

Georgia Institute of Technology  
School of Modern Languages

Chinese 4023 Topical Syllabus  
Chinese Strategy & *The Art of War* 《孙子兵法》

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office hours: Tues. & Thurs.: 10:00-11:00 am; or by appointment.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Utilizing authentic classical texts with their modern Chinese translations, examples of the modern application of Sunzi's Art of War 《孙子兵法》 and The Thirty-Six Stratagems 《三十六计》 found in China and the West in various media, such as martial arts literature, television series and news reports, this 3 credit, proficiency based, advanced level language and culture course simultaneously continues the students' development skills of conversation/oral presentation, listening, reading (including an introduction to Classical Chinese), writing and web-based research in Chinese. **In addition to homework including translation, character acquisition and discussion questions regarding the texts, a premium is put on comparative cultural discussion of the texts spanning the millennia.**

Pre-req: CHIN 3004 or equivalent  
Not open to native speakers/readers

Assignments include a character journal, vocabulary tests, a variety of discussion activities and presentations, translation homework, as well as a semester research project. Regular, punctual, positive participatory attendance is essential and strictly calculated in your participation grade.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

[Online Textbook/Courseware](#), [Paul B. Foster 傅抱仁](#), 高级汉语, 《孙子兵法》与《三十六计》 [Advanced Language, *The Art of War & The Thirty-Six Stratagems*], Georgia Tech School of Modern Languages, 2014.

**EVALUATION (How to Earn Points toward Your Grade):**

1. **Class Activities/Participation/Performance (25%)**
2. **Character Journal (10%)**
3. **Vocabulary Quizzes (10%)**
4. **Discussion Homework (10%)**
5. **Translation Homework (20%)**
6. **Translation Edits Journal (5%).**
7. **Semester Research Report & Presentation (20%)**
8. **Make-up Policy:** Make-up is counted only for excused absences (verifiable illness, job interviews, etc.) and **must be completed within one week of return to class**. Timely email notification of prearranged absence is expected if you want consideration for make-up. The

student is responsible for providing verification and turning in work within this period **without prompting by instructor**. It is recommended that the student complete all assignments regardless of the status of an absence since assignments contribute to the student's overall skills base. Each situation varies, such as longer illnesses, so make sure to arrange make up with the instructor accordingly.

**GRADING SCALE:** 100—90 A; 89—80 B; 79—70 C; 69—60 D; 59—0 F.

**NOTE: MINIMUM GRADE FOR “PASS” IF TAKING THIS CLASS PASS/FAIL IS 70 (C).**

| Week #             | Date | Day   | Assigned Text for Discussion  |
|--------------------|------|-------|---|
| 1                  | 1/7  | Tues  | <b>Syllabus</b><br><b>Introduction:</b><br><b>Sunzi Art of War Intro</b><br><b>Notes on Classical Chinese</b>         |
|                    | 1/9  | Thurs | <b>Sunzi Art of War Intro (continued)</b><br><b>Art of War Translations</b><br><b>The Thirty-Six Stratagems Intro</b> |
| 2                  | 1/14 | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》始計 - Laying Plans   |
|                    | 1/16 | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》始計 - Laying Plans   |
| 3                  | 1/21 | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》始計 - Laying Plans   |
|                    | 1/23 | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》謀攻 - Attack by Stratagem  |
| 4                  | 1/28 | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》謀攻 - Attack by Stratagem  |
|                    | 1/30 | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》謀攻 - Attack by Stratagem  |
| 5                  | 2/4  | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》軍形 - Tactical Dispositions  |
|                    | 2/6  | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》軍形 - Tactical Dispositions  |
| 6                  | 2/11 | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》軍形 - Tactical Dispositions  |
|                    | 2/13 | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》虛實 - Weak Points and Strong   |
| 7                  | 2/18 | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》虛實 - Weak Points and Strong   |
|                    | 2/20 | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》虛實 - Weak Points and Strong   |
| 8                  | 2/25 | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》地形 - Terrain  |
|                    | 2/27 | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》地形 - Terrain  |
| 9                  | 3/4  | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》地形 - Terrain  |
|                    | 3/6  | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》用間 - The Use of Spies   |
| 10                 | 3/11 | Tues  | 《孙子兵法》用間 - The Use of Spies   |
|                    | 3/13 | Thurs | 《孙子兵法》用間 - The Use of Spies   |
| <b>3/18 - 3/20</b> |      |       | <b>Spring Break</b>   |
| 11                 | 3/25 | Tues  | 《三十六计》The Thirty-Six Stratagems   |
|                    | 3/27 | Thurs | 《三十六计》The Thirty-Six Stratagems   |

|            |             |             |   |
|------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| 12         | 4/1         | Tues        | 金庸《鹿鼎记》走为上计 <b>Escape is Best</b>   |
|            | 4/3         | Thurs       | 金庸《鹿鼎记》走为上计 <b>Escape is Best</b>   |
| 13         | 4/8         | Tues        | 金庸《鹿鼎记》走为上计 <b>Escape is Best</b>   |
|            | 4/10        | Thurs       | 古龙《武林外史》 <b>Stratagem Analogy</b>   |
| 14         | 4/15        | Tues        | 古龙《武林外史》 <b>Stratagem Analogy</b>   |
|            | 4/17        | Thurs       | 古龙《武林外史》 <b>Stratagem Analogy</b>   |
| 15         | 4/22        | Tues        | <b>Semester Research Reports</b>  |
|            | 4/24        | Thurs       | <b>Semester Research Reports</b>  |
| <b>Fin</b> | <b>4/29</b> | <b>Tues</b> | <b>Final Exam Period 11:30 am – 2:20 pm</b><br><b>Semester Research Reports (continued)</b> |

#### **ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #1: PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>ML Learning Outcome 1:</b><br>Demonstrate oral and aural proficiency in the target language                              | CHIN 4813: Students will demonstrate oral proficiency at the Intermediate low – Intermediate Mid ACTFL level   |
| <b>ML Learning Outcome 2:</b><br>Demonstrate effective presentation skills in the target language                           | CHIN 4813: Students will demonstrate the ability to present in class for 15-20 minutes with minimal notes on a selected topic related to Sunzi Art of War and/or the Thirty-Six Stratagems |
| <b>ML Learning Outcome 3:</b><br>Demonstrate writing proficiency in the target language                                     | CHIN 4813: Students will produce a range of writing from simple written description to a two page report at the Intermediate-Low to Intermediate-Mid level on the ACTFL scale              |
| <b>ML Learning Outcome 4:</b><br>Demonstrate proficiency in comprehension of authentic written texts in the target Language | CHIN 4813: Students will demonstrate comprehension of authentic online material analyzing and answering Research and Discussion Topics   |

#### **ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #2: INTERCULTURAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE**

|  |  |
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| <b>ML Learning Outcome 5:</b><br>Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a <i>specific</i> target-language country or region | CHIN 4813: Students will learn the simple fundamentals of classical Chinese language and to successfully analyze events in Chinese culture using the principles in Sunzi Art of War and/or the Thirty-Six Stratagems |
| <b>ML Learning Outcome 6:</b><br>Demonstrate the ability to analyze an issue from target-culture perspective(s)        | CHIN 4813: Students will display the ability to analyze events in Chinese as well as other Asian and Western cultures using the principles in Sunzi Art of War and/or the Thirty-Six Stratagems.                     |

**ML Learning Outcome 7:**  
**Demonstrate critical reflection on cultural complexity and context**

**CHIN 4813:** *Students will display the ability to analyze and discuss issues crossing politics, economics and culture in China/Taiwan/Hong Kong, as well as applying such learning to intercultural analysis.*