

CHIN 0200: Beginning Chinese II  
Spring 2023

**Instructors**

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**Required Texts**

(Available at Penn Bookstore, 36<sup>th</sup> & Walnut)

*Speak and Act: Beginning Chinese Textbook II*, Dietrich, Sun & Chen, Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2022

*Speak and Act: Beginning Chinese Workbook II*, Chiu, Dietrich & Sun, BLCU Press, 2022

**Course Description**

This course is designed for those who have taken one semester of college level Chinese or equivalent. The course aims to help you continue building a solid foundation of the four language skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Chinese. The ultimate goal is to enable you to function in a linguistically and culturally appropriate manner in the target language environment. Critical components of such a function include mastery of basic grammatical structures, correct pronunciation, accurate tones and relevant knowledge and understanding of Chinese culture. The primary mode of instruction is verbal communication through interactive task completion. Reading and writing skills will receive more instructional attention this semester than last. This course partially fulfills the language requirement of various undergraduate programs at Penn.

## Objectives

By the end of the semester, in addition to the functions you have acquired in the last semester, you will be able to manage many more situations that have immediate concern to you:

- Relate past experiences
- Request and provide information on time, location, and duration of events
- Make promise or compromise
- Express preferences and feelings
- Make inquiries and commands
- Purchase goods in a store
- Order food in a restaurant
- Ask for and give directions, including taking mass transit
- Discuss feasibility of actions
- Discuss and make basic travel plans
- Make basic comparisons and contrasts of various objects or opinions
- Relate simple information about career choices
- Give short narratives that explain or relate a situation
- Relate weather conditions

## Oral Tests, Individual Tutorials & Group Cultural Presentations

**Oral tests.** An oral test is scheduled for every other lesson. You are to pair up with a partner to perform a communicative task. The assignment will be distributed in advance, and you are expected to come to class fully prepared. The purpose of the oral test is two-fold: 1) to assist you utilize learned vocabulary and grammatical structures, and 2) to build up your proficiency and fluency in spoken Chinese. These oral tests are graded according to the following criteria: pronunciation, fluency, grammar, and coherence.

**Individual tutorials.** A 10-minute mandatory individual tutorial session with a TA will be conducted most Thursdays or Fridays starting the 3<sup>rd</sup> week (1/26-27). You will sign up for a time slot and keep it for the entire semester. The purpose of the tutorial is to provide some one-on-one interaction time with an instructor/TA to reinforce and review the content covered in class. These sessions are largely conversational. The grading is based on performance and effort. You can re-schedule up to **two (2)** sessions per semester (for any reason) without penalty provided that the request is made **in advance**. Make-up sessions without advance notification will not receive a grade higher than 8. Make-up sessions must be scheduled **within two weeks** of the original date. Please contact your TA directly for rescheduling. TA's contact information is posted on Canvas plenary site. Please note, **rescheduling is contingent upon TA's availability and is not guaranteed**.

**Group cultural presentations.** Real language learning does not happen without relevant cultural context and exposure. These are mini-research projects conducted in English. Each group will draw one topic, research it and do a 10–15-minute PowerPoint presentation in class. The topics are related to selected lessons (see weekly lesson plans for specifics). The purpose of these projects is to enrich your general knowledge of contemporary China. Each group only presents once during the semester.

## Written Tests and Quizzes

Unit written tests will be on alternating weeks with the oral tests. There is also a short character quiz (supplementary vocabulary excluded) and a grammar quiz every lesson. Your lowest grade from each

*quiz* category will be dropped. You may not drop any test grades. You are allowed to make up one missed tests/quizzes from each test category per semester (after the dropped one counted), which should be scheduled as soon as you return to class and must be completed **within two weeks** of the original test date.

### **Homework**

Homework assignment is consisted of character writing and grammar (Workbook). Specific assignments are listed in weekly lesson plans. The answer key comes with the workbook. It is your responsibility to correct your assignments (with a different color pen) before submission. Incomplete work or that without correction will not receive full credit. Homework assignment is collected at the beginning of class on its due date. You will lose 10% of the possible score for each day (including weekends) the work is overdue. No credit will be given after one week.

### **Evaluation Rubrics**

All course works are evaluated according to a set of rubrics, which are posted on Canvas plenary site. You want to check them, so you know what the expectations are.

### **Attendance and Participation**

Regular attendance is expected. Any absence notices should be submitted at the Course Action Notices site through a link on [Path@Penn](mailto:Path@Penn). You are permitted five (5) absences for any reason. **Each additional absence after five will result in a 1%-point reduction from your final grade.** Tardiness of 20-minutes or more counts as absence. There are no “excused absences.” If you miss a 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 students miss 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.

You are expected to fully participate in class activities when you are in class. Thoroughly preview and review the materials according to the weekly lesson plan ensures good participation. **DO NOT TEXT** during class.

### **New course components in spring semester**

***Vocabulary preview check on day one of a new lesson.*** This is to ensure that you preview vocabulary thoroughly before coming to class. Although not officially graded, consistent poor performance will affect your overall participation grade.

***In-class writing.*** We will do several in-class writing assignments. There will be four steps in the process: 1) create a draft (in class); 2) submit the draft for correction and grading; 3) use the graded and corrected draft to create a portfolio via Book Creator (take home); 4) submit your book link to be graded at the end of the semester. These assignments call for the utilization of all three communication modes—interpretive, inter-personal and presentational. The primary goal of the writing is to learn how to “tell stories” in Chinese. The topics are by and large tied to our lessons. Specific instructions for each writing assignment will be posted on Canvas.

**Assessment**

Oral tests (5)	20%
Written tests (4)	20%
Character quizzes (8 out of 9)	8%
Grammar quizzes (8 out of 9)	10%
In-class Writings (4)	6% (draft 4% & “published” portfolio 2%)
Final written exam	10%
Homework (9)	8%
Individual tutorial (9)	8%
Cultural presentation	2%
Class attendance& participation	8%

**Grading Scale**

94+ =A    90-93=A-    87-89=B+    83-86=B    80-82=B-    77-79=C+    73-76=C    70-72=C-

**Schedule (subject to change)**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1/8	9	10	11 Review	12 L10	13	14
15	16 <i>MLKing Day</i> <i>No Class</i>	17	18	19 GQ1	20	21
22	23 CQ1; ICW 1	24 <i>Oral 1</i>	25 L11	26	27 IT 1(L10)	28
29	30	31 GQ2	2/1 CQ2; GCP1	2 <i>Written 1</i>	3 IT 2(L11)	4
5	6 L12	7	8	9 GQ3; GCP2	10	11
12	13 CQ3; ICW 2	14 <i>Oral 2</i>	15 L13	16	17 IT 3(L12)	18
19	20	21 GQ4	22 CQ4	23 <i>Written 2</i>	24 IT 4(L13)	25
26	27 L14	28	3/1	2 Mental Health Day	3	4
5	6	7 <i>Spring</i>	8 <i>Break</i>	9 春假	10	11
12	13 GQ5	14 CQ5; ICW 3	15 <i>Oral 3</i>	16 L15	17 IT 5(L14)	18
19	20	21	22 GQ6	23 CQ6; GCP3	24 IT 6(L15)	25
26	27 <i>Written 3</i>	28 L16	29	30	31	4/1
2	3 GQ7	4 CQ7; ICW 4	5 <i>Oral 4</i>	6 L17	7 IT 7(L16)	8

9	10	11	12 GQ8	13 CQ8; GCP4	14 IT 8(L17)	15
16	17 Written 4	18 L18	19	20 GQ9	21 IT 9(L18)	22
23	24 CQ9	25 Final oral interview	26 Final oral interview	27	28	29
30	5/1	2	3 Final Exam 12-2pm College 200	4	5	6

Abbreviations:

L= Lesson      CQ= Character quiz  
GCP= Group cultural presentation

GQ= Grammar quiz  
IT= Individual tutorial

ICW=In-class writing