CIEE Nanjing, China

Course title: Spoken Chinese, Advanced
Course code: CHIN 4012 CNAN
Programs offering course: Intensive Chinese Language and Culture
Language of instruction: Chinese
U.S. semester credits: 6.00
Contact hours: 104.00
Term: Spring 2021

Course Description

This is an intensive Spoken Chinese course at the advanced level. In conjunction with the advanced reading course, it allows motivated students to complete the fourth year of Chinese language courses in one semester. The class focuses on improving students’ ability of oral communication in terms of fluency, accuracy and increased complexity. Class activities include making dialogues, short questions, retelling texts, discussions, presentations and debates. Topics include more complicated topics on life, work, social and cultural aspects of contemporary China.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Master approximately 600 vocabulary and 120 sentence structures.
- Hold conversations with native speakers with increased accuracy and fluency on more complex and abstract social topics.
- Organize and express one’s thoughts in both familiar and unfamiliar situations in a culturally appropriate manner.

Course Prerequisites

This course is designed for students who have studied Chinese for six semesters at U.S. universities or its equivalent. Students should have mastered the fundamentals of Chinese words and sentence structures, and process a working vocabulary of approximately 3,000-4,000 words.

Methods of Instruction

Class instruction emphasizes reading comprehension, communication, interaction and presentation. Peer tutoring, pronunciation tutoring and language meals outside of classroom support in-class learning.

Each new lesson will require students to fully preview of the vocabulary and the texts. The teacher will explain of the important vocabulary and grammar points and give contexts for drilling practice. Then students will narrate the texts using the vocabulary, grammar and sentence structure. Afterwards, the instructor will give topics for group discussion. Depends on the topic of the lesson, instructors may organize small debates, role plays, interviews and presentations. The instructor may even go beyond the texts of the lesson and synthesizes the related topics for group discussion and debates.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Homework 15%
2. Oral Exam & Quizzes 15%
3. Fieldtrip Reports 10%
4. Language Commitment 5%
5. Midterm Exam 20%
6. Final Exam 20%
7. Participation 15%
TOTAL 100%
Course Requirements

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.

Oral Exam & Quizzes

An oral exam will be conducted every week, altogether 11 times per semester. The oral exam will be in the format of oral presentation and answer questions from the group. Then there will be a one-on-one question answering section with the instructor. Students are graded based on their accurate use of new words, grammar points, sentence structures, the content of presentation, fluency of their speech, and pronunciation.

Quizzes are given nearly every day and typically take the form of dictation, in which you are asked to write 5-20 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.

Fieldtrip Reports

There are several field trip reports this semester. The field trip report can be individual report or group report. Students make a presentation through visits to the places, doing interviews with locals, doing research on the places and people. Teachers will grade based on the content of the presentation, the use of new words and grammar points, and expression.

Language Commitment

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

Midterm Exam

Final Exam

Mid-term exam will be held in the eighth week and final exam in the fifteenth week. Midterm will be in the format of oral report. For this report, pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, content and fluency will count as 4 points each for a total of 20 points. Final exam will be more based on the textbook, including word explanations, reading comprehension and oral report on topics covered in the textbook. Among total 20 points of final, use of vocabulary and grammar will be 5 points, retelling the text will be 5 points, and oral report will be 10 points.

Participation

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.

Participation is graded daily using the following standards:

A - Thorough preparation, active participation, outstanding performance, excellent pronunciation, few errors, no problem in discussing the topic covered during that class session.

B - Some preparation, active participation, a few errors, less-than-clear pronunciation, some minor problems in expressing oneself in discussions.

C - Little preparation, many errors, poor pronunciation, great difficulty in communication, but with active participation.

D - Present but inactive, no preparation, unable to be involved in class activities.
Your active participation in each class is essential for successful language learning. It is important that you come to class well prepared.

**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 absences, 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** Text 1: The Infection of Happiness

- Content: people who are happy as well can easily influence you
- Reading: pp. 2-3
- Homework: Textbook exercise p. 3
- Quiz: listening comprehension

**Class: 1.2** Text 2: Happiness Needs to be Shared

- Content: A story about happiness needs to be shared
- Reading: pp. 4-5
- Homework: Textbook exercise p. 5
- Quiz: listening comprehension

**Class: 1.4** Unit Oral Exam 1

- Content: L1 and textbook exercise pp. 7-11
- Homework: Interview
- Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

**Week 2**

**Class: 2.1** Text 1: Children who Study at Home

- Content: A news report about a primary school student who studies at home
- Reading: pp. 15-16
- Homework: Textbook exercise p. 17
- Quiz: listening comprehension

**Class: 2.2** Text 2: Different Ideas about Homeschool

- Content: The attitudes of educational area and parents about whether children should study at home
Class: 2.3  Text 3: More and More Children Study at Home in the U.S.

Content: News reports and regulations about homeschool in the U.S.

Reading: pp. 19-20
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 21
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 2.4  Unit Oral Exam 2

Content: L2 and textbook exercise pp. 21-25
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 3

Class: 1.3  Text 3: How Many of the Most Happy Things You've Been Through?

Content: Discuss the happiest things you've been through.

Reading: p. 6
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 7
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 3.1  Text 1: What is So Special About the Library

Content: Everyone is a part of the library as one want to share his knowledge to others

Reading: p. 29
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 30
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 3.2  Text 2: Regulations of the Library

Content: The motivation and rules of communication

Reading: p. 30-31
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 32
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 3.3  Text 3: How to Build a "Live" Library

Content: To find volunteers who are willing to share and communicate

Reading: pp. 32-33
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 34
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 3.4  Unit Oral Exam 3
Week 4
Class: 4.1 Text 1: Love to Search
Content: The searching function is changing people’s lives
Reading: pp. 42-43
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 44
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 4.2 Text 2: Why They’re Interested in Video Games
Content: Different views about online games and its recent development
Reading: pp. 44-45
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 46
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 4.3 Text 3: Internet Addiction
Content: What’s Internet addiction and how to avoid
Reading: pp. 46-47
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 47
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 4.4 Unit Oral Exam 4
Content: L4 and textbook exercise pp. 48-53
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 5
Class: 5.1 Text 1: The Kingdom of Bicycle
Content: The development of bicycle as an important traffic tool
Reading: pp. 55-56
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 56
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 5.2 Text 2: Solution to Traffic Congestion
Content: How to solve the issue of traffic congestion?
Reading: pp. 57-58
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 59
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 5.3 Text 3: Hiring Car Driving Services
Drunk driving is a main road problem. And the trend of hiring car driving services.

Homework: Textbook exercise p. 60
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 5.4 Unit Oral Exam 5

Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 6

Class: 6.1 Text 1: What's the Worst Invention?

Content: Plastic bag is the worst invention
Reading: pp. 69-70
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 70
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 6.2 Text 2: Ranking List of Worst Invention

Content: Car, battery, mobile phone and clone technology are regarded as the top four worst inventions
Reading: p. 71
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 72
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 6.3 Text 3: Telecommunication: The Most Important Invention

Content: Some people telecommunication and Internet are most important inventions.
Reading: pp. 73-74
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 74
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 6.4 Unit Oral Exam 6

Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 7

Class: Spring Break

Week 8

Class: 8.1 Review L1 - L6

Mid-term Oral Exam

Week 9

Class: 9.1 Text 1: New Words & Phrases
Class:  9.2  Text 2: "Pingke"

Content: Introduction of the concept “Pingke” -- share house, car and card
Reading: p. 84
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 85
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class:  9.3  Text 3: Talented People

Content: Who are talented people?
Reading: pp. 85-86
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 87
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class:  9.4  Unit Oral Exam 7

Content: L7 and textbook exercise pp. 87-91
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 10
Class:  10.1  Text 1: Everyone Wants To Be Beautiful

Content: More and more people pay attention to their body by exercising.
Reading: pp. 95-96
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 97
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class:  10.2  Text 2: The Reasons of Losing Weight

Content: More people choose to keep fit
Reading: pp. 97-98
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 99
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class:  10.3  Text 3: The Most Cost-Efficient Way of Losing Weight

Content: Introduction of diverse methods of losing weight
Reading: pp. 99-100
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 101
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class:  10.4  Unit Oral Exam 8
Week 11
Class: Excursion, no classes

Week 12
Class: 12.1 Text 1: Who's Fault?
Content: The causes of college graduates who can hardly find jobs
Reading: p. 110
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 111
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 12.2 Text 2: Hard to Find a Perfect Job
Content: Analyze the reasons behind difficulty in job hunting
Reading: pp. 111-113
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 114
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 12.3 Text 3: 24 Questions about Jobs
Content: 24 questions about jobs
Reading: pp. 114-115
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 116
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 12.4 Unit Oral Exam 9
Content: L9 and textbook exercise pp. 116-121
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 13
Class: 13.1 Text 1: Survey: Awareness of Environment Protection
Content: A survey about environmental protection awareness
Reading: pp. 125-126
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 127
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 13.2 Text 2: Trash and Recycling
Content: Trash and recycling
Reading: pp. 128-129
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 129
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 13.3 Text 3: Are You Willing To Be a Vegetarian?
Content: Not eating meat is good for both environment and health
Reading: p. 130
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 131
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 13.4 Unit Oral Exam 10

Content: L10 and textbook exercise pp. 131-136
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 14
Class: 14.1 Text 1: It’s Not That Far Away

Content: What did you bring with you on your recent trip?
Reading: pp. 140-141
Homework: Textbook exercise pp. 141-142
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 14.2 Text 2: Travelling Necessity

Content: Things you need to bring during travelling and food tasting
Reading: pp. 142-143
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 144
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 14.3 Text 3: An Unhappy Trip

Content: An unhappy travelling experience
Reading: pp. 144-145
Homework: Textbook exercise p. 146
Quiz: listening comprehension

Class: 14.4 Unit Oral Exam 11

Content: L11 and textbook exercise pp. 146-151
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 15
Class: 15.1 Review and Answer Questions

Class: 15.2 Final Oral Exam

Course Materials
Readings

王淑红（编著），《发展汉语》高级口语（I）. 北京: 北京语言大学出版社. 2011. 第二版。

Supplementary material. 补充材料。