



## CET Syllabus of Record

**Program:** Chinese Studies and Internship in Beijing  
**Course Title:** Advanced Chinese (Summer)  
**Course Code:** CL411  
**Total Hours:** 88  
**Recommended Credits:** 5  
**Suggested Cross Listings:** Chinese Language  
**Language of Instruction:** Chinese  
**Prerequisites/Requirements:** 3 years of previous study

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### Description

This course is designed for non-native speakers of Chinese who have taken approximately three years of college-level Chinese, have mastered the fundamentals of Chinese phonetics and sentence composition, and have a working vocabulary of roughly 3,500 words. Entering students should be able to confidently conduct basic conversation in Mandarin on day-to-day topics and academic matters. The course comprises a variety of integrated classes which meet for a total of 11 hours per week, or 88 contact hours per semester. The component classes include: Grammar and Vocabulary, Drill and Discussion, and One-on-One classes.

*Grammar and Vocabulary:* Vocabulary development is a critical part of language training for students at the advanced level. Therefore, this course prioritizes the use of target-language terms encountered in learning materials. Consequently, the instruction emphasizes not only the acquisition of vocabulary used in class, but also the understanding of associated synonyms, near-synonyms, and antonyms. Emphasis is placed on upper-level grammatical concepts such as: complex phrases; advanced sentence structure; related words (*guanlian ciyu*); complex clauses; and common Chinese colloquialisms, sayings, etc. The course increases student ability in both language analysis and breadth of vocabulary. Students gain a full understanding of not only the lesson text but also the issue that the text describes so that they are able to engage in informed discussion on the topic. Finally, they learn to not only express themselves fluently and accurately, but in a nuanced manner appropriate for exchanges with native speakers in a variety of social settings.

*Drill and Discussion:* This task-based class complements grammar class and includes two sections. The drill section focuses primarily on reinforcing skills acquired in grammar class. During drill, the instructor uses techniques such as phrase alteration, sentence correction and sentence completion, and expects the student to not only use appropriate pronunciation, tone, cadence, word usage, sentence structure, and grammar in their speech, but also maintain a minimum speed and level of fluency. The discussion section is an extension of this drill. Emphasis is placed on sentence complexity and paragraph-length communication as students debate the larger topic covered in the text lesson. Students are expected to express themselves accurately and clearly at a level close to near-native fluency. The instructor pays attention to sentence accuracy, appropriate word use, sentence length, sentence complexity and nuance of expression.

*One-on-One:* Once per week, a teacher and a student work one-on-one to resolve that individual student's language problems. Students at appropriate levels may, alternatively, choose a topic of

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interest that matches his or her skill level and make a free report to the instructor. This exercise is designed to foster the student's ability to use language fluently at length.

## Objectives

Students increase their vocabulary to a total of 4,200 terms or more. By the end of the course, students demonstrate increased vocabulary and sophistication of expression. They are able to read not only written communication and compositions relating to study and social interactions, but also some original Chinese documents about certain topics. They are able to express themselves verbally and on paper with a high degree of accuracy on a relatively advanced topic and have the skill to compose essays of up to 750 characters in length.

## Course Requirements

Students can expect at least 1 hour of homework or preparation for every hour spent in class. They complete daily and weekly quizzes, weekly compositions and frequent oral reports. Before attending class, students are expected to review the previous day's material, complete all homework assignments, listen to language CD's from the new lesson text, review the new lesson text and memorize all vocabulary, review grammar notes in the textbook, etc. Comprehensive final exams are also used to evaluate student progress.

## Methods of Evaluation

The final grade is determined as follows:

General classroom performance	20%
Daily quiz grades	10%
Daily homework scores	10%
Bi-weekly test grades	30%
Final examination	30%

## Primary Texts

*Approaching China: An Advanced Reader*, Beijing University Press. (6 units)

## Supplementary Texts

Articles glossed by CET faculty, including essays on a number of Chinese social issues and short news articles

## Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

One textbook lesson is covered every four class periods, and two lessons are covered each week. Every two weeks, there is a brief review of material followed by separate written and oral evaluations.

Students complete 6 units of *Approaching China: An Advanced Reader* and several articles of supplementary material.