

CHINESE 4001  
*CHINESE STYLISTICS I*

Fall 2005

MWF 1-2 p.m. 106 Swann

Instructor: Howard Yuen Fung Choy

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Office hours: MW 2-3 p.m. & by appointment

Textbook:

Liu, Irene with Li Xiaoqi. *A New Text for a Modern China*. Boston: Cheng & Tsui, 1998.

**On-line supplementary readings will be added.**

Software:

Clavis Sinica (<http://clavisinica.com>)

Objectives:

1. This is a fourth year course in advanced Chinese. Students will continue to develop reading strategies and writing skills by enhancing their stylistic sensitivity. The opportunity to work with more sophisticated, intellectually stimulating materials will be valuable for the interdisciplinary study of the language. We will have extensive discussions on specific socioeconomic topics and frequent composition assignments in Chinese.
2. To accommodate the rapid changes in Chinese life and language today, we will substitute one lesson from each unit (save Unit I) of the textbook with an authentic piece of writing selected from the internet, such as a news article on the web. The Chinese reading and reference software Clavis Sinica will facilitate our comprehension of the digital texts.
3. Students should be prepared for a steady expansion of their vocabulary and are expected to speak the language in all classroom activities, including the raising of questions.

Requirements:

1. Chinese will be spoken in class as much as possible. If you absolutely need further explanation in English, please come to office hours.
2. Attendance and participation are crucial to language learning, so they comprise a significant part of your overall grade. You are expected to attend every class meeting punctually and participate actively.
3. Students are expected to make a substantial amount of effort and prepare the course materials well BEFORE coming to class. We will not go over the new words and grammar notes in the textbook one by one in class; you should do this and understand the texts outside the classroom. Class time is for discussion and to answer questions you may have during preparation.
4. All homework assignments and projects are due **on time**; homework made up after one week will not be accepted. Make-up tests will be given within one week only for special reasons such as medical excuses or pre-arranged events like interviews. NO

**make-up is allowed for the final exam.** You will receive only 80% of the credit for a make-up test. If, for some reason, you are absent or late, it is your responsibility to find out what has been taught and what the next assignment is so as to prepare for the following class.

5. Each student is responsible for two project presentations on a specific topic of the readings.
6. A short test will be given after every two units.
7. There will be no midterm exam, but there will be a final: You will interview a native speaker, who can be a friend or family member, but not your classmate or instructor. Choose any topic you like and consult your teacher. It can be developed from one of your project presentations. Have a chat with your interviewee rather than simply questioning. The interview, audio or video taped, should begin with an introduction to your interviewee about her/his background and end with a brief conclusion of your conversation. A written report should summarize and review the interview in no less than 1,000 Chinese characters.

#### Grading:

Grades will be determined by the formula, which shows that all elements are equally weighted.

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|--|-----|
| 1. Attendance, preparation and participation | 20% |
| 2. Homework assignments                      | 20% |
| 3. Project presentations (2)                 | 20% |
| 4. Unit tests (2)                            | 20% |
| 5. Final exam                                | 20% |

#### Scale for final grades:

<b>A</b>	90-100	<b>B</b>	80-89	<b>C</b>	70-79	<b>D</b>	60-69	<b>F</b>	< 60
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A minimum grade of 70% is required to achieve a satisfactory grade if you are taking this class pass/fail.

#### Schedule:

The following schedule is subject to change according to the needs of students.

##### Week 1 (8/22-26)

M Introduction: syllabus & questionnaire

W *In Search of China*

F *In Search of China*

##### Week 2 (8/29-9/2)

M Unit I "Population and Housing": Introduction

W Unit I "Population and Housing": Introduction

F I.1: The Population Explosion; Chinese Census 2000 (on-line)

[http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjgb/rkpcgb/qgrkpcgb/t20020331\\_15434.htm](http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjgb/rkpcgb/qgrkpcgb/t20020331_15434.htm)

Week 3 (9/5-9)

M Labor Day: no class

W I.1: The Population Explosion; Chinese Census 2000 (on-line)

F I.2: Housing

Week 4 (9/12-16)

M I.2: Housing

W Unit II "Education and Employment": Introduction

F Unit II "Education and Employment": Introduction

Week 5 (9/19-23)

M UN's New Definition of Illiteracy (on-line)

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/world/2005-09/08/content\\_3463375.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/world/2005-09/08/content_3463375.htm)

W UN's New Definition of Illiteracy (on-line)

F II.2: From "Dropping Out" to "Taking the Graduate Exams"

Week 6 (9/26-30)

M II.2: From "Dropping Out" to "Taking the Graduate Exams"

Cover Letter for Job Application (on-line)

<http://www.21jobs.net/xxzp/qzx.html>

<http://job.sohu.com/article/2001/08/01/29/article219812912.shtml>

W II.3: The Social Impact of the New Attitude, "Studying Is Useless"

F II.3: The Social Impact of the New Attitude, "Studying Is Useless"

Week 7 (10/3-7)

M Units I & II: test and review

W Unit III "Lovers and Marriage": Introduction

F Unit III "Lovers and Marriage": Introduction

Week 8 (10/10-14)

M III.1: An Advertisement of a Marriage Proposal and Its Respondents

W III.1: An Advertisement of a Marriage Proposal and Its Respondents

F III.3: Change in the Concept of Marriage: Pre-Nuptial Contract

Week 9 (10/17-21)

M Fall Recess: no class

W III.3: Change in the Concept of Marriage: Pre-Nuptial Contract

F *Spicy Love Soup* (1998)

Week 10 (10/24-28)

M Divorce Rate (on-line)

<http://cul.sina.com.cn/c/2005-03-18/115988.html>

W Divorce Rate (on-line)

F Unit IV "Family, Women and Children": Introduction

Week 11 (10/31-11/4)

M Unit IV "Family, Women and Children": Introduction

W May Fourth Movement and Women's Liberation (on-line)

<http://bjds.bjdj.gov.cn/yjzs/2001-3-1.htm>

<http://cul.sina.com.cn/y/2005-05-13/1706126402.html>

F May Fourth Movement and Women's Liberation (on-line)

Week 12 (11/7-11)

M IV.2: The Wife's Coming and Going in the Labor Market

W IV.2: The Wife's Coming and Going in the Labor Market

F IV.3: Single Child Family: Beibei's Years

Week 13 (11/14-18)

M IV.3: Single Child Family: Beibei's Years

W Units III & IV: test and review

F Guest lecture on Chinese medical reform

Week 14 (11/21-25)

M Unit V "Phases of the Economic Development": Introduction

W Taiwan Investment in mainland China

[http://www.epochtaiwan.net/content\\_detail.asp?art\\_id=836](http://www.epochtaiwan.net/content_detail.asp?art_id=836)

F Thanksgiving: no class

Week 15 (11/28-12/2)

M V.1: Personal Investment

W V.2: Bankruptcy in China

HW: <http://english.sina.com/business/1/2005/1123/55220.html>

F V.2: Bankruptcy in China

Week 16 (12/5-9)

M V.3: Bird's-eye View of Consumption in Cities

W V.3: Bird's-eye View of Consumption in Cities

F Wrap-up

FINAL EXAM (12/13)

TUE 8:00 - 10:50 a.m.

MOVIE EVENING

October TBA