three times will be counted as one absence. Throughout this semester, you have three excused absences, reserved for serious sickness or emergencies. In such cases, you should inform the Director and the course instructor ahead of time. You may present a note from a doctor or other supporting documentation to the Director to request the Excused Absence Form. With Director's approval and signature, you may submit the form to the language instructor for his/her approval and signature. The form will be kept by the language instructor for records. After
The three excused absence, each absence per class will reduce your final grade by 0.5% up to 15%. Therefore, use your excused absences wisely!

N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class: 1.1 L1 Arriving in China

Content: Discuss with friends about their first impression about China and their plans.

Reading: pp. 2-6

Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III, IV (pp. 10-11)

Quiz: dictation

Class: 1.2 L2 Renting Bikes

Content: Discuss China’s public transport issues and condition

Reading: pp. 14-19

Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III, IV

Quiz: dictation

Class: 1.3 L3 Car Accident

Content: China’s heath care insurance and hospital problems

Reading: pp. 30-33

Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, III (pp. 36-37);

Quiz: dictation

Class: 1.4 Audio-visual class with supplementary material

Content: Watching videos about Chinese families daily lives

Reading: Video

Homework: An essay about 600 words

Week 2

Class: 2.1 L4 Chinese Traditions

Content: discuss about whether we should stick to traditional ways or practical ways through Qipao and chopsticks

Reading: pp. 40-44

Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III (pp. 50-51);

Quiz: dictation

Class: 2.2 L5 One-Time Products

Content: Discuss about environment protection
Reading: pp. 54-58
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III, IV (pp. 63-64);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 2.3 Review Class
Content: L1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam
Quiz: no quiz

Class: 2.4 Unit Written Exam 1
Content: L1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Reading: no reading
Homework: An essay about 600 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank; make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

Week 3
Class: 3.1 L6 Safety Issues
Content: Discuss Chinese people’s opinion about safety issues
Reading: pp. 66-68
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III (pp. 71-72);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 3.2 L7 Poverty Issues
Content: Discuss whether we should give money to the beggars. Will sympathy solve poverty issues?
Reading: pp. 74-78
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III, IV (pp. 82-83);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 3.3 L8 Laws
Content: The difference reasons behind the suing between China and the US
Reading: pp. 86-89
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III (pp. 92-93);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 3.4 Audio-visual class with supplementary material
Content: Watching videos about Chinese families daily lives
Week 4

Class: 4.1 L9 Information Society
Content: Discuss will the changing of information influence people’s bonding
Reading: pp. 96-99
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III (p. 102);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 4.2 L10 Marriage
Content: Discuss the prevalent phenomena of old husband and young wife. Whether it is because of money or love
Reading: pp. 106-110
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III (pp. 114);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 4.3 Review Class
Content: L6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Reading: review previous lessons
Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam

Class: 4.4 Unit Written Exam 2
Content: L6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Homework: An essay about 600 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank; make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

Week 5
Class: Spring Break

Week 6
Class: 6.1 L14 One-Child Policy Issue I
Content: The mental health issue about single child
Reading: pp. 148-150
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I (pp. 158);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 6.2 L14 One-Child Policy Issue II
Content: In order to provide better materialistic lives for children, Chinese parents tend to overlook their education. Explore the relationship between parents and children.
Reading: pp. 150-152
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (p. 159);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 6.3 L15 Money vs. Morality I

Content: The story of primary school children helping people with a price
Reading: pp. 162-164
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II (pp. 172-174);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 6.4 Audio-visual class with supplementary material

Content: Watching videos about Chinese families daily lives
Reading: video
Homework: An essay about 600 words

Week 7
Class: 7.1 L15 Money vs. Morality II

Content: How to have the right attitude towards money for children
Reading: pp. 164-168
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise III, IV (pp. 174-175);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 7.2 L18 Summer Vocation of College Students I

Content: Analyze the summer lives of college students
Reading: pp. 210-212
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I (p. 220);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 7.3 Review Class

Content: L14, 15, 18
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam

Class: 7.4 Unit Written Exam 3

Content: L14, 15, 18
Homework: An essay about 600 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank; make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

Week 8
Class: 8.1 L18 Summer vocation of college students II

Content: Which is more important? Enrich social experience or school study.
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise III, IV (pp. 220-221);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 8.2  Review 15 lessons from week 1 - week 7

Class: 8.3  Midterm Oral Exam

Class: 8.4  Midterm Written Exam

**Week 9**

Class: Excursion, no classes

**Week 10**

Class: 10.1  L19 Taking an Exam for Somebody Else

Content: Discuss issues about poor student take exams for somebody else for money

Reading: pp. 224-229

Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II (p. 234);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 10.2  L21 Elderly People in China

Content: China’s pension system and elderly people’s lives after retirement

Reading: pp. 248-251

Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III (pp. 254-255);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 10.3  L22 Old Husbands and Young Wives

Content: Discuss the reasons behind the phenomena, diverse values and the opening of China’s society

Reading: pp. 258-261

Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III (pp. 264-265);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 10.4  Audio-visual class with supplementary material

Content: Watching videos about Chinese families daily lives

Reading: video

Homework: An essay about 600 words

Week 11

Class: 11.1  L23 Product Quality vs. Moral Standard

Content: Discuss the issue about used disposable products have been used again

Reading: pp. 268-270
Class: 11.2 L24 The Dining Table Cruel

Content: Chinese food culture vs. animal protection
Reading: pp. 276-280
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I, II, III (p. 283);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 11.3 Review Class

Content: L19, 21, 22, 23, 24
Reading: review previous lessons
Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam

Class: 11.4 Unit Written Exam 4

Content: L19, 21, 22, 23, 24
Homework: An essay about 600 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank; make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

Week 12
Class: 12.1 L26 The Birth Right of Men I

Content: A news report about the abortion of a young couple in Hangzhou
Reading: pp. 296-297
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I (p. 304);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 12.2 L26 The Birth Right of Men II

Content: Whether we should introduce to the law that man should have birth right
Reading: pp. 298-299
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (pp. 304-305);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 12.3 L27 Respect Humanity I

Content: A few new reports regarding humanity invasion
Reading: pp. 308-309
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I (p. 314);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 12.4 Audio-visual class with supplementary material
Content: Watching videos about Chinese families daily lives
Reading: video
Homework: An essay about 600 words

**Week 13**
Class: 13.1 L27 Respect Humanity II

Content: How to protect humanity and respect as well as the human rights issues
Reading: pp. 310-311
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II (p. 315);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 13.2 L28 Child Beggars I

Content: The phenomena of a rising number of child beggars
Reading: pp. 318-320
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise I (p. 327);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 13.3 Review Class

Content: L26, 27, 28
Reading: review previous lessons
Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam

Class: 13.4 Unit Written Exam 5

Content: L26, 27, 28
Homework: An essay about 600 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank;
make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

**Week 14**
Class: 14.1 L28 Child Beggars II

Content: The reasons behind child beggars and children safety issue
Reading: pp. 320-324
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (pp. 327-328);
Quiz: dictation

Class: 14.2 L31 One Child Policy

Content: The development of China’s one child policy and discussion on China’s population structure
Reading: pp. 350-353
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (p. 356);
Quiz: dictation
Class: 14.3 Review Class

Content: Lessons before mid-term
Reading: review previous lessons
Homework: prepare for final exam

Class: 14.4 Review Class

Topic: Review class
Content: Lessons after mid-term
Reading: review previous lessons
Homework: prepare for final exam

Week 15
Class: 15.1 Review and Answer Questions

Class: 15.2 Final Oral Exam

Class: 15.3 Final Written Exam

Course Materials
Readings
Chi-P'ing Chou周质平, Yan Xia夏岩and Meow Hui Goh吴妙慧, eds. All things considered.
Newspaper: Southern Weekend.
Audio-visual supplementary material.