

CET Syllabus of Record



Program: Summer Intensive Chinese Language in Kunming

Course Title: Pre-Advanced Chinese (Summer)

Course Code: CL311

Total Hours: 160

Recommended Credits: 8

Suggested Cross Listings: Chinese Language

Language of Instruction: Chinese

Prerequisites/Requirements: 2 years of previous study

Description

This course is designed for non-native speakers of Chinese who have taken approximately two years of college-level Chinese instruction and have a good grasp of basic Chinese phonetics, the fundamentals of sentence structure, and a working vocabulary of at least 2,200 commonly used words. Entering students should be able to conduct basic conversation in Mandarin on day-to-day topics and on matters relating to vocabulary previously acquired.

The course comprises a variety of integrated classes which meet for a total of 20 hours per week, or 160 contact hours per semester. Component classes include Grammar Presentation, Drill and Reinforcement Practice and One-on-One Conversation sessions. Some supplementary instruction, such as debates about current events and language practicum, is also included.

Grammar Presentation: This class meets for two hours per day. Vocabulary development is a critical part of language training for students at the pre-advanced level because it allows them to further develop their abilities in understanding and expression. Consequently, this course emphasizes acquiring vocabulary not only from the text, but also associated synonyms, near-synonyms and antonyms. Additionally, students learn to use difficult grammatical terms and structures (including common proverbs, colloquialisms, etc). Grammar is taught not through bilingual explanations but through “professing instruction”—students understand new items by engaging with the instructor in interactive and meaningful communication. That communication includes all textual elements such as commonly encountered phrases and word groups, key vocabulary, complements, attributives, adverbs, complex predicates and measure words.

One particular emphasis of this class is the formal written language, *shumianyu*. Students not only learn to understand *shumianyu* as it is seen in texts meant for native speakers, but also begin to adopt some phrases and structures into their own writing. Regular essay writing is required.

Drill and Reinforcement Practice: This class meets for two hours per day and reinforces material covered in grammar class. This is a task-based class that includes two sections. The drill section focuses on the structured practice of skills acquired in grammar class and includes practice exercises designed to help

CET Syllabus of Record

students to grasp the real function and correct but natural usage of new words, patterns and structures. Emphasis is placed on efficiently achieving full comprehension and accurate mastery. To that end, when completing these exercises, students are required to not only use appropriate pronunciation, tones, vocabulary and sentence patterns, but also maintain a minimum speed of fluency. The discussion section is an extension of this drill. The instructor selects several topics related to the content covered. During discussion, the teacher pays attention to not only appropriate use of vocabulary and grammar, but also length and complexity of sentences and paragraphs. Emphasis is placed on students' ability to use the upper-level words and structures they have learned to build a cogent argument suitable for discussion with native speakers.

One-on-One: This class meets for 30 minutes each afternoon and involves a comprehensive review of that morning's material. Carefully-designed open-ended questions are used to help students further develop their range of language and spontaneity and fluency in speech.

All classes are conducted in a Mandarin-only learning environment and place special emphasis on the functional nature of language.

Objectives

In this course, students increase their vocabulary to a total of 3,200 items or more. By the end of the course, students are able to:

- Comprehend and communicate in Chinese at an advanced level
- Explore society independently in arenas aimed native speakers (libraries, book stores, etc.)
- Independently read written documents relating to daily life and some social issues
- Begin reading brief documents aimed at native speakers (*shumianyu*)
- Produce essays of about 500 to 600 characters
- Express themselves verbally with good accuracy at the paragraph level on some academic topics
- Demonstrate good language-learning strategies for future study

Course Requirements

This is a high-intensity course. Student requirements include:

- Memorizing new vocabulary for the next day's dictation
- Listening to the recording of the text that will be taught the next day
- Previewing the text of the new lesson
- Reviewing grammar notes to aid understanding of the text
- Working with Chinese roommates to complete speaking exercises
- Composing and completing written assignments
- Actively participating in all classroom activities
- Attending afternoon individual conversation sessions with a teacher
- Preparing for weekly written and oral quizzes
- Participating in language practicum

CET Syllabus of Record

Classroom participation and performance, weekly written and oral quizzes, daily dictations and comprehensive midterm and final exams are also used to evaluate student progress.

Methods of Evaluation

The final grade is determined as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| General classroom performance | 10% |
| Attendance | 10% |
| Individual sessions | 10% |
| Written homework | 15% |
| Dictations | 10% |
| Weekly written quizzes | 10% |
| Weekly oral quizzes | 5% |
| Midterm written exam | 10% |
| Midterm oral exam | 5% |
| Final written exam | 10% |
| Final oral exam | 5% |

Primary Texts

《新的中国》 *A New China* 周质平等编著, Princeton University Press.

《新视角》 *Xin Shijiao* 高级汉语教程 (上) 庄稼婴 张增增 编著, Peking University Press.

Supplementary Texts

《中国的社会习俗》

《昆明人都是“家乡宝”》

Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

One textbook lesson is covered every day. Students learn approximately 80 new words per lesson. There are oral and written examinations every Friday.

Students complete lessons 32 through 48 in *New China* and 10 lessons in *Xin Shijiao* 新视角.