



SHGH CHIN 2210: Intermediate Chinese
3 credits Semester and summer

CAPA SHANGHAI PROGRAM
in cooperation with East China Normal University

Course Description

This course consolidates students' cultural and linguistic knowledge of the fundamental grammatical structures of Chinese. It aims to increase students' abilities to use Chinese in conversation, reading, writing, and with a greater focus on the understanding of spoken Chinese.

China has the largest population of any country and a civilization dating back over four thousand years. It has extended a powerful influence over the whole of East Asia throughout much of this long history, contributing to the region a complex and beautiful writing system, several religious and philosophical traditions, great achievements in art and literature and, in the twentieth century, political significance. Now, as China emerges as a powerful economic force, its stature is too great to be ignored. Our courses offer students the opportunity to learn the basics of the language, opening the door not only to the fascinating and rewarding world of Chinese culture, but to enhanced career opportunities and the chance to participate fully in a world in which China is about to take centre stage.

This course is a continuation of the basic Chinese/Mandarin course in level 1, to a more advanced level in written and spoken Mandarin; it is open to anyone who has mastered level 1 Chinese and can already have simple daily conversations with native speakers. The course focuses on the daily communications and important grammar and syntax explanation. The course will also help to expand vocabulary and communication skills. Some Chinese culture and etiquette will be involved in class. Pinyin and simplified Chinese characters will be used. The course builds on the vocabulary and structures covered in level 1, expanding students' abilities in each of the four main skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening. A large number of practical exercises will be involved in class, which include: reading, conversation, role play and listening exercises and pronunciation. The class offers a fully integrated approach to language acquisition.

Course Aims

The course provides exercises and instruction for students to understand and to use familiar expressions in daily life. The students will learn to make and accept invitations; to express likes and dislikes of something; to talk about hobbies and interests, and to hold more rounded conversations on themes of society, culture, education, family life and work. Students are given an intensive and experiential approach to language instruction, whilst gaining insight into the historical and contextual background to the language.

After completing the course, students should be able to:

- Converse on topics relating to occupations, character and background.
- Talk about hypotheses
- Talk about intention
- Talk about means of conveyance, and travel in general, using more complex vocabulary and structures
- Talk about relative time and specific relative time
- Talk about experiences
- Make subtle comparisons

Requirements and Prerequisites

Students need to have completed Mandarin level one successfully to take this course. Students are expected to arrive on time, to attend class every day and participate in all activities and discussions, and take notes. Students must complete daily assignments, review and preview for the following class. Help with particular grammatical points will be available after class.

Learning outcomes

At the end of the course students should be able to:

- identify, define, and solve problems; locate and critically evaluate information; master a body of knowledge and a mode of inquiry; communicate effectively; gain a deeper understanding of the host culture where they are studying.

Developmental Outcomes

Students should demonstrate: responsibility & accountability, independence & interdependence, goal orientation, self-confidence, resilience, appreciation of differences.

Class methodology

The class will take an experiential and participatory, as well as an academic approach to learning: a large number of practical exercises will be involved in class, including: reading, conversation, role play, listening, and pronunciation.

Field Component(s): CAPA provides the unique opportunity to learn about the city through direct, guided experience. Participation in the field activity(s) for this course is required. You will actively explore the Global City you are currently living in. Furthermore, you will have the chance to collect useful information that will be an invaluable resource for the essays/papers/projects assigned in this course.

Recommended Readings

Hanyu Jiaocheng: Volume 2A (BLC University Press, 1999)

Ma, J.(2005) Short-term Spoken Chinese 汉语口语速成

Concise English-Chinese & Chinese-English Dictionary (1999). New York, NY: Oxford University Press (Optional).

The Penguin History of Modern China, 1850-2009, Jonathan Fenby (Penguin, 2009)

Assessment/Grading Policy

This course comprises of a core section, plus intermediate listening and speaking.

Core section:

Integrated language skills training class.

Teaching Aims: To conduct intermediate integrated skills training in Chinese listening, speaking, reading, writing, and to gain greater knowledge of the language and culture. To enlarge vocabulary of students, paying attention to semantics and discourse structure analysis. To cultivate students' ability in listening to and reading in paragraphs.

Teaching content: To study a variety of themes and genre articles which reflect contemporary Chinese life, and to begin to learn some works of modern masters.

Teaching Methods: Intensive teaching and exercises with explanation of vocabulary and relative sentences. Formulating questions.

Examination: Bi-weekly, midterm and final examination.

Intermediate listening and speaking section:

Course Type: Listening and speaking skills training class.

Teaching Aims: To strengthen listening and speaking ability, and to develop students' ability to speak in paragraphs; making key points.

Teaching Content: By effectively listening to common conversations reading selected chapters in texts, students can master essential vocabulary and common sentences.

Teaching Methods: Listening to tapes under the guidance of teachers, mainly practicing speaking, imitating, and speaking freely; enhancing students' listening and speaking skills systematically.

Examination: Midterm and a final examination.

Total Teaching Time: If Semester 3 hours per week. If summer 6 hours per week.

Attendance, Participation & Student Responsibilities

Attendance: CAPA has a mandatory attendance policy. Attendance is taken at the beginning of every class. Unauthorized absence from class will result in a reduction of the final grade and potentially a failure for the course.

Missing classes for medical reasons: If you need to miss a class for medical reasons or for a family emergency, you must send an e-mail to let the Resident Director know at least one hour in advance of your class or meeting at the following e-mail: _____. Note that calling the CAPA Center (_____) is acceptable only if you do not temporarily have access to the internet. An e-mail is still required as quickly as you can get access to the internet again. You will need to provide evidence of the reason for your absence. Unexcused absences will result in a grade reduction. In the event of a missed class or field trip, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor and make up any missed assignments.

Class Participation: Students are expected to participate actively and critically in class discussions, and the participation portion of the class will be graded accordingly. Students must read assignments BEFORE the class, and come in on time.

Participation is a vital part of your grade: students are expected to participate orally in seminars and in online forums and discussions in a critical and evaluative manner; to interact with the faculty and fellow students with respect and tolerance; and to actively engage in discussion. Derogatory or inflammatory comments about the cultures, perspectives or attitudes of others in the class will not be tolerated.

Academic Integrity: A high level of responsibility and academic honesty is expected. Because the value of an academic course depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work and class behavior. Plagiarism and cheating will result in dismissal from the program. See the Handbook of CAPA Academic Policies for more information and resources on plagiarism.

Use of electronic equipment in class: All devices such as laptops, I-pods, I-pads, netbooks, notebooks and tablets, smartphones, cell phones, etc. are **NOT** allowed unless you have express permission from the faculty or you have been instructed to do so. If you require an accommodation to use any type of electronic equipment, inform the Resident Director at the beginning of Term.

Use of Electronic Translators: In Language courses students are NOT allowed to use electronic translators for writing texts in the target language: those submitting compositions and texts of whatever kind translated in such a fashion will receive a final F grade for the course.

Late Submission: Late submission of papers, projects, journal entries, pieces of homework and portfolios is only permitted with prior approval. A request must be made to the relevant Faculty member no later than two days prior to the due date. Late submission without prior approval will result in a full alpha grade penalty. In either case, work cannot be submitted after feedback has been provided to the rest of the class on the relevant assessment or one week after the due date whichever comes first, after which point a grade of F will be given for the assessment.

Behavior during Examinations: During examinations, you must do your own work. Unless specifically instructed by the lecturer or instructor, talking during an exam is not permitted, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any failure to abide by examination rules will result in failure of the exam, and may lead to failure of the course and disciplinary action.