

# CET Syllabus of Record



**Program:** Intensive Chinese Language in Harbin

**Course Code/Title:** (HB/LANG 491) Research Topics for Advanced Learners

**Total Hours:** 48

**Recommended Credits:** 3

**Primary Discipline:** Chinese Language

**Language of Instruction:** Chinese

**Prerequisites/Requirements:** 4 to 5 years of previous Chinese language study

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## Description

This course is designed for students with an advanced level of Chinese language ability. The main goal of the course is to develop and deepen several selected discussion and research topics as a means to cultivate both reading and composition skills as well as the ability to express complicated thoughts and ideas and deliver speeches on a topic.

The course uses a wide range of advanced materials, nearly all of which are original texts aimed at native speakers. Course materials also include articles and texts the students themselves collect from libraries or websites. This course involves social research and inquiry, including interviews, site visits and other types of practical language activities. For every topic selected, the students read background materials and meet with locally-based experts for individual discussions. After completing research and study of a topic, students are expected to compose an opinion piece and deliver a speech on the subject to teachers and classmates.

## Objectives

By the end of the course, students:

- Have in-depth knowledge of three specific topics of study
- Understand how to use a Chinese library with some assistance and are able to navigate the Harbin Institute of Technology library system to find specific articles and essays
- Are able to search the Web in Chinese for specific articles or information about a certain topic of study
- Are able to read many texts aimed at native speakers with use of a dictionary
- Have increased breadth of vocabulary and phrases related to the topics of study
- Understand the parameters and guidelines for writing essays and giving speeches in Chinese and are able to produce both with limited assistance from a teacher and dictionary

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## Course Requirements

Students approach each topic using the following methods:

- They survey foundational materials about the topic of study.
- They read more advanced texts on the topic of study, widening the range of reading materials and broadening related vocabulary
- They engage in discussion and debate about the selected topic.
- They conduct investigations or interviews about the selected topic.
- They engage in discussion with local experts about the topic of study.
- They compose both an essay about the topic of study.
- They give a speech about the topic of study.

Students are expected to prepare thoroughly for each class session. This includes reading all texts on their own, looking up words, and attempting to digest as much information as possible. Students should be prepared to discuss all topics of study and are expected to participate actively in class, proactively offering their opinions and asking informed questions. Students must complete all assignments, be they reading, writing, interviews, etc., thoroughly and in a timely manner. In addition, daily quizzes, biweekly tests and final examinations test students in reading comprehension, composition and speaking ability.

### Daily quizzes

- Assesses comprehension of material completed as homework
- Could entail dictation, reading comprehension, or writing
- A 8-minute oral report for each class.

### Biweekly tests

- Administered each Friday, covering material learned that week
- Includes writing and oral A ten -minute oral report sections
- Interview experts on topics of your own study.

### 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 20% complete classroom tasks according to the rhythm and requirements of teachers.) See *Participation Grading Rubric below.*
- Homework 10%

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- 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%

### Primary Texts

CET Self-edited Teaching Materials

### Supplementary Texts

Primary source materials collected by the student and the teacher.

### Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

Students are tested on material every two week and complete a total of four lessons over the course of the semester.

### Outline of Course Content

Time	Topic
Week 1- Week 2	Chinese culture: includes population, peoples, customs, etc. + test 1
Week 3- Week 4	Chinese economy: includes Reform and Opening, economic development successes, challenges, problems, etc. + test 2
Week 5	Overview of Harbin's History
Week 6-Week 7	Chinese education system: includes any level of the educational system (lower, middle, high school, college, etc,) and comparisons with systems outside China + test 3
Week 8	<i>Final review and Exams</i>

### 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	Always actively participat	Mostly actively participat	Somewhat actively participat	Rarely actively participat	Always passively

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<b>participation</b>	te in all activities in class.	e in all activities in class.	e in all activities in class.	te in all activities in class.	participate in activities in class.
<b>Quality of class participation</b>	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
<b>Level of class preparation</b>	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