

Chinese Language and Culture (Code: EMAC620001, 2012 Fall)

中国语言与文化

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1. Course description:

This course introduces the basic speech sounds, grammar, social factors, dialects etc. of the Chinese language and a selection of important topics of Chinese culture such as beliefs, art, education, food, festivals etc.. It is not assumed that students know the Chinese language, but they will be requested to try to analyze some basic Chinese language data and discuss cultural issues in classroom together with the teacher. Also, students need to take the (open-book) final exam on Chinese language, and to give presentations on topics of Chinese culture.

2. Office hours: by appointment, 1216 Guanghua Towers West,
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3. Course materials:

1. Gong, Qunhu, Course handouts (**Required**)
2. Norman, Jerry, 2008/1988, *Chinese*, Cambridge University Press and Beijing World Publishing Corporation(**Required**. Available in major bookstores)
3. DeFrancis, John, 1984, *The Chinese Language*, University of Hawaii Press (**Optional** for highly readable discussions on Chinese writing system)
(Reference books/online materials on a variety of cultural topics are not listed)

4. Grading policy:

Homework:	20 points
Presentation	15 points
Final exam:	40 points
<u>Participation:</u>	<u>25 points</u>
Total:	100 points

A+: 95-100	B+: 80-84	C+: 65-69
A: 90-94	B: 75-79	C: 60-64
A-: 85-89	B-: 70-74	C-: 55-59
D:-F: below 55		

Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture (2012)

5. Schedule (Subject to change. **13:30-16:05, every Wednesday**, except national holidays)

Week	Date	Culture topics	Language topics	Reading assignment
Week 1	Sept 12	Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course introduction ▪ Chinese Language facts ▪ Basic terms in Norman's book 	Course syllabus
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Basic linguistic concepts 	Handouts
Week 2	Sept 19	Peoples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pinyin ▪ International Phonetic Alphabet 	Handouts Norman chapter 1
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chinese and related languages 	Handouts Norman chapter 1
Week 3	Sept 26	History and tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chinese scripts: graphs, sounds and meanings 	Handouts DeFrancis part II
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chinese scripts: development 	Handouts Norman chapter 2
Week 4	Oct 3	no class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ (National holiday week) 	
Week 5	Oct 10	Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Modern Standard Chinese: Phonology(initials and finals) 	Handouts Norman chapter 6(6.1-6.5)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Modern Standard Chinese: phonology(tones, stress and intonations) 	Handouts Norman chapter 6(6.6-6.8)
Week 6	Oct 17	Art, music and literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Modern Standard Chinese: morphology(morphemes and word formation) 	Handouts Norman chapter 7(7.1-7.4)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Modern Standard Chinese: syntax(sentence types, interrogation, negation, and special sentences) 	Handouts Norman chapter 7(7.5-7.6)
Week 7	Oct 24	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Classical Chinese: basic grammar 	Handouts Norman chapter 4
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Classical Chinese: sample text analysis 	Handouts
Week 8	Oct 31	State and Social institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chinese historical phonology(stages and sound change) 	Handouts Norman chapter 2(2.1-2.3, 2.6,2.7)

			▪ Chinese historical phonology(reconstruction)	Handouts Norman chapter 2(2.4,2.5)
Week 9	Nov 7	Foreign Cultures in China	▪ Grammatical and semantic change over time	Handouts Norman chapter 5
			▪ Chinese dialects	Handouts Norman chapter 8-9
Week 10	Nov 14	Taboo	▪ Taboo and Euphemism ▪ Cultural presentation prep. Q & A	Handouts
Week 11	Nov 21	Food culture	▪ English loanwords in Chinese	Handouts
			▪	
Week 12	Nov 28	Festivals	▪ language and society	Handouts Norman chapter 10(10.1-10.3)
			▪ language and society: language reform	Handouts Norman chapter 10(10.4-10.5) DeFrancis Part VI
Week 13	Dec 5	Family and Daily conventions	▪ Chinese dictionaries and Chinese lexicography	Handouts Norman 7(7.7-7.9)
			▪ Chinese in computer age	Handouts
Week 14	Dec 12	Student's cultural talks	▪ Presentation	
			▪	
Week 15	Dec 19	Student's cultural talks	▪ Presentation	
			▪	
Week 16	Dec 26		▪ Final exam	(or before Dec 25 if all agree)
			▪	

Important: Final exam (open-book exam) 13:30-16:30, Dec 26, 2012, or by notice