Chinese 470
Language and Culture of China
Spring 2015

Lecture Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30 am -- 11:45 am
Lecture Room: Moore Hall 204
Course Website: https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal/site/MAN.89308.201530
For the updated version of this syllabus, consult the course website.

Instructor:
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Office: Moore Hall 359
Office hours: Wednesday, 2:30 pm -- 3:30 pm and by appointment

1. What this course is and isn't about
This course provides an overview of language and culture of China. Topics covered in this class include: the varieties of Chinese, minority languages in China, key linguistics features of Chinese, basic characteristics of the Northern, Central, and Southern Chinese dialects, traditional Chinese values, Chinese religions, major influences in Chinese thought, Mianzi and Guanxi, Chinese cuisine, Chinese customs and taboos, Chinese medicine, and Chinese minority cultures.
What this course is NOT about: learning Chinese (or a Chinese dialect) as a second language, practicing spoken Chinese.

2. Student Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, students
[1] know the varieties of Chinese and the varieties of Chinese minority languages;
[2] are able to describe the most important linguistic features of Chinese;
[4] are able to recognize some of the key linguistic characteristics of one (or more) Chinese dialects;
[4] acquire a richer understand of culture of China and are able to make informed statements regarding Chinese cultures and to support those statements with evidence and examples;
[5] demonstrate a basic ability to conduct independent research on topics in language of China or culture of China and to effectively communicate the results via oral presentations and research papers.

3. Course requirements
[1] Class participation (including attendance) (10%)
[2] Readings and a presentation of the reading material (10%)
[3] Writing Assignments (4) (20%)
[4] Tests (3) (30%)
[5] Final Exam: a term paper (about 10 double-spaced pages) due on May 14 (25%)
[6] A proposal of [5] in the form of PPT due on April 02 (5%)
Class Participation and Attendance

Participation and attendance will be taken very seriously in this course. All students are expected to arrive on time, attend class regularly, and participate actively in class discussions.

Readings, Writing Assignments, and Tests

Reading assignments must be completed by the dates each lesson is introduced according to the class schedule provided in the course syllabus. Four assignments will be given throughout the term to check students’ understanding of the materials covered during the lecture and the readings. There will be three tests based on the assignments.

- Students are permitted to collaborate on homework assignments. However:
  a. Each person must hand in their own write-up of the assignment (no direct copies or jointly authored assignments allowed).
  b. Your must list at the top of your assignments all the people you’ve collaborated with.

- Homework will be posted on Tuesday evenings and will be due the following Sunday at 11:59pm (unless otherwise specified).

- No special arrangements will be made for missed deadlines without a valid, documented excuse. In special circumstances, however, you should come and see me for other options.

Class Presentations

- Presentation 1 (10%): Each one of you will be able to choose a topic for the class presentation. Don’t forget to do the following for your presentation: (a) thoroughly summarize the contents provided in the textbook; (b) prepare a PowerPoint presentation for visual effectiveness; (c) prepare at least five questions and two discussion topics based on your presentation; (d) make copies of your discussion topics and bring them to class on your presentation day.

- Presentation 2 (5%): during the last two weeks of classes, you will have a 10-15 min presentation on your final paper. The 15 min will include (a) the topic of your final paper; (b) your research questions; (c) layout of your final paper.

Final Term Paper

The final term paper is based on the readings, class discussions, presentations, and research. The paper (about 10 pages, double space) either represents 1). a critical review of a number of discussions on one aspect of language of China or culture of China, or 2). original research on one aspect of language of China or culture of China.
4. Course Materials

**Textbook**

There is no required textbook for the course. However, our readings will be excerpts from the following books.


All readings from the above books will be made available on the course website.

**Readings**

PLEASE NOTE: This is not the kind of course where everything you hear in class is in the book and everything that is in the book will be explained in class. The readings are there in order to enhance your learning experience, to add factual information to the issues discussed in class, and sometimes to argue against the point of view presented in class.

- The required readings (as set out below) are required for all students.
- The recommended reading list is optional but if you are interested in language and culture of China, those readings will help you understand the topics better.
- The assigned readings will be posted on the course website, which you should have access to if you are registered.

5. Statement on Course Materials

Please note that the course packet and other course materials are copyrighted and you do **not** have permission to distribute them to third parties for reproduction. In particular, private companies that request to purchase course materials from students have not been authorized by the instructor or the University.
6. **Collaboration Policy**

Discussion and the exchange of ideas are essential to academic work. For assignments in this course, you are encouraged to consult with your classmates on the choice of paper topics and to share sources. You may find it useful to discuss your chosen topic with your peers, particularly if you are working on the same topic as a classmate. However, you should ensure that any written work you submit for evaluation is the result of your own research and writing and that it reflects your own approach to the topic. You must also adhere to standard citation practices in this discipline and properly cite any books, articles, websites, lectures, etc. that have helped you with your work. If you received any help with your writing (feedback on drafts, etc), you must also acknowledge this assistance.

7. **Plagiarism**

The following definition of plagiarism comes from the UH-Manoa Conduct Code:

*Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual’s work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another’s idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student’s language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or “drylabbing,” which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms.* (University of Hawai‘i at Manoa Student Conduct Code (1992), p. 6)

It is ultimately each student’s responsibility to understand the rules regarding plagiarism and cheating at UH, and to learn how to avoid such violations. At UH, common punishments for such violations include failing the assignment, failing the course, suspension from the university, or even expulsion.

8. **Disability Accommodations**

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is invited to contact me privately. I would be happy to work with you, and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course. KOKUA can be reached at (808) 956-7511 or (808) 956-7612 (voice/text) in room 013 of the Queen Lili‘uokalani Center for Student Services.

9. **Schedule of Topics**

The following is a preliminary schedule of topics. We may diverge slightly from this schedule, and I will notify you if we do.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 1 (1/13, 15)</th>
<th>Course Introduction, Student Information Sheet, Online resources, etc. &amp; Introduction to language of China (I) (Thur: The varieties of Chinese; A brief intro to history of Chinese)</th>
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<td>READINGS</td>
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| WEEK 2 (1/20, 22) | **Introduction to language of China (II)**  
(Tue: China's linguistic neighbors; Typological characters of Chinese; Genetic affiliation of Chinese)  
(Thur: Chinese Dialects, Minority languages in China) |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| REQUIRED READINGS | -- Tue: Norman 1988. Ch 1, p.6-16  
| RECOMMENDED READINGS | -- Tue: O'Grady et al 2010. Ch 8 'The Classification of Languages'  
-- Thur: Tsung 2009. Ch 1; Norman 1988. Ch 1, p.16-22 |

| WEEK 3 (1/27, 29) | **Chinese Writing**  
(Tue: Brief intro to Chinese writing)  
(Thur: The number of Chinese characters; The adaptability of Chinese characters; Recent developments in the Chinese writing system) |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| REQUIRED READINGS | -- Tue: O'Grady et al 2010. Ch 16, p. 555-557 'Chinese Writing'  
-- Thu: Tsung 2009. Ch 2, p.131-135 (#1 student)  
| RECOMMENDED READINGS | -- Tue: Norman 1988. Ch 3, p.58-70 |

| WEEK 4 (2/3, 5) | **Sounds of the Modern Standard Chinese**  
(Tue: The sound of the Standard Chinese: IPA, tones, initials, finals, etc)  
(Thur: Difference between Modern Standard Chinese and the Beijing dialect; Norms of Modern Standard Chinese outside mainland China) |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| REQUIRED READINGS | -- Tue: Norman 1988. p.138-151, 257-263  
| RECOMMENDED READINGS | -- Tue: O'Grady et al.: Ch 2 'Phonetics: the sounds of language', p.16-17, p.19-38; Chen 1999. p.34-37 |
| ASSIGNMENTS | **Assignment 1 posted on 2/3, due on 2/8 (Sun)** |

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<th>WEEK 5 (2/10, 12)</th>
<th><strong>Review Wk 1-4 and Test 1</strong></th>
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<td>-- Tue: Review</td>
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<td>-- Thur: Test 1</td>
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| WEEK 6 (2/17, 19) | **The Chinese Dialects (I)**  
(Tue: Dialect and language; Formation of dialect; Degree of diversity among the Chinese dialects)  
(Thur: Classification of Chinese dialects; Historical factors in dialect development; Dialect geography; Dialect boundaries) |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| REQUIRED READINGS | -- Tue: Chambers and Trudgill 1998: Ch 1 'dialect and language', p. 3-12; Norman 1988. p.187-188  
| WEEK 7 (2/24, 26) | **The Chinese Dialects (II)**  
|                 | (Tue: The Mandarin dialects)  
|                 | (Thur: The central dialects: Wu, Gan, Xiang)  
| REQUIRED READINGS | -- Tue: Thur: Norman 1988. p.190-197 (#4 student)  
|                  | -- Thur: Norman 1988. p.197-209 (#5-6 students)  

| WEEK 8 (3/3, 5) | **The Chinese Dialects (III)**  
|                | (Tue: Common features found in the Southern dialects)  
|                | (Thur: The Southern dialects: Yue, Kejia, Min)  
|                  | --Thur: Norman 1988. p.221-241 (#8-9 students)  
| ASSIGNMENTS | Assignment 2 posted on 3/3, due on 3/8 (Sun)  

| WEEK 9 (3/10, 12) | Review Wk 6-8 and Test 2  
|                  | --Tue: Review  
|                  | --Thur: Test 2  

| WEEK 10 (3/17,19) | **Culture of China (I)**  
|                  | (Tue: Traditional Chinese Values, Chinese Religions, and Major Influences in Chinese Thought: Taoism, Buddhism, Confucianism)  
|                  | (Thur: Mianzi '面子' and Guanxi '关系')  
| REQUIRED READINGS | -- Tue: Ostrowski and Penner 2011. p.20-34 (#10 students)  
| RECOMMENDED READINGS | TBA  

| Week 11 (Mar 23) | No Class  
|                 | Spring Break  

| WEEK 12 (3/31,4/2) | **Culture of China (II)**  
|                   | (Tue: Chinese Cuisine)  
|                   | (Thur: Chinese Customs/Taboos)  
| REQUIRED READINGS | -- Tue: Kuiper. 2010. p.40-44 (#12 students)  
|                  | -- Thur: Ostrowski and Penner 2011. p.137-151 (#13 students)  
| RECOMMENDED READINGS | -- Tue: http://www.ibiblio.org/chineseculture/contents/food/p-food-c01s01.html  
|                    | http://www.shanghaifinance.com/food/chinesefood.php  
|                    | http://polaris.gseis.ucla.edu/yanglu/ECC_HOME.htm  
| TEAM PAPER PROPOSAL | Final term paper proposal (PPT) due on April 02  

6 / 7
| WEEK 13 (4/7, 09) | **Culture of China (III)**  
|                    | (Tue: Chinese Medicine)  
|                    | (Thur: Chinese Minority Cultures)  
| REQUIRED READINGS | **TBA** (#14 students)  
|                    | **TBA** (#15 students)  
|                    | [http://www.travelchingaguide.com/intro/nationality/56list.htm](http://www.travelchingaguide.com/intro/nationality/56list.htm)  
|                    | [http://factsanddetails.com/china/cat14/sub93/item1124.html](http://factsanddetails.com/china/cat14/sub93/item1124.html)  
| ASSIGNMENTS | **Assignment 3 posted on 4/7, due on 4/12 (Sun)**  

| WEEK 14 (4/14, 16 ) | **Review Wk10-13 and Test 3**  
| -- Tue: Review & Final Term Paper Requirements  
| -- Thur: Test 3  

| WEEK 15 (4/21, 23 ) | **Final Term Paper Presentations**  

| WEEK 16 (4/28, 30) | **Final Term Paper Presentations**  

| WEEK 17 (5/5) | **Course Summary & Conclusion**  
| **Final Exam: a term paper (about 10 double-spaced pages) due on May 14**  

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