PAAS 318  
INTERMEDIATE CHINESE  
Fall 2017

Classes:  
TWF 11:30 a.m. – 1:20 p.m., CLE A316
Labs:  
R 2:30 – 3:20 p.m. CLE D131
Drop-in labs:  
R 2:30 – 3:20 p.m., CLE A010
Conversation Café  
W 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. CLE A127
Instructors:  
Jun Tian (A01)
Offices:  
CLE C220
Emails:  
jtian@uvic.ca
Office hours:  
W 1:30 p.m. – 2:20 p.m. or by appointments
Teaching Assistant:  
TBA
Email:  

Textbooks:  

Course Description:

This course is a continuation of PAAS 218. It is an intensive course to enhance students’ ability to communicate in Chinese. Through a communicative approach, students will lay a solid foundation in modern Chinese grammar and further develop their reading, writing, and oral communication skills. In addition to the linguistic aspects of the language, the social and cultural background of the language will also be integrated throughout the course.

Goals and Objectives:

Students will gain listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Mandarin Chinese. Specifically, students will be able to achieve the following:

Listening  
Understand paragraph-length utterances pertaining to a wide range of topics related to daily life (including lodging/living quarter, dining, shopping, the Internet, work, travel, etc.)

Speaking  
Handle a wide range of tasks and social situations related to the topic areas mentioned above, and participate in casual conversations. They will also be able to narrate, describe, and compare and contrast.

Reading  
Identify key facts and some details in descriptive materials about daily life, and discern connections between sentences in simple paragraphs. They will also be able to understand some authentic texts that serve a functional purpose, such as signs, public announcements, and short instructions.
Writing

Compare notes and simple letters, summaries of biographical information such as work and school experience, and other multi-paragraph pieces of writing.

Format:

We will cover approximately one lesson of the textbook per week. Students will do the exercises in the Workbook and perform oral assignments as required by the instructor.

This course is supported by CourseSpaces, which provides an online, interactive environment for instructors and students to communicate and share information. Students are encouraged to work individually and collaboratively to achieve their personal goals in the development of their reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills.

Grading Plan:

Grades are assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conversation Café</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Text Typing</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Text Audio-recordings</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workbook Assignments</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Skits</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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Note: A minimum grade of B (73%) is required to proceed to PAAS412/413.

Attendance 5%

Regular attendance and active participation in all learning activities are important elements for success in this course. It is mandatory to attend and participate in class and the Thursday language laboratory session for this course, as well as to attend at least three visits to the Mandarin Conversation Café. In accordance with the policy of the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies that any student who misses more than 10% of their class sessions may not be permitted to write the final exam, students who miss more than twelve classes will not be permitted to write the final exam. The hours include class sessions, Thursday lab sessions, and the Conversation Café visits. Then minutes late for class will be treated as absence. Students who are absent because of illness, an accident, or family affliction are expected to present proof for any absence from class (e.g., a medical doctor’s note) and seek help from the instructor for materials covered.
Students are excused for four hours of absence without penalty to their attendance grades. Attendance is evaluated based on the following guidelines: 5% (0-4 hours), 4% (5-6 hours), 3% (7-8 hours), 2% (9-10 hours), 1% (11-12 hours), and 0 (13-14 hours).

**Conversation Café 3%**

Students are required to pay at least three visits to the Mandarin Conversation Café over the semester where they will be able to practice and improve their oral communication skills in a semi-structured setting.

**Text Typing 8%**

Students will submit to CourseSpaces typed texts/dialogues of each lesson as soon as the lesson is completed and before the quiz or the exam. Typos will affect the grades.

**Audio-recordings 8%**

Students will be required to record their readings of the text in each lesson using Audacity and submit the recordings to CourseSpaces. Please make an effort to read the character texts instead of the pinyin texts when you record to familiarize yourselves with the Chinese writing system. Marking of the assignments are based on the completion as well as the correct pronunciation and tones.

**Workbook 8%**

Students will write the required exercises in the workbook in each lesson and hand in the assignment on next class after each lesson is completed. The mistakes are expected to be corrected when the assignments are returned. Marking of the assignments are based on the completion.

**Group Skit 5%**

Students will be divided into groups of four or five and create a skit employing the vocabulary, sentence structures, and grammar covered in the course. The draft of the skit is due on Friday October 21st, and the instructor’s comments will be returned to students by Wednesday October 26th. Please do not try to translate from English to Chinese; instead, try to think in Chinese and think what we what have covered and learned so far, and think what you can do in Chinese. The skit is 5-8 minutes in length, and all students are encouraged to be fully engaged. Marking of the skit consists of a group mark and an individual mark.

**Presentation 15%**
Each student will give a three-minute presentation with a minimum of 600 characters toward the end of the semester. The topic can be chosen from 我和中国 or 我和中文. It is expected that students use the vocabulary, sentence structures, and grammar that we have learned in the term. Please be very careful not to be tempted to translate from your first language to Chinese.

**Quizzes and Exams 48%**

There are six quizzes. A quiz is written after each lesson is completed. The content is based on the materials learned in the lesson. The best five out of the six quizzes are counted towards the final grade.

A mid-term examination is scheduled on October 13th and a final exam on December 1st.

*There will be no make-up quiz or exam for any missing quizzes or exams unless there is a doctor note or a pre-arrangement with the instructor.*

**Classroom Courtesy**

As a respect to everyone in the classroom, no cell phones, text messages, or computers are allowed to be used in class unless special permission is acquired in advance.

**Plagiarism and Cheating**

University’s and departmental policies on plagiarism and cheating are upheld and enforced. All students are advised to read the policy posted on CourseSpaces.
**Course Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Focus</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sep. 6 – 8</td>
<td>Introduction and course overview Lesson 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>11 – 15</td>
<td>Lessons 1-2 Quiz 1 (F)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>18 – 22</td>
<td>Lessons 2-3 Quiz 2 (F)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>25 – 29</td>
<td>Lessons 3-4 Quiz 3 (F)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Oct. 2 – 6</td>
<td>Lessons 4-5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9 – 13</td>
<td>Lessons 5 Mid-term on Oct. 13th (F)</td>
<td>Thanksgiving: Oct. 9th Midterm covers the content from Lesson 1 to 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>16 – 20</td>
<td>Lesson 6</td>
<td>Thursday lab: Skit Drafts of group skits due on Friday Oct. 20th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>23 – 27</td>
<td>Quiz 4 (T) Lesson 7 Group Skit on Oct. 27th (F)</td>
<td>Thursday lab: Skit Chinese Bridge Singing Contest: Preliminary 3:30pm Friday @ MAC A144</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>30 – Nov. 3</td>
<td>Lessons 7-8 Quiz 5 (F)</td>
<td>Chinese Bridge Singing Contest in Vancouver on Saturday November 3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>6 – 10</td>
<td>Lesson 8 Quiz 6 (F)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>13 – 17</td>
<td>Lesson 9 Presentations</td>
<td>Reading Break: Nov. 13th – 15th No lab on Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>20 – 24</td>
<td>Lessons 9-10 Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>27 – Dec. 1</td>
<td>Lesson 10 Presentations Final Exam on Dec. 2nd (F)</td>
<td>Final exam covers the content from Lesson 1 to 10 with a focus on the last five lessons</td>
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</tbody>
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Disclaimer: This outline is subject to additions and/or amendments throughout the course by the instructor as materials are worked on and in consideration of participants’ special needs or requests.