

CHIN 303 – Readings in Modern Chinese 1
Department of Foreign Languages
West Virginia University

Instructor : Dr. Hannah Lin (*Lín Lǎoshī* 林老师)
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Office Hours : Tuesday 2:30 – 4:00; Wednesday 3:30 – 5:00
Prerequisite : CHIN 204 or equivalent

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Chou, Chih-ping *et al.* 1999. *A New China – Intermediate Reader of Modern China*. Text. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
2. Chou, Chih-ping *et al.* 1999. *A New China – Intermediate Reader of Modern China*. Grammar Notes & Exercises. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
3. On-line reading materials (Chinese Idioms) and other class materials will be provided by the instruction.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is for students who have finished First and Second Year Chinese and who wish to continue building their proficiency, especially reading, in the Chinese language. This course aims to expand students' vocabulary by introducing about 300 new characters, and to enhance their understanding of Chinese language by focusing on extensive instead of intensive reading. This course, covering 14 lessons of the textbook and 15 idiom stories, will cover some important social and cultural issues related to modern China. Upon finishing this course, students are expected to reach the intermediate or intermediate high level of proficiency where they are able to talk about and comment on various topics such as public health, gender issues, language planning and bargaining culture in Chinese. Students will also be introduced to the more formal written-style expressions (书面语 *shūmiànyǔ*) of Chinese.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the students should be able to:

- RECOGNIZE approximately 300 new Chinese characters by knowing their pronunciation and meaning.
- READ and understand more complex materials or simple authentic materials in medium-length “*shumianyu*” (written style) essays using learned vocabulary and structures.
- SPEAK Mandarin Chinese well enough to talk about social topics in modern China and cultural differences between China and the United States.

- DEMONSTRATE an understanding of spoken Chinese by listening to contextualized medium-length conversations or narratives using learned vocabulary and structures regarding daily life.
- WRITE paragraphs and medium-length compositions in Chinese on familiar topics; write notes and letters that relate to personal interests and daily needs.
- DEMONSTRATE an understanding of Chinese culture when interacting with native Chinese speakers.
- USE computer programs to search the internet, send email messages and type essays in Chinese characters.

REQUIREMENTS

1. In-class performance - Participation (15%) and Preparation (20%). Classes meet three times a week. New materials, such as vocabulary and grammar points will be introduced and explained in the lecture section, followed by the practice and discussion sections focusing on reading and interpreting text materials. Only Chinese will be used in class. **Daily preparation** is critical to this course and students' preparation efforts will be evaluated in every class. Students are required to attend all classes, and prepare for EVERY class according to the "Before Class" checklist on the Class Schedule. A quick quiz (0 to 5 points, either oral or written) will be administered at the beginning of each class. Students will also be evaluated and graded EVERY CLASS for In-class participation on a 5-point scale (see Daily In-class Performance Grading Criteria below). The weekly average of the In-Class Performance score will be posted on eCampus.

Daily In-class Performance Grading Criteria:

Preparation	Participation				
0 – 5	0	2	3	4	5
Actual score from quick quiz, which can be either oral or written.	Absent from class without proper documentation	Passive participation and unsatisfactory performance	Passive participation but satisfactory performance	Active Participation and satisfactory performance	Active participation and good performance

NOTES: Attendance is mandatory and a “zero” will be recorded for unexcused absence. There will be no make-up for the quick quizzes. Students who are more than 10 minutes late for class will only receive partial credit for participation. Disturbing in-class manners, including eating, talking, napping, and cell phone ringing will also result in point-deductions from the student's participation grade.

2. Review Tests (30%) - There will be (5) review tests, including the final exam, scheduled throughout the semester. Make-up tests can only be permitted with proper documentation (e.g. official University memo). The request for the make-up test needs to be made PRIOR TO the event date. The review tests include assessments of the students’ listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, as well as cultural knowledge. All the tests are cumulative.

3. Homework (25%) – Homework will be assigned for each lesson. Homework must be handed in at the beginning of the class on each due day. In general, late homework will **NOT**

receive any credit. Under special circumstances when the students are not able to submit the homework on time, the arrangement needs to be made with the instructor before the due date.

4. On-line chat room discussions (5%) – Throughout the semester, students will participate in the on-line chat room discussions on eCampus by typing comments, opinions or stories based on the assigned topic every week. Each contribution should be at least 50 words (Chinese) long. The minimum contribution to the chat room is once a week. Possible bonus points will be assigned to students who make frequent and high quality contributions to the chat room discussions.

5. Idiom Skits (5%) – On the Idiom day, two students will perform a skit (5-6 minutes) based on the story described in the idiom. Each student will perform two skits this semester.

Bonus Points - Possible bonus points will be given to students who actively participate in Chinese-related activities, such as the Chinese Table, Chinese lectures, and the Chinese Club cultural activities.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is mandatory and a “zero” will be recorded for participation for an unexcused absence. Consistent with WVU guidelines, students absent from regularly scheduled examinations because of authorized University activities will have the opportunity to take them at an alternate time. Make-up exams for absences due to any other reason will be at the discretion of the instructor.

FINAL GRADE DISTRIBUTION

The final grade in Chinese 303 will be determined based on the following components:

Participation & Preparation	35%	A+ = 97-100	B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69
Review Tests (x5)	30%	A = 93-96	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 63-66
HWK + Chat room	30%	A- = 90-92	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72	D- = 60-62
Skits	5%				F = -60

Explanation of grades:

- A = Excellent (given only to students of superior ability and attainment)
- B = Good (given to students who are well above average, but not in the highest group)
- C = Fair (average for undergraduate students)
- D = Poor but passing
- F = Failure
- I = Incomplete
- W=withdrawal from a course before the date specified in the University Calendar

Please note: The grade of the Incomplete is given only in those instances where an examination has been missed or another major course requirement has not been met as a result of an excused absence. The grade is NOT to be assigned in lieu of an F or when the performance throughout the semester has been generally unsatisfactory.

POLICY STATEMENTS

Social Justice: West Virginia University is committed to social justice. The instructor of this class concurs with that commitment and expects to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veterans status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Disability Services (293-6700).

Academic Integrity/Dishonesty Policy: The integrity of the classes offered by any academic institution solidifies the foundation of its mission and cannot be sacrificed to expediency, ignorance, or blatant fraud. Therefore, I will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects and assignments of this course. For the detailed policy of West Virginia University regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, please see the Student Conduct Code at <http://www.arc.wvu.edu/rightsc.html>. Should you have any questions about possibly improper research citations or references, or any other activity that may be interpreted as an attempt at academic dishonesty, please see me *before* the assignment is due to discuss the matter.