

CHIN 0705 Advanced Spoken Mandarin I
Fall Semester 2022
Monday/Wednesday 3:30-4:50 pm (Tentative)

Syllabus

Course Description

Instructor:

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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:00-10:00 a.m., or by appointment

This course is designed for students who have completed at least the intermediate-level Chinese language course (CHIN-0600) at the University of Pennsylvania or have studied the language for at least three years. The objective of this course is to consolidate the knowledge and skills students have acquired from previous Mandarin Chinese classes and to enhance their oral expressive skills and China knowledge by using Chinese authentic materials such as Chinese movies, news, websites, and podcasts. Themes of the course include **Penn Museum and Chinese cultural relics protection, My Penn Life, Covid-19, Chinese immigrants in the U.S., the status of women in China, the Three-child policy, China's political system, Sino-US relations, the Belt and Road Initiative, China's approach to sustainability and technology, and China's wolf warrior diplomacy.** In addition, the course stresses connecting students' Chinese language and China knowledge with their academic majors and minors. Students will be challenged to give presentations on the topics in their academic studies.

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 presentations will make up the majority of class time. Students are expected to learn from the process of preparing for their oral presentations. For each class, a topic will be discussed and a brief reading (and/or audio-visual material) and discussion questions will be given to students in advance. Before each class, students are expected to preview the reading/audio-visual materials and reflect on the questions.

Course Requirements

This course requires a substantial time commitment. 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 material and the topic for the day's discussion.

Besides discussions on various topics and spoken tasks on different situations, students will also be involved in the following activities:

1. **Class Assignments:** Throughout the semester students will have to do **4** graded assignments in class. The assignments will be in the format of a campus tour, an oral test, a mock job talk, and a lecture reflection.

2. **Homework:** Homework assignments must be finished before the due time to be graded. All 10 homework will be graded on a 10-point scale. Late homework will receive a 1-point penalty per day. Late homework will not be accepted and graded if submitted after three days past the due day.
3. **Personal News Reports:** Students will be required to make about 7 1-minute-long news reports.
4. **Individual Talks:** Each student is required to have 2 individual talks with the instructor. 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.
5. **Movie Critics:** Students will make 2 movie presentations.
6. **Final Project:** Each student will present one video clip (or a PowerPoint Presentation with a recorded narration) as a final project on any topic that s/he is interested in. Each project should follow the 6-8 minute time limit (about 800-1000 characters script). We will have final project conferences before the presentation where students will be required to discuss the outline and content with the instructor.

Course Evaluation and Grading

Evaluation:	Class Assignments	16%
	Homework	16%
	News Reports	8%
	Individual Talks	5%
	Movie Critics	15%
	Final Project	30%
	Class Attendance	5%
	Class Performance	5%

Grading Scale: A: 94-100, A-: 90-93, B+: 87-89, B: 84-86, B-: 80-83, C+: 77-79, C: 74-76, C-: 70-73, D+: 65-69, D: 60-64, F: below 60

Attendance Rules

Regular attendance is expected. Any absences should be reported through the Course Absence Report system. (You can “CREATE AN ABSENCE NOTICE” by logging on to Path@Penn and choosing the “Course Action Notices” under “My Courses”.) You are permitted three (3) absences for any reason, after which **each additional absence will result in a 1-point reduction from your final grade**. A tardiness of 20 minutes or more is counted as an absence. There are no “excused absences” – if you miss class, you are responsible for making up any work and for knowing the material covered.

The purpose of the Course Absence Report system is to facilitate communication between instructors and students when a student misses class. The system allows you to inform the instructor about absences of five days or less. 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. No activities unrelated to the class should be undertaken.
2. Limit eating in class to the minimum as you may be asked to answer questions at any time.
3. Please come to class on time. Attending class 10 minutes after the beginning of the class will be marked as being late, which will affect your class performance grade negatively.
4. 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 handing in homework late. You should still submit your homework on the due day even if you do not attend the class unless you have received permission from the instructor in advance.