

CET Syllabus of Record



Program: Chinese Studies and Internship in Shanghai

Course Title: Pre-Advanced Chinese (Fall/Spring)

Course Code: SH/LANG 300

Total Hours: 90

Recommended Credits: 6

Suggested Cross Listings: Chinese Language

Language of Instruction: Chinese

Prerequisites/Requirements: Two years of previous Chinese language study

Description

This course is the continuation of the second-year Chinese. The goal of the course is to develop and advance the students' communicative competence in all four aspects of language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, through readings and discussions of socio-cultural topics relevant to today's China.

The course meets 6 academic hours per week, for a total of 90 academic hours over the course of the term. This is an integrated course that includes grammar lectures, a drill and activity section. Besides, one-on-one class meets once a week, one academic hour.

During the grammar lecture portion of the class, students are introduced to new words and grammar patterns in the textbook lesson. Teachers use question and answer and other techniques to ensure that students thoroughly understand the lesson text and can use the patterns and words introduced with accurate pronunciation and context. This comprehensive approach ensures that students gain not just a passive understanding of how these grammatical elements are used in the lesson text, but active knowledge of the function of these elements as they are used in every day speech and writing.

Drill and practice include structured, controlled practice, and also opportunities for students to practice language in freer contexts, such as debates, discussions, etc. The goal is to solidify students' understanding of the lesson material. During this task-based section, teachers emphasize accuracy in pronunciation and intonation, usage and structure, while maintaining fluency and pace of expression. Discussion and debates are an extension of drill and practice. Teachers select topics based on the lecture/grammar portion of classes and require students both to proactively use new words and phrases, and to construct sentences of increasing length and complexity. Authentic materials are used to enrich students' cultural knowledge and experience.

One-on-one classes is used to review and practice areas in need of particular help. Students may, alternatively, choose a topic of 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.

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Objectives

By the end of this course, students are able to:

Further improve oral communicative competence by incorporating semi-formal or formal usages

Easily understand the main idea of texts related to everyday life, personal interests, and studies

Acquire vocabulary and patterns necessary for conducting semi-formal or formal discussions of socio-cultural topics

Learn to make context-based guess about the meaning of a new word, conduct sentence analysis and solve textual problems with the aid of dictionaries

Write and present more fully developed narratives or reasoned and structured arguments in length

Course Requirements

Attendance is critical to language learning. Absence or late arrival to this class is extremely disruptive to the teaching/learning process. Students are required to be in the classroom on time.

Students spend at least one to two hours per day outside of class reviewing lessons, completing homework assignments, listening to supplementary audio materials and preparing for the next day's class. This preparation includes reviewing daily all new words and grammar patterns, memorizing vocabulary and gaining familiarity with the new textbook lesson. Each week, students submit a written essay or deliver oral presentations in class.

Students take daily dictation quizzes, bi-weekly oral and written tests and a comprehensive final exam.

There will be no make-up for tests or assignments.

Methods of Evaluation

The final grade is determined as follows:

Class attendance	10%
Performance and participation	15%
Daily quizzes	10%
Homework assignments	15%
Bi-weekly tests	20%
Final exams	30%

Primary Texts

Xin Shijiao, Advanced Chinese Reader, Vol 1 & 2, Peking University Press.

Supplementary Texts

Additional reading materials, edited by CET-Shanghai instructors, including movies, short stories and news reports.

Outline of Course Content

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One textbook lesson is covered every four academic hours. Every two weeks, there is a brief review of material and oral and written examinations.

Students complete all the topics discussed in *Xin Shijiao, Advanced Chinese Reader, Vol 1* and one third of the topics in *Xin Shijiao, Vol 2*, as well as supplementary teaching materials edited by CET-Shanghai instructors.