

2008 Spring Semester 012A Advanced Chinese Conversation

Wol A Kang 江月娥

Schedule: Monday 1:15pm-2:30pm K 328

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Office hours: Monday 2:40pm-4:00pm

Wednesday 3:00-4:00pm

(or by appointment)

Course Objectives

This course will emphasize the improvement of spoken Chinese language skills. The goal of the course is to have students be able to communicate in Mandarin with accuracy and fluency and to participate fully and effectively in conversations on a variety of topics in formal and informal settings from both concrete and abstract perspectives.

Course Requirements:

Continuing from what we learned last semester, this semester I will provide students with an opportunity to become familiar with modern business-related materials written in Chinese. You will therefore gain a better understanding of today's business environment in China. You will be expected to read through the text and the grammar notes before coming to class. You will be asked questions related to what you are supposed to prepare. You will also need to talk about different topics ranging from events in your daily life and your experiences, to social or political issues related to China and the United States. You are encouraged to utilize the newly learned grammar and vocabulary in this session.

Grading:

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| - Class preparation and performance | 15% |
| - Homework | 20% |
| - Mid-term exam | 15% |
| - Final exam | 15% |
| - Attendance | 15% |
| - Oral presentation & skit | 20% |

Examinations will be oral presentations, a skit and individual interviews.

Homework includes written exercises and oral reports. The written homework is due at the beginning of class. It is very important to hand in your homework on time.

Class attendance and performance will affect your grade, but more importantly failure to attend class will seriously impair your ability to learn Chinese. **Three** excused absences or **one** unexcused absence will result in the student's final mark being lowered one percentage point.

In order to be well prepared for the next day's class, students should do the following:

- Read the assigned text, including the grammar notes for comprehension.
- Re-read the text aloud
- Learn the new vocabulary.
- Practice writing the new characters.

Some Reminders:

Some extra-curricular activities (for instance, watching Chinese films) will be arranged from time to time. They will give you a chance to know China better, and to interact with Chinese people. You are encouraged to actively participate in these activities.

Error correction is a major part of our teaching and is crucial to your learning, so be prepared to be corrected in the classroom. Every student is supposed to visit me at least one time for pronunciation correction.

Textbook:

1. 《Beyond The Basics樂在溝通》
by Jianhua Bai, Juyu Sung and Janet Zhiqun Xing
2. 《Open for Business新世紀商用漢語高級讀本上、下》
by Jane C.M.Kuo
3. Various supplementary reading materials and handouts.