

CET Syllabus of Record

Program: Summer Intensive Chinese Language in Kunming

Course Title: Intermediate Chinese

Course Code: KM/LANG 201

Total Hours: 160

Recommended Credits: 8

Primary Discipline: Chinese Language

Language of Instruction: Chinese

Prerequisites/Requirements: 1 year of previous study



Description

This course is designed for non-native speakers of Chinese who have taken approximately a year of college-level Chinese instruction, have gained basic control of the language's phonetics and sentence structures, and maintain a working vocabulary of about 1,000 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 language practicum, is also included.

Grammar Presentation: This class meets for two hours per day. The material covered in this class includes topics such as common, daily interactions, introductions to historical stories, and many aspects of Chinese culture. During class, the instructor uses a question and answer method to ensure students' understanding of the text and then builds from that platform by introducing useful vocabulary and patterns seen in the text. 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. A large number of grammatical items (adverbs, measure words, prepositions, conjunctions, etc.) are introduced. Emphasis is placed on acquiring critical sentence structures and commonly-encountered colloquialisms, as well as general improvement of reading skills. 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, and includes practice exercises designed to help 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. Additionally, students are expected to use newly-acquired words to engage in discussions about culture and societal issues.

One-on-One: This class meets for 30 minutes each afternoon and involves a comprehensive review of that morning's material and previous materials. Carefully-designed, open-ended and authentic questions are

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used to help students further develop their range of language and spontaneity and fluency as well as accuracy in speech.

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

Objectives

The objective of this course is to dramatically elevate the students' working vocabulary, increasing it to an estimated 2,000 words by the end of the term. In addition, by the end of the course, students are able to:

- comprehend and communicate in Mandarin Chinese at the paragraph level
- handle tasks that require the skills to describe, narrate, explain and compare topics comprehend the features and the content of simple written language (*shumianyu*)
- produce essays of about 200 to 300 characters
- demonstrate highly improved reading skills
- 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

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%

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Midterm oral exam	5%
Final written exam	10%
Final oral exam	5%

Primary Texts

《新的中国》 *A New China*, Princeton University Press.

Supplementary Texts

NA

Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

One textbook lesson is covered every day. Students learn approximately 50 new words per lesson. There are oral and written examinations every Friday.

Students complete lessons 1 through 34 in *A New China*.