

**CHIN 0405 Spoken Chinese IV**  
**Spring Semester 2024**  
**Monday & Wednesday 3:30-5:00 pm**  
**Williams Hall**

Instructor: Shihui Fan  
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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) **Pre-class Sharing** : In order for students to have a deeper understanding and better preparation for the learning and discussion of the topic of the day, students are required to prepare a 3-4 minute presentation according to the topic provided by teacher and submit the audio on Canvas before each class, you also need to share it with other students during class.

- (2) **Class Assignments:** Throughout the semester, students will do a number of assignments in class, such as role-plays, mini presentations, short speeches, informal debates, panel discussions, etc.
- (3) **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.
- (4) **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.
- (5) **Impromptu Speech:** Each student 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.
- (6) **Final Project:** Students will make a 10-minute video on any topic s/he is interested in as their final project. A topic along with a brief outline is due on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **Course Evaluation and Grading**

### **Evaluation:**

Class attendance	5%
Class performance and participation	15%
Class assignments	32% (8%*4)
Pre-class Sharing	8%
News discussion facilitation	5%
Impromptu Speech	5%
Individual Talks	16% (4%*4)
Final project	14%

**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-0405 Course Schedule

Spring 2024

Date	Discussion Topics / Assignments
1/22 (Mon.)	Course Introduction & Warm-up Activity
1/24 (Wed.)	Topic 1: World Religions
1/29 (Mon.)	Topic 2: Race and Immigrants
1/31 (Wed.)	Individual Talk 1
2/5 (Mon.)	Topic 3: Sino-US Relations
2/7 (Wed.)	Topic 4: One Child Policy vs Human Rights
2/12 (Mon.)	Movie: 你好，李焕英 (2021)
2/14 (Wed.)	Movie Discussion
2/19 (Mon.)	Assignment 1: Oral Presentation- Movie Reflection
2/21 (Wed.)	Individual Talk 2
2/26 (Mon.)	Topic 5: Abortion and Teenage Pregnancy
2/28 (Wed.)	Topic 6: Drugs and Crimes

3/2 -3/10	<b>Happy Spring Break!</b>
3/11 (Mon.)	<b>Individual Talk 3</b>
3/13 (Wed.)	Topic 7: Gun Violence
3/18 (Mon.)	<b>Movie: Lan Yu 蓝宇 (2001)</b>
3/20 (Wed.)	Topic 8: LGBT in China
3/25 (Mon.)	<b>Assignment 2: Oral Presentation- Movie Reflection</b>
3/27 (Wed.)	Topic 9: TV and Pop Culture
4/1 (Mon.)	Topic 10: Music
4/3 (Wed.)	Topic 11: Sports
4/8 (Mon.)	<b>Assignment 3: Oral Presentation-Contemporary Figure</b>
4/10 (Wed.)	<b>Individual Talk 4</b>
4/15 (Mon.)	<b>座谈会 Symposium</b>
4/17 (Wed.)	<b>Assignment 4: Oral Presentation</b>
4/22 (Mon.)	Oral Test: Impromptu Speech
4/24 (Wed.)	Language Game: Taboo
4/29(Mon.)	Prepare for Final Project (no class)
5/1(Wed.)	<b>Final Project Showcase</b>