

EAS301H1S

Modern Standard Chinese III for Students with Prior Background

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Class Time and location: T&R 15-17, SS2110

Office Hours: R9:30-10:30 (by appointment)

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Course description

This course is a continuation of EAS201 (Modern Standard Chinese II for Students with Prior Background). It is designed to further develop students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through various cultural topics, including poetry, proverbs, myth and folklore, social customs, religious practices, tourist attractions, and many more. Students will learn to gather information from various types of texts, interpret written and audio discourses, initiate dialogues, and compose short essays. By the end of the course, the students will be able to:

- Improve their Mandarin speaking
- Grow their Chinese vocabulary by about 500 words, esp. in advanced vocabulary
- Structure longer sentences and paragraphs with the help of prepositions, conjunctions, and the uses of different tenses and clauses
- Express opinions on Chinese cultural topics introduced in the textbooks
- Understand the Chinese contexts of contemporary issues, e.g. aging, women's rights, changing traditions in the contemporary times etc.
- Reach a Chinese proficiency level equivalent to HSK level 4 or ACTFL Advanced low. (HSK stands for Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi, a standardized test of standard Chinese for non-native Chinese speakers. It is administered by the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. ACTFL is the acronym for American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. The ACTFL scale is commonly used to measure foreign language proficiency in North American institutions)

The course consists of mandatory lectures on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Marking Scheme

<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Date of Evaluation</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Active participation	Each lecture	15%
Homework	Multiple dates (See schedule)	15%
Quizzes	Multiple dates (See schedule)	25%
Chapter Presentation	Multiple dates (L12-21)	10%
Oral test	Mar. 4	10%
Term test	Apr. 3	25%
<i>Total</i>		100%

Your participation will be documented for each lecture. You are supposed to respond to at least one question in class to earn that class's participation mark (50%). If you volunteer to do more exercises, raise relevant questions, or in other ways contribute substantially to the discussion in class, you will get a higher participation mark, 80%-100%.

Homework is due at the scheduled time on Quercus. Late submission penalty is -5 points per day of lateness. Submissions that are overdue for 7 days or more will NOT be accepted.

A quiz could be given at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of a class. It covers the materials learnt in the previous lessons. Quizzes are designed to help you consolidate your knowledge about each lesson. A quiz usually contains a listening and a writing part. You are supposed to respond to the questions using simplified characters or English as specified in the questions.

The chapter presentation is a group speaking assignment. You and your partner(s) need to sign up for the supplementary article that you wish to present. At the scheduled presentation time, your group is supposed to share your understanding of the article in Mandarin in class. Your presentation has to include: (1) the main ideas of each paragraph in the article, (2) how you relate the ideas in the article to or compare them with those in your own culture(s), and (3) questions that you have about the vocabulary, grammar, and sentences in the article. You are supposed to use slides, handouts, or other forms of visual elements to make your presentation easy to understand by your audience. You can have cue cards or brief outlines in hand while presenting but reading from your script word by word will reduce your marks to 60%. Your presentation has to be 6 minutes long. Going significantly under or over the time limit (+/- more than 1 minute) will result in deduction of marks. Your presentation will be graded by the use of vocabulary (25%), the correctness of grammar (25%), pronunciation and fluency (25%), and the originality and relevance of the content (25%). You will need to hand in a typed script of your presentation on Quercus as well.

The oral test is a one-on-one speaking exam with your instructor or TA. In the test, you will be asked to do a conversation or a monologue on a topic that is covered in the lessons. Your performance will be graded by the use of vocabulary (20%), the correctness of grammar (20%), pronunciation and fluency (30%) as well as whether your speaking has fulfilled the communication goals of the conversation/monologue (30%).

The term test are accumulative tests designed to track your listening, reading, and writing skills of Mandarin. Possible forms of test questions include but not limited to filling in the blanks, multiple choice, listening and reading comprehension, making sentences, and translation.

No make-up quiz/test/speaking assessment activities will be given. Should you miss a quiz/test/speaking assessment activity and can provide a form of documentation recognized by the university, a mark may be considered based on the average mark of similar assessment activities that you can complete in the entire term.

The recognized forms of documentation for absence are:

- Absence declaration via ACORN (<https://registrar.utoronto.ca/policies-and-guidelines/absence-declaration/>)
- U of T Verification of Illness or Injury Form
- College Registrar's letter
- Letter of Academic Accommodation from Accessibility Services

Required texts or readings

Weijia Huang (黃偉嘉) and Qun Ao (敖群). *Learning Chinese Language and Culture 學習漢語與文化: Intermediate Chinese Textbook 中級漢語課本*. Volume 2. The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, 2019. ISBN: 978-988-237-061-6

The recordings for the textbooks will be shared on the course page on Quercus.

Course Requirements

As a language learning course, this course requires substantial time commitment. It is mandatory to attend all weekly lectures. To keep up with the progress, an average student is recommended to spend a minimum of 5 hours per week outside class to preview and review the lessons as well as complete the assignments. Before class, you should read the chapter in the textbook and listen to the recordings. In class, you are expected to have a general understanding of the new vocabulary already, and you are supposed to participate in the speaking activities. After class, you should listen to the recordings again to improve your pronunciation and speaking. You are also required to memorize the vocabulary, practice character writing, complete the homework, and prepare for the chapter quizzes.

Besides the written homework, the textbooks offer more exercises to improve your skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It is not mandatory to complete all the exercises in the book, but most students will find them helpful with quiz and test preparation. Your instructor can assign extra exercises from the textbooks as bonus credit tasks to encourage you to study more on your own. Your instructor may also invite you to participate in relevant cultural events. After the events, you will have the opportunity to write an event report or share your comments in audio or video forms to earn more bonus credits.

Course Schedule

Winter 2025

Weeks	Dates	Lessons	Assignments (Please hand write your homework on a piece of paper, scan or photo your complete homework, and upload it as one pdf file on Quercus)	Quizzes
1	Jan. 7	秋季学期复习 L12 中国的情人节	第十二课, 练习四、选择合适的词语填空。请把这段话都抄写下来。1月16日交。	
	Jan. 9	L12		
2	Jan. 14	L13 男女平等	第十三课, 练习一、用所给的词语回答问题。1月23日交。	
	Jan. 16	L13		
3	Jan. 21	L14 家家有老人	第十四课, 练习三、选择合适的词语填空。请把这两段话都抄写下来。1月30日交。	L12
	Jan. 23	L14		
4	Jan. 28	L15 节日的食品	第十五课, 练习一、根据课文来完成句子。2月6日交。	L13
	Jan. 30	L15		
5	Feb. 4	L16 到中国旅游	第十六课, 练习一、用所给的词语回答问题。2月13日交。	L14
	Feb. 6	L16		
6	Feb. 11	L17 神话故事	第十七课, 练习八、小作文。你的作文里必须使用本课的三个语法点和六个生词。请在语法点和生词下划横线。你的小作文要达到 300 个汉字不能超过 450 个汉字。请在你的作文的最后标出字数。2月27日交。	L15
	Feb. 13	L17 Oral test instructions available		
	Feb. 14 (Fri.)	Last day to drop Y courses		
7	Feb. 17 (Mon.)	Family Day		
	Feb. 18	Reading week No class		
	Feb. 20	Reading week No class		

8	Feb. 25	L18 成语的来源	第十八课，练习一、用所给的词语回答问题。3 月 6 日交。	L16
	Feb. 27	L18		
9	Mar. 4	Oral test		
	Mar. 6	L19 颜色的含义	第十九课，练习四、用所给的词语造句。3 月 13 日交。	
10	Mar. 11	L19		L18
	Mar. 13	L20 吃亏是福，难得糊涂	第二十课，练习四、用所给的词语造句。3 月 20 日交。	
11	Mar. 18	L20		L19
	Mar. 20	L21 中国人信仰的宗教	第二十一课，练习一、选择合适的词语填空。请把这段对话都抄写下来。3 月 27 日交。	
12	Mar. 25	L21		L20
	Mar. 27	L22 长江三峡		
13	Apr. 1	L22		
	Apr. 3	Second term test		
	Apr. 4 (Fri.)	Last day of Winter classes		

Academic Integrity

All students, faculty and staff are expected to follow the University's guidelines and policies on academic integrity. For students, this means following the standards of academic honesty when writing assignments, collaborating with fellow students, and writing tests and exams. Ensure that the work you submit for grading represents your own honest efforts. Plagiarism—representing someone else's work as your own or submitting work that you have previously submitted for marks in another class or program—is a serious offence that can result in sanctions. Speak to me or your TA for advice on anything that you find unclear. To learn more about how to cite and use source material appropriately and for other writing support, see the U of T writing support website at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca>. Consult the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters for a complete outline of the University's policy and expectations. For more information, please see <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academic-advising-and-support/student-academic-integrity> and <http://academicintegrity.utoronto.ca>

Plagiarism Detection Tool

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://teaching.utoronto.ca/resources/plagiarism-detection/>).

Use of Generative AI in Assignments

The use of generative artificial intelligence tools and apps is strictly prohibited in all course assignments unless explicitly stated otherwise by the instructor in this course. This includes ChatGPT and other AI writing and coding assistants. Use of generative AI in this course may be considered use of an unauthorized aid, which is a form of cheating.

Quercus Information

This course uses the University's learning management system, Quercus, to post information about the course. This includes posting readings and other materials required to complete class activities and course assignments, as well as sharing important announcements and updates. The site is dynamic and new information and resources will be posted regularly as we move through the term, so please make it a habit to log in to the site on a regular, even daily, basis. To access the course website, go to the U of T Quercus log-in page at <https://q.utoronto.ca>. Once you have logged in to Quercus using your UTORid and password, you should see the link or "card" for EAS301H1S Modern Standard Chinese III. You may need to scroll through other cards to find this. Click on the EAS301H1S Modern Chinese III link to open our course area, view the latest announcements and access your course resources. There are Quercus help guides for students that you can access by clicking on the "?" icon in the left side column. SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT GRADES POSTED ONLINE: Please also note that any grades posted are for your information only, so you can view and track your progress through the course. No grades are considered official, including any posted in Quercus at any point in the term, until they have been formally approved and posted on ACORN at the end of the course. Please contact me as soon as possible if you think there is an error in any grade posted on Quercus.

Student Support and Accommodation

Students with Disabilities or Accommodation Requirements:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have an acute or ongoing disability issue or accommodation need, you should register with Accessibility Services (AS) at the beginning of the academic year by visiting <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as/new-registration>. Without registration, you will not be able to verify your situation with your instructors, and instructors will not be advised about your accommodation needs. AS will assess your situation, develop an accommodation plan with you, and support you in requesting accommodation for your course work. Remember that the process of accommodation is private: AS will not share details of your needs or condition with any instructor, and your instructors will not reveal that you are registered with AS.

Religious Accommodations

As a student at the University of Toronto, you are part of a diverse community that welcomes and includes students and faculty from a wide range of cultural and religious traditions. For my part, I will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, examinations, or other compulsory activities on religious holy days not captured by statutory holidays. Further to University Policy, if you anticipate being absent from class or missing a major course activity (such as a test or in-class assignment) due to a religious observance, please let me know as early in the course as possible, and with sufficient notice (at least two to three weeks), so that we can work together to make alternate arrangements.

Mental Health and Well-being

As a student, you may experience challenges that can interfere with learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, substance use, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation, financial concerns, family worries and so forth. These factors may affect your academic performance and/or reduce your ability to participate fully in daily activities. Everyone feels stressed now and then – it is a normal part of university life. Some days are better than others, and there is no wrong time to reach out. There are resources for every situation and every level of stress.

There are many helpful resources available through your College Registrar or through Student Life (<http://studentlife.utoronto.ca> and <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/feeling-distressed>). You can also access the U of T Telus Health Student Support (formerly U of T My SSP) 24/7 by calling 1-844-451-9700 (<https://mentalhealth.utoronto.ca/telus-health-student-support/>). An important part of the University experience is learning how and when to ask for help. Please take the time to inform yourself of available resources.