

CET Syllabus of Record



Program: Intensive Chinese Language in Beijing
Course Title: Intermediate Chinese (Summer)
Course Code: BJ/LANG 201
Total Hours: 176
Recommended Credits: 9
Suggested Cross Listings: Chinese Language
Language of Instruction: Chinese
Prerequisites/Requirements: 1 year of previous study

Description

This course is designed for non-native learners of Chinese who have completed one year of regularly paced college-level Mandarin. Entering students should be able to maintain basic communication skills both orally and in writing. Following ACTFL guidelines, this intermediate level course will focus on language proficiency and cultural awareness, and it comprises a variety of integrated classes which meet for a total of 20 hours per week. Component classes include larger sessions, smaller sessions, and one-on-one conversation sessions. Some supplementary instruction, such as Chinese movies and language practicum, is also included.

Larger Sessions: Larger sessions are capped at 15 students and meet for two hours per day. A series of topics, including daily communication, stories of Chinese history, and discussions on social issues, are covered in much greater range and depth than at the beginning level. The topics are covered in various formats such as conversation, essay, and correspondence. During class, instructors use question and answer method to ensure students' understanding of the textbook and appropriate applications of the grammatical structures, sentence patterns, idioms, and vocabulary in interpretational, interpersonal, and presentational modes.

Smaller Sessions: Smaller sessions meet for two hours per day and reinforce language skills covered in larger sessions. This is a task-based class with various exercises designed to stimulate students to develop their real world communication skills, and grasp both the real function as well as correct and natural usage of new words, idioms, patterns and structures. Emphasis is placed on proficiency. To that end, when completing these exercises, students are required to not only use appropriate pronunciation, tones, vocabulary and sentence patterns, but also maintain fluency needed for smooth conversation in real world. Students are asked to answer most questions in complex rather than simple sentences.

One-on-One: This class meets for at least 25 minutes each afternoon. Carefully-designed open-ended questions are used to help students further develop their range of language, spontaneity, and fluency in speech. Students are expected to use newly-acquired words to engage in discussions about cultural and societal issues which are related, but not limited, to the contents of the textbook.

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All classes are conducted in a Mandarin-only learning environment and place special emphasis on the functional nature of language. Full use is made of Beijing's positive cultural, linguistic, and geographical surroundings, allowing students to rapidly develop their language skills and accumulate a wide body of Chinese cultural knowledge.

Objectives

By completing this course, students are expected to reach an oral proficiency that is equivalent to Intermediate Low or higher of the standard OPI, and at the same time, have a good command of the Chinese language in reading and writing. Besides knowing a total of about 2,000 words and phrases (approximately 1,500 Chinese characters in writing) from the textbooks, they are able to negotiate meanings of new words in real oral communication and decode unfamiliar terms and expressions in reading. More specifically, they can demonstrate the following skills:

- Engage in meaningful and culturally appropriate conversations with native speakers to inquiry, clarify, suggest, reject, complain, convince, congratulate, appreciate, and negotiate in various situations.
- Make oral presentations in Mandarin Chinese at the paragraph level to describe, narrate, explain and compare for topics covered by or related to the textbook.
- Write well-structured essays of above mentioned topics up to 600 characters in length and post blogs and comments on the internet to communicate with native Chinese speakers.
- Begin to comprehend the content of oral or written materials of different styles (either more formal or less formal) than the standard spoken Chinese typically used in textbooks.
- Have good language-learning strategies for future study.

Course Requirements

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

- Learning new vocabulary for the next day's daily quiz
- 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
- Preparing for weekly written and oral tests
- 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.

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Methods of Evaluation

The final grade is determined as follows:

General classroom performance 10%
Attendance 10%
Individual sessions 5%
Written homework 15%
Daily quizzes 10%
Weekly written tests 9%
Weekly oral tests 6%
Midterm written exam 9%
Midterm oral exam 6%
Final written exam 10%
Final oral exam 10% (5% as final oral proficiency interview score)

Primary Texts

Integrated Chinese, Level 2, Cheng & Tsui. (20 units) *A New China*, Princeton University Press. (4 units)

Supplementary Texts

Supplementary Materials: *Kong Zi* 《孔子》、*Gao Kao* 《高考》
Movies: *Spicy Love Soup*
Listening practice
Reporting out
Talking about images
Role playing

Activities and Competitions

Chinese sayings, Debates, Zizhu Park interviews