

CHN270 Chinese Conversation

3rd and 4th quarters, Sophomore

Instructor	WU Shaohua
Style of class	Seminar, lecture
Number of Credits	2
Day and Period	Tuesday, period 1

Course Description

Building upon the basic grammar and basic vocabulary learned in Chinese I and Chinese II, students will learn to create their own conversations and express themselves. They will read their dialogues in role play form so that they can speak in natural-sounding Chinese. They will receive practice in extending the dialogues they have created and develop their ability in practical communication.

Course Objectives

This course focuses on speaking Chinese and aims to improve the students' ability in oral communication. Students will be able to express their own thoughts about each topic, based on their partner's opinions and thoughts. At the same time, they will correct their pronunciation and improve their understanding of Chinese culture and society. The aim is to bring the students ability to use Chinese up to Level 4 (intermediate) on the Chinese Proficiency Test (Chuken) and to Level 2 (high) on the *Hanyu shuiping kaoshi* (HSK).

Prerequisites

Chinese I and II, Introduction to China and Chinese 1,2,3, 4

Class Materials

Reference books: Previously published Chinese conversation textbook, phrasebooks, travel guides

Course Method

Presentation of prepared homework (30 minutes: PW), Presentation and revision of conversations (30 minutes), conversation practice, applied practice (30 minutes)

Evaluation/Assessment

Students will be evaluated overall on the basis of participation grades and a final report. The participation grade will include attitude during class, degree of preparation, and performance of tasks during class.

Grading

Overall evaluation will consist of class participation (50%) and the final report (50%)

Course Schedule

Week 1: Overview of the class, pronunciation review 1

Students will receive an orientation to class procedures and evaluation. In the time remaining, we will review the tones and the vowels and confirmation that students remember the correspondence between modern Chinese pinyin spelling and the sounds of the language.

Week 2: Pronunciation review 2

We will review the diphthongs, nasal vowels, and initial vowels and confirm that students remember the correspondence between modern Chinese *pinyin* spelling and the sounds of the language.

Week 3: Planning a trip to Shanghai

After an introduction to China and Shanghai, the students will present a conversation about planning an imaginary trip to China. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 4: Changing money from Japanese yen to Chinese yuan

After learning about Chinese currency, the students will present a dialogue about changing Japanese yen into Chinese yuan. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play

form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 5: Going from the Airport to People's Square by Limousine Bus After learning about the options for transportation from Shanghai Pudong International Airport to People's Square, the students will create and present a dialogue about riding the limousine bus to People's Square. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 6: Staying at a Hotel

After learning about Chinese hotels, the students will create and present a dialogue about staying at a hotel. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 7: Eating Dinner at Xinghualou (a Cantonese Restaurant)

After learning about Chinese cuisine and food customs, the students will create and present a dialogue about having dinner at a Cantonese restaurant. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 8: Buying High-Speed Rail Tickets to Suzhou at Shanghai Station

After learning about Chinese railroads, the students will create and present a dialogue about buying high-speed rail tickets to Suzhou at Shanghai Station. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 9: Looking for a Convenience Store at People's Square

After learning about Chinese convenience stores, the students will create and present a dialogue about looking for a convenience store at People's Square. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 10: Taking a Taxi to Yu Garden

After learning about Chinese taxis, the students will create and present a dialogue about taking a taxi to Yu Garden. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 11: Returning to Your Hotel at People's Square from Century Park by Subway

After learning about subways in China, the students will create and present a dialogue about returning from Century Park to their hotel at People's Square by subway. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 12: Being Examined at a Clinic

After learning about health care in China, the students will create and present a dialogue about being examined at a clinic. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 13: Being Asked for a Souvenir of China Over the Phone

After learning about souvenirs and gifts in China, students will create and present a dialogue about being asked for a souvenir over the phone. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 14: Acquiring a Phone in China

After learning about telecommunications in China, students will create and present a dialogue about acquiring a mobile phone. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 15: Leaving the Country from Pudong Airport

After learning about the exit procedures at the airport, the students will create and present a dialogue about leaving China from Pudong Airport. After the conversation has been presented and corrected, the students will practice it in role play form in order to reinforce their knowledge.

Week 16: Final Report

The instructor will designate a topic, which the students will research, write a dialogue, and submit it on horizontally lined paper.

Preparation and Follow-up

Your preparation should consist of researching and creating materials about the assigned topic, imagining the scene and writing a Chinese dialogue with a Japanese translation, and preparing to present and distribute it. After class, review the material, concentrating on the mistakes in Chinese and in the Japanese translation that have been pointed out.