

CHIN 0305 Spoken Chinese III

Fall Semester 2023

M/W WILL

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Course Description

This course is designed for students who have completed at least the beginning level Chinese language courses at the University of Pennsylvania or have studied the language for at least one year. The objective of this course is to consolidate the knowledge and skills students have acquired from their previous Mandarin Chinese classes and to enhance their oral expressive skills. By the end of the semester, students are expected to be able to carry on a conversation with a native Mandarin speaker on various common topics, and to gather information for conducting oral presentations and speeches.

Course Procedures

In this class, we will not use any textbook. There will be a limited amount of reading but frequent in-class discussions and oral practices. Students are expected to learn from the process of preparing for the assignments and activities. For each class, a topic will be discussed and an article with a vocabulary list and some discussion questions will be given to students in advance. Before each class, students are expected to go over the article and reflect on the questions on their own.

Course Requirements

To ensure the most effective use of time in class with the instructor and classmates, preparation in advance for each class is essential. Before coming to class, students are expected to have already familiarized themselves with the provided vocabulary and the topic for the day's discussion. Besides discussions and presentations on various topics, students will also be involved in the following activities:

- (1) **Class Assignments:** Throughout the semester students will have to do **three** graded assignments in class. The assignments will be in the format of an oral test, a group discussion, and a movie presentation. Details of these assignments will be announced later.

- (2) **News Discussion Facilitation:** Each student is required to lead a 10-minute news discussion on one or two news stories from the previous week's Daily Pennsylvanian newspaper. Powerpoint slides are required for this facilitation. Each student only needs to do this assignment once.
- (3) **Individual Talks:** Each student is required to have four individual talks with the instructor in his office. The purpose of these individual talks is to provide students with some one-on-one interaction time with the instructor; hence the contents of these talks are highly individualized. Detailed Schedules of these talks will be decided later.
- (4) **Impromptu Speech:** On November 16th, each student will have to make a 3-5 minute impromptu speech. A list of speech topics will be given to students in advance, but students will draw lots to decide their own topics on the spot. Each student will have 40 minutes to prepare before they deliver their speeches.
- (5) **Final Project:** Students will make a 10-minute oral presentation in class on any topic s/he is interested in as their final project. A topic along with a brief outline is due on November 14th.

Course Evaluation and Grading

Evaluation:	Class attendance	5%
	Class performance	15%
	Class assignments	30% (10% X 3)
	News discussion facilitation	10%
	Impromptu Speech	5%
	Individual Talks	20% (5% X4)
	Final project	15%

Grading Scale: **A:** 94-100, **A-:** 90-93, **B+:** 87-89, **B:** 83-86, **B-:** 80-82,
C+: 77-79, **C:** 73-76, **C-:** 70-72, **D+:** 65-69, **D:** 60-64,
F: Less than 60

Attendance Rules

You are permitted three absences for any reason, after which **each additional absence will result in a 1% point reduction from your final grade**. Tardiness of 20-minutes or more is counted as absence. There are no “excused absences” – if you miss class, you are responsible for making up any work and for knowing the material covered.

If the absence is more than five days, you should contact your home school advising office for assistance and to discuss the academic implications of a longer absence.

Class Rules (Violating the rules will affect your class performance grade.)

1. Masks are optional.
2. No activities unrelated to the class should be undertaken during class time.
3. Laptops, tablets and cell phones can be used only to access on-line dictionaries during class.
4. Limit eating in class to the minimum as you may be asked to speak at any time.
5. Please come to class on time. Attending class 10 minutes after the beginning of the class will be marked as being late. Frequent lateness will affect your class performance grade negatively.
6. If you miss a class, it is **your own** responsibility to find out what material was covered during your absence. Being absent is **NOT** an excuse for not preparing for assignments at the following class. If you need an extension for your assignment, you need to receive permission from the instructor in advance.

CHIN-0305 Course Schedule

Fall 2023

Date	Discussion Topics / Assignments
8/31 (Wed.)	Course Introduction
9/5 (Mon.)	Happy Labor Day!
9/7 (Wed.)	Topic 1: Chinese Language Fever
9/12 (Mon.)	Topic 2: Chinese Idioms and Slangs
9/14 (Wed.)	Topic 3: Global View
9/19 (Mon.)	Topic 4: Higher Education
9/21 (Wed.)	Individual Talk 1
9/26 (Mon.)	Class Assignment #1: Oral Test
9/28 (Wed.)	Topic 5: Chinese Myths and Fables
10/3 (Mon.)	Topic 6: Chinese Customs and Taboos
10/5 (Wed.)	Topic 7: Chinese Family Ethics
10/10 (Mon.)	Topic 8: Chinese Concept of Love and Marriage
10/12 (Wed.)	Movie: Pushing Hands 推手
10/17 (Mon.)	Class Assignment #2: Panel Discussion
10/19 (Wed.)	Individual Talk 2
10/24 (Mon.)	Topic 9: Chinese Social Values
10/26 (Wed.)	Topic 10: Human Rights
10/31 (Mon.)	Topic 11: Chinese Immigrants
11/2 (Wed.)	Guest Speaker: Dr. Scott Moore China's Policies on Climate Change
11/7 (Mon.)	Topic 12: Sino-US Relations
11/9 (Wed.)	Individual Talk 3
11/14 (Mon.)	Language Game: Taboo Final Project Topic and Outline Due
11/16 (Wed.)	Impromptu Speech
11/21 (Mon.)	Movie: Comrades, Almost a Love Story 甜蜜蜜
11/23 (Wed.)	Happy Thanksgiving!
11/28 (Mon.)	Class Assignment #3: Movie Presentation
11/30 (Wed.)	Individual Talk 4
12/5 (Mon.)	Final Project
12/7 (Wed.)	Final Project
12/12 (Mon.)	End-of-semester class dinner