

Chinese 401: Fourth-Level Mandarin

MWF 11:30-12:20 p.m. Moore 206; T 11:30-12:20 a.m. Moore 153A

August 24 - December 10, 2015

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Office hours: Tue 12:30-1:20 p.m. or by appointment

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this semester, students are expected to increase accuracy, fluency and appropriateness of comprehension and expression in Chinese. This course will prepare students to use Chinese in their academic research and future career; to improve students' understanding of Chinese culture, society, and current issues; to develop students' learning strategies, fostering their ability for independent study; to promote thinking in Chinese.

Students will attain approximately the Advanced Level on the ACTFL Low/Mid proficiency scale. Four Advanced level skills (reading, listening, speaking, and essay writing) will be given emphasis in this course. As an advanced language course, students will be required to use only Mandarin during contact hours. Specifically, students will have opportunity to achieve the following:

Listening An ability to understand accurately the essentials of radio and TV news related to the politics, international relations, economics, science and high technology; talks and informal speeches or presentations on personal related topics. An ability to understand advanced level linguistic styles and forms within the cultural framework of the language.

Speaking An ability to speak Mandarin with fluency in a general way about the above topics. An ability to express and support personal opinions using complex discourse strategies. An ability to interview Mandarin-speaking people from varied backgrounds. An ability to give a pre speech or presentation on both formal and informal occasions.

Reading An ability to read, with consistent understanding and normal speed, longer items, editorials, academic or political debates, and various topics related to social, cultural and current issues in China. An ability to understand unfamiliar subjects and a variety of literary styles using strategies introduced in class.

Writing An ability to write accurate summaries based on original articles containing abstract idea. An ability to write articles and reflection of at least several paragraphs in length (1000 Chinese characters or more) on topics mentioned above. An ability to make a draft for personal talks and speeches. An ability to summarize in written Mandarin accurately, including all pertinent detail.

Texts & Materials:

1. *An Advanced Text of Chinese Used in Newspapers*, Compiled by Song Jiang, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, University of Hawaii at Mānoa. (to be provided at course Laulima)

2. *Chinese News Listening Drills (Video Clips, Script and Workbook)*, Compiled by Song Jiang, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, University of Hawaii at Mānoa. (To be provided at course Laulima).
3. Selected Readings from various websites.
4. *Chinese Buildercards: The Lightning Path to Mastering Vocabulary*, (Simplified or traditional character editions) By Song Jiang and Haidan Wang, Cheng & Tsui, 2005. (Optional, available at UH Bookstore)

Instructional Approach and Class Activities

- a. *Intensive Reading*: Students will read Chinese articles from China, Taiwan and sources outside of China, focusing on the development of reading skills and strategies.
- b. *Intensive Listening*: Students will use video clips to refine listening skills. These classes will be conducted at the Multimedia Language Labs on every Tuesday.
- c. *Oral Practice and Class Discussion*: All students must actively participate in instructor-lead daily discussion or debate on topics either covered in the Intensive Reading and Intensive Listening assignments or assigned by instructor.

Student Responsibilities:

1. *Attendance*: Attendance is mandatory. Absences without valid reasons will affect your grade. Anyone who is late for more than 15 minutes will be regarded as absent. **Four** unexcused absences will result in one letter grade lower toward your final grade (A becomes B, B becomes C, C becomes D, etc.).
2. *Class preparation and participation*: All students are expected to participate actively in the day's language practice. Students' class participation and performance will be evaluated daily and the evaluation will be used as a reference for final grading.
3. *Homework, Compositions, and Journals*: All homework and Compositions must be turned in on the due day. Late homework and Compositions will NOT be accepted even if they are submitted with the others. Students are required to write compositions for at least 2 drafts. Corrections are needed for the full credits.
4. *Quizzes and Final Exam*: Every effort should be made to take quizzes and tests at the specified times. If you know you must miss a class ahead of time, tell the teacher before that class. Quizzes or tests cannot be made up unless arrangements are made BEFORE being absent from class. No one is allowed to make up a missed quiz without a valid, written excuse.

Grading:

Final course grades will be based on the results of:

1. Attendance	15%
2. Homework	15%
3. Compositions & Journals	15%
4. Quizzes	15%
5. Midterm (Oral 5% + Written)	15%
6. Final Examination (Oral 5%)	25%

Final grade: 100-97%=A+, 96-93%=A, 92-90%=A-; 89-87%=B+, 86-83%=B, 82-80%=B-; 79-77%=C+, 76-73%=C, 72-70%=C-; 60-69% = D; 0-59% = F