

CET Syllabus of Record



Program: Intensive Chinese Language in Harbin

Course Code/Title: (HB/LANG 326) Conversation Seminar

Total Hours: 48

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline: Chinese Language

Language of Instruction: Chinese

Prerequisites/Requirements: Required for students with 4 terms of previous study

Description

This course is designed to provide intermediate to advanced-level students additional practice in spoken Chinese. The course pushes students beyond the structured drill and information gap communicative exercises typical of lower level language courses, and aims to provide students with the linguistic tools necessary to participate in a substantive exchange of ideas. Emphasis is placed on communicative competence during free discussion and debate. Topics of discussion are broad, ranging from social and cultural issues to political issues such as economic reform.

Objectives

By the end of the course, students:

- Demonstrate general improvement of Chinese oral skills
- Are able to communicate clearly about some topics of interest to an educated audience
- Form sentences clearly with improved fluency of expression
- Demonstrate improved confidence with speaking in Chinese to native speakers

Course Requirements

This course is highly interactive. Classes are typically arranged as follows:

- Each student presents an oral report to the class using vocabulary and grammar previously studied. Preparation for the oral report sometimes involves interviewing people or investigating topics outside of class. The student responds to his/her classmates' questions before the instructor corrects mistakes and reviews difficult segments.
- The class reviews the previous lesson as a group.
- The class reads the new text, practicing new vocabulary and grammar structures, discussing the material, and engaging in

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formal debate on the topic.

Students are expected to prepare thoroughly for each class session. This includes listening to audio materials on a daily basis, reviewing new grammar and vocabulary covered in class, memorizing new vocabulary prior to class, preparing all discussion topics, etc. Students are expected to participate actively in class, proactively attempting to incorporate new patterns into their speech. Students have daily homework assignments that must be returned to the instructor on time. In addition, there are daily quizzes, weekly tests and final exams.

Daily quizzes

- Assesses comprehension of material completed
- Could entail dictation, reading comprehension, or answer questions.
- A three-minute mini-report for each class.

Weekly tests

- Administered each Friday, covering material learned that week
- Includes reading, writing, listening, and oral report sections
- A five -minute oral report

Final exam

- Administered during the last week of the term
- Covers material from throughout the term
- Includes a presentation and writing section

Grading

The final grade is determined as follows:

- Participation (Able to actively participate in classroom activities and complete classroom tasks according to the rhythm and requirements of teachers.)
20%
Participation Grading Rubric below. See
- Homework
10%
- Daily quizzes (20 @ 0.5%)
10%
- Weekly written tests (6 tests @ 2%)
12%
- Weekly oral tests (6 tests @ 3%)
18%
- Final written exam
12%
- Final oral exam
18%

Primary Texts

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Advanced Spoken Chinese, Vol. 1, Vol. 2, and *Advanced Reader*, Beijing University Press, 2004.

Meeting China, Advanced Level, Beijing University Press, 1997.

Advanced Spoken Chinese Tutorial, Vols. 1 and 2, Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2000.

Intermediate Spoken Chinese Tutorial, Vols. 1 and 2, Beijing University Press, 2007.

A Course in Conversational Chinese, Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 1999.

Elementary Spoken Chinese, Beijing University Press, 2004.

Supplementary Texts

Additional primary source materials

Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

Students cover 1 lesson (approximately 40 new characters) every 4 to 5 class hours, and are tested on material weekly. Lessons from the above listed Primary Texts are chosen based on student interest and level. Students complete 7 lessons total over the course of the term.

Outline of Course Content (Example) (Conversation 1)

Time	Topic	Readings/Assignments
Week 1	Brand names are just that + test 1	Lesson1
Week 2	I want to work in a company + test 2	Lesson2
Week 3	Even and upright official finds it hard to settle a family quarrel + test 3	Lesson3
Week 4	Current News + test 4	Lesson4
Week 5	[You should] certainly take this lawsuit to the end + test 5 <i>Field-Based Course Component: interview NEFU Law School's instructor about legal issues</i>	Lesson5
Week 6	A world filled with love + test 6	Lesson6
Week 7	On health	Lesson7
Week 8	<i>Final review and Exams</i>	

Participation Grading Rubric

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	A - 90-100% Exemplary	B - 80-89% Proficient	C - 70-79% Developing	D - 60-69% Unacceptable	F - 0-59% Missing
Frequency of class participation	Always actively participate in all activities in class.	Mostly actively participate in all activities in class.	Somewhat actively participate in all activities in class.	Rarely actively participate in all activities in class.	Always passively participate in activities in class.
Quality of class participation	Contribution is always thoughtful, accurate, and constructive, frequently interacting with peers	Contribution is mostly thoughtful, accurate, and constructive, usually interacting with peers	Contribution is somewhat thoughtful, accurate, and constructive, sometimes interacting with peers	Contribution is rarely thoughtful, accurate, and constructive, rarely interacting with peers	Does not contribute or interact with peers
Level of class preparation	Always fully prepared and on task	Mostly prepared and on task	Somewhat prepared and on task	Rarely prepared and on task	Consistently unprepared and not on task