

CET Syllabus of Record

Program: 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: One year of Chinese or the equivalent. Students should be able to use complete sentences and ask and answer questions smoothly. Placement is determined by onsite academic staff.



Description

The course meets for a total of 20 hours per week, or 160 contact hours per semester. The course is made up of three sections: Grammar Presentation, Task-Based Discussion, and One-on-One Conversation sessions. Language practica are also included.

Grammar Presentation: This class meets for two hours per day. The material covered in this class includes topics such as daily interactions, introductions to historical stories, and 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 Task-Based Discussion 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 used to help students further develop their range of language and spontaneity and fluency as well as accuracy in speech.

CET Syllabus of Record

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 develop skills in oral comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. While all four skills are emphasized, primary attention is given to listening and speaking, since a solid foundation in these two skills is vital to the development of reading and writing skills. Upon completion of the course students are able to:

- Speak Chinese with some fluency on everyday topics
- Read approximately 800 characters
- Write short compositions on topics related to everyday life

Course Requirements/ Course Procedures:

Learning a foreign language is like learning to play a musical instrument. Both require commitment on a daily basis. One day is spent on each lesson. This is a course with a heavy workload. Daily preparation before class, as well as attendance and participation in class are the keys to success. Students spend an average of four hours outside of the classroom to review and prepare for lessons. There are two kinds of homework completed in this course. Before a new lesson, there is preview homework which also includes important grammar points that prepare students for the next class. After class, there is review homework.

- Successful completion of the course requires strong commitment from the student. It is absolutely essential that students attend class. It is also necessary to keep up with the course work on a day-to-day basis. There is a daily grading system in this course. This means that unexcused absences, coming late to class, and coming to class without being prepared will result in a lower final grade.
- There are daily quizzes. Students with excused absences are not penalized for missing quizzes. If a student has to miss a lesson due to a medical emergency or an urgent issue, the teacher is informed immediately it is expected that students make up the missed work as early as possible.
- Students are expected to hand in homework at the beginning of class. Three points will be taken off if the homework is not handed in by 5:00pm on the day of the class. If the student fails to turn in homework, the assignment does not count for credit. However, if the student wishes it can still be corrected for instructional purposes.
- Homework that is sloppy or has too many errors is returned to the student for resubmission. Please use a #2 pencil, blue ink pen, or black ink pen for all written work (homework, quizzes, and tests).
- Students are not allowed to copy each other's homework, but working together in groups and collaboration on oral projects is strongly encouraged. Students should try to complete as much of the homework as possible on their own. However, students are encouraged to attend office hours for instruction on homework questions.
- Chinese is the primary language. If there is a question that cannot clearly be explained in Chinese, then English will be used.
- Students who need to request accommodations based on a disability should contact the instructor and CET's office as soon as possible.

CET Syllabus of Record

- All cell phones are turned off and out of sight while class is in session.
- Eating in class is not allowed.

Grading:

There is no grading curve for this course. The grading system of the course is designed in a way that students are in control of the grades.

The final grade is determined as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Attendance | 10% |
| Participation in Class | 10% |
| Participation in one-on-one sessions | 10% |
| Daily Quizzes | 10% |
| Preview and Homework | 15% |
| Unit Tests | 15% |
| Mid-Term Exam | 15% |
| Final Exam | 15% |
| Total: | 100% |

Primary Texts

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

Supplementary Texts

NA