

CET Syllabus of Record



Program: Intensive Chinese Language in Harbin

Course Code/Title: (HB/LANG 411) Selected Readings in Modern Literature

Total Hours: 48

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline: Chinese Language

Language of Instruction: Chinese

Prerequisites/Requirements: 2 years of previous Chinese language study

Description

This course, designed for intermediate and advanced learners of Chinese, involves a careful study of modern and contemporary short stories and introduces students to descriptive vocabulary and written grammatical forms. Classes highlight speaking skills and require students to engage in discussions about the content, style and social norms viewed in the texts. Students also write short analytical essays about each literary work they read. The course also includes a brief overview of each author presented so that students gain a basic understanding of trends and shifts in Chinese literature since the May 4th period.

Objectives

By the end of the course, students:

- Have developed a firm but growing lexicon of vocabulary commonly seen in modern literary pieces
- Have increased breadth in their knowledge of descriptive phrases, four-character compounds and other adjectival modifiers
- Are able to appropriately adopt the above phrases into their everyday speech
- Are able to read modern literary pieces with little assistance
- Have basic knowledge of the development of and trends seen within modern Chinese fiction since the May 4th movement of 1919

Course Requirements

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

- The class begins with a review of previous material.
- To engage with the new text, students use new words and grammar patterns to retell a synopsis of the story.
- The instructor uses question-and-answer and information gap techniques to elicit important vocabulary from students.

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- The class discusses the story, analyzing themes, characters and narrative.

Students are expected to prepare thoroughly for each class session. This includes completing close readings of texts, watching and listening to audio-visual materials (when possible), 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, biweekly tests and final exams.

Daily quizzes

- Assesses comprehension of material completed as homework
- Could entail dictation, reading comprehension, speaking or writing

Biweekly tests

- Administered each Friday, covering material learned that week
- Includes reading, writing and speaking sections

Final exam

- Administered during the last week of the term
- Covers stories from throughout the term
- Includes oral report 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%
- Biweekly written tests (3 tests @ 5 %)
15%
- Biweekly oral tests (3 tests @ 5%)
15%
- Final written exam
15%
- Final oral exam
15%

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Primary Texts

Selected literary works by various modern and contemporary authors, including by Lu Xun, Zhang Ailin, Su Tong and so on. The collection of works has been compiled and glossed by CET Harbin Chinese Language program faculty.

Supplementary Texts

NA

Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

Each term, literary works are chosen from the above noted compilation based on students' interest and level. Students typically complete one story in 4 to 5 class hours. Each story introduces approximately 250 new characters. Students complete 4 to 5 stories over the course of the term.

Outline of Course Content

Time	Lesson
Week 1	Story 1: Love
Week 2	Review + test1 Story 2: From the Grasslands
Week 3	Story 3: The new year's sacrifice
Week 4	Story 3: The new year's sacrifice Review + test 2
Week 5	Story 3: The new year's sacrifice
Week 6	Movie: The new year's sacrifice Review + test 3 Story 4: Blocked
Week 7	Story 4: Blocked
Week 8	Final review and exams

Participation Grading Rubric

	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	Mostly actively participate in all	Somewhat actively participate in all	Rarely actively participate in all activities	Always passively participate

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	activities in class.	activities in class.	activities in class.	s in class.	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