

# CHIN 0131: Beginning Cantonese I

## Fall 2022

### **Instructor: Yan Huang**

Office hours: By appointment

Email: [huangyan@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:huangyan@sas.upenn.edu)

Class meeting: Tuesdays 5: 15pm - 7:00pm and Thursdays 5: 15pm -7:00pm

Classroom: TBD

### **Textbook:**

*Colloquial Cantonese: The Complete Course for Beginners*, Routledge, 2010 (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)

### **Course Description**

This course is a prerequisite of a two-semester sequence of Beginning Cantonese—CHIN 041 and CHIN 042.

Please know that this course ALONE CANNOT fulfill the College or Wharton language requirement; or grant you the language certificate. If you want to use Cantonese to fulfill the University's Foreign Language Requirement, your Cantonese should reach intermediate level and pass the Chinese program reading and writing test. If you had no Cantonese exposure and did not speak Cantonese before, you are suggested to take 4 CUs of Cantonese course.

### **Objectives**

This course is designed to enable students to communicate in Cantonese for daily life needs. The language focus of this course is on speaking and listening. After this course, students will be able to initiate and take part in daily conversations, such as greeting, telling time, negotiating prices, discussing hobbies and preferences, asking for help, ordering food, asking for directions, talking about weather and clothing, etc.

### **Course Requirements and grading**

#### **Attendance-----10%**

It is strictly required that you attend the class regularly. Having more than FOUR unexcused absences will greatly affect your final grade. If you need to be absent for legitimate reasons, including but limited to illness, emergency, academic and athletic obligations, you must provide official documentation. Please email the instructor prior to class for your absence.

Tardiness is disruptive and disrespectful to the lecturer and to your classmates. Please be punctual.

#### **Participation-----10%**

Students need to pay full concentration in class, take notes as necessary and participate in in-class activities actively. Do not use cellphones in class. Keep your phone mute during class.

#### **Homework-----25%**

Homework of each unit consists of two/three parts: text reading, oral translation and dialogues.

1) Text reading:

Record yourself reading the dialogues in the textbook. You are strongly encouraged to listen to the text audio recordings and practice before doing this assignment.

2) Oral translation:

Translate the text you read orally.

3) Dialogue:

You will work with one of your classmates. Record your dialogue according to the English prompts.

To encourage communication and interaction among students, you are advised to work with different classmates for each homework assignment.

In addition, in the first two weeks, students may also need to do Yale Romanization exercise sheets, as part of homework grading.

Criteria of grading: tones, pronunciation, grammar, coherence and fluency

**\*Please note that NO late homework will be graded. Being absent is not an excuse for late homework.**

**Oral tests-----20%**

There will be two oral tests this semester. Detailed guidelines will be given in class prior to the oral tests. Students are expected to be well prepared for the tests.

Criteria of grading: tones, pronunciation, grammar, coherence and fluency

**Presentation-----20%**

Each student will do two to four presentations in this semester, depending on the number of the students and the course schedule. The presentations will be in Cantonese and English. Topics and guidelines will be given in class prior to the presentations.

Criteria of grading: tones, pronunciation, grammar, coherence and fluency

**Final oral project-----15%**

Students work in groups to perform a short story that (to some extent) simulates a real life situation, applying the speaking skills learned in this semester. You are encouraged to be imaginative and creative. More guidelines will be given after midterm.

Criteria of grading: tones, pronunciation, grammar, coherence and fluency

**Academic integrity**

All Penn students and faculties should follow the principles of academic integrity. For more information, please refer to the following website: [http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/ai\\_codeofacademicintegrity.html](http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/ai_codeofacademicintegrity.html)

**Additional notes:**

1. Students are strongly advised to discuss with the instructor immediately if they have any difficulties keeping up.
2. The instructor reserves the right to modify or reschedule parts of the course schedule throughout the semester as necessary for the needs or/and objectives of the class.

**CHIN 0131 Course Schedule  
Fall 2022**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8/28	8/29	8/30 Introduction & Overview	8/31	9/1 Pronunciation	9/2	9/3
9/4	9/5 Labor Day	9/6 Tones	9/7	9/8 Pronunciation	9/9	9/10 Pronunciation test
9/11	9/12	9/13 Lesson 1	9/14	9/15 Lesson 1	9/16	9/17
9/18	9/19	9/20 Presentation	9/21	9/22 Group work Lesson 2	9/23	9/24
9/25	9/26	9/27 Lesson 2	9/28	9/29 Test of lesson 1-2	9/30	10/1
10/2	10/3	10/4 Lesson 3	10/5	10/6 Lesson 3	10/7	10/8

10/9	10/10	10/11 Lesson 4	10/12	10/13 Fall	10/14 Term	10/15
10/16 Break	10/17	10/18 Lesson 4	10/19	10/20 Oral test #1 1- 4	10/21	10/22
10/23	10/24	10/25 Lesson 5	10/26	10/27 Lesson 5	10/28	10/29
10/30	10/31	11/1 Family/friends appearance presentation	11/2	11/3 Lesson 6	11/4	11/5
11/6	11/7	11/8  lesson 6	11/9	11/10  Lesson 6	11/11	11/12
11/13	11/14	11/15 Lesson 7	11/16	11/17 Lesson 7	11/18	11/19
11/20	11/21	11/22 Lesson 7	11/23	11/24 THANKSGIVING	11/25	11/26
11/27 BREAK	11/28	11/29 Review 1- 7	11/30	12/1  Oral test # 2	12/2	12/3
12/4	12/5	12/6 Presentation prep	12/7	12/8 Final project presentation	12/9 Last day of class	12/10
12/11	12/12	12/13	12/14	12/15	12/16	12/17