



## CIEE in Shanghai, China

<b>Course name:</b>	Classical Chinese
<b>Course number:</b>	CHIN 3012 SACS
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	Shanghai Accelerated Chinese Language, Shanghai Business, Language and Culture, Shanghai China in a Global Context
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	Chinese
<b>U.S. Semester Credits:</b>	3 semester/4.5 quarter hours
<b>Contact Hours:</b>	45
<b>Term:</b>	Spring 2019

### Course Description

Classical Chinese has influenced many aspects of modern Mandarin Chinese. Many common words used today, both in speech and writing, derive from classical roots. As such, knowledge of classical Chinese provides important insights into sophisticated usage of the language and will greatly improve students' literary appreciation and proficiency.

### Learning Objectives

The course is designed to help students to a) enhance their ability to understand formal speech and writing, which frequently makes allusions to classical text quotes and idioms, lines of classical poetry, and essays; b) conduct research that requires a reading knowledge of classical Chinese texts; c) learn traditional Chinese culture through reading primary texts.

To accomplish the first learning objective, there will be a great variety of chances in class for students to practice speaking with idioms, and quote poetic lines in proper contexts. To accomplish the second goal, the course will introduce the basic classical grammatical patterns and function words. To accomplish the third goal, historical information and cross-references related to the texts will be explained to expand students' knowledge of the Chinese classics. Through this course, students will begin advancing from speaking correctly to speaking eloquently and intellectually.

### Course Prerequisites

This course is designed for students who have studied college-level Mandarin Chinese for a minimum of two years.

### Methods of Instruction

Students will start with easier texts and gradually advance to more difficult ones. This course will be taught with a practical approach to classical Chinese and in a communicative way. This course will help students understand formal speeches on television, radio and in various social occasions, as well as in formal articles commonly found in newspapers.

### Assessment and Final Grade

1. Participation: 20%



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|------------------|-----|
| 2. Homework:     | 30% |
| 3. Midterm Exam: | 25% |
| 4. Final Exam:   | 25% |

All coursework must be submitted directly to the instructor of record, unless the student has received other explicit, documented instructions to the contrary. You are required to keep hard copies of all assignments for up to one year after the completion of the program, in addition to any digital copies required by the instructor. It is *your* responsibility to make sure the instructor has received all your required work. Failure to do so may result in zero credit for lost assignments.

Neither individual instructors, the Language Director nor the Center Director have final authority to extend deadlines past the end of the semester, make special arrangements for students to submit late work, or otherwise modify CIEE academic policies. The CIEE Chief Academic Officer is the only person authorized to approve exceptions to these policies.

## **Course Requirements**

### **Attendance and participation**

Your attendance and active participation in each class session is essential for a successful language course. It is important that you come to class well-prepared. Attendance is worth 10% and participation is worth another 10% of your final grade. Participation means both physical attendance and active engagement in class. Your final grade will be reduced 1% per day of unexcused absences in language classes, or 0.5% per class, up to 10%. You are allowed one day of unexcused absences without affecting your attendance grade. Absences may be excused in the event of a medical necessity or family emergency. In such cases, you may request an Excused Absence Form from the CIEE office. First submit the form to the head language instructor for her or his approval and signature, prior to submitting the completed form, together with a note from the attending physician or other supporting documentation, for approval from the Language Director. Absence for 3 weeks of Chinese classes or more may result in failure of the course.

### **Homework**

Reading and writing homework will be based on the instructor developed course reader. Written homework consists of translating classical texts into modern Chinese (or sometimes English), and the use of live classical words/expressions in modern communication. It is important that you hand in your homework on time. Late homework will be marked down 1 point (out of 10) on each assignment grade, and missing homework will bring down the final course grade 1% per assignment up to 30%.

### **Exams**

There will be a midterm and a final exam. The midterm and final exams contain translation, sentence making, and grammar knowledge. The midterm exam is scheduled on 04/11 .The final exam is scheduled on 06/01.

## **Weekly Schedule**



Please note this schedule is subject to change if opportunities arise to enhance the curriculum.

- Week 1**            **《论语》（一）"Confucian Analects" I**  
Discuss the reading material  
Discuss core sentences:不亦乐乎；知之为知之；温故而知新  
Cultural knowledge: an introduction to 三孔 (the Three Confucian sites)
- 《论语》（二）"Confucian Analects" II**  
Discuss the reading material  
Discuss core sentences:三思而后行；三人行；学而不厌
- Reading: Textbook page 41-48
- Week 2**            **《论语》（三）"Confucian Analects" III**  
Discuss the reading material  
Discuss core sentences:敏而好学；四海之内皆兄弟；己所不欲  
Cultural knowledge: 泰山 (Mount. Tai)
- 《论语》（四）"Confucian Analects" IV**  
Discuss the reading material  
Discuss core sentences:君子成人之美；言必信  
Chinese language knowledge: pictographic characters
- Reading: Textbook page 49-54
- Week 3**            **Field trip: Visit Shanghai Museum**  
Learn about Chinese oracle bones inscriptions and bronze wares inscriptions  
Learn about stone carved inscriptions over the period from the Wei-Jin Dynasties to the  
Tang Dynasty
- 《白日依山尽》"On the Stork Tower"**  
Discuss the reading material  
Cultural knowledge: Huang He(Yellow River)  
Chinese language knowledge: indicative characters
- Reading: Textbook page 15
- Week 4**            **《诗经·桃夭》"Taoyao" ("Shijing / The Book of Songs")**  
Discuss the reading material  
Discuss core sentences:桃之夭夭  
Chinese language knowledge: associative characters: Part I  
Cultural knowledge: The Book of Songs
- 《诗经·关雎》"Guanju" ("Shijing / The Book of Songs")**

Discuss the reading material  
 Discuss core sentences:窈窕淑女；君子好逑  
 Chinese language knowledge: associative characters: Part II

Reading: Textbook page 81-87

**Week 5**      **《清明》 Tang poetry: "Qingming"**

Discuss the reading material  
 Introduction to the Qingming Festival (Tomb Sweeping Day)  
 Chinese language knowledge: pictophonetic characters: Part I

**《过华清宫》 Tang poetry: " Passing by the Huaqing Palace "**

Discuss the reading material  
 Chinese language knowledge: pictophonetic characters: Part II  
 Cultural knowledge: 西安 Xi'an

Reading: Textbook page 29

**Week 6**      **《龟虽寿》 Ancient poetry: "Though Long May Live the Sacred Turtle"**

Discuss the reading material  
 Chinese language knowledge: the evolution of the physical characteristics of Chinese characters  
 Cultural knowledge: 三国 Three Kingdoms

Reading: Textbook page 200-204

**Mid-term exam**

**Week 7**      **《黔之驴》 Ancient fable: "The Donkey of Qian"**

Discuss the reading material  
 Discuss core sentences:庞然大物  
 Cultural knowledge: China provincial abbreviations

**《轻身不老》 Chinese medicine: 《Shen Nong's herbal classic》**

Discuss the reading material  
 Discuss core sentences:轻身不老  
 Cultural knowledge: traditional Chinese medicine and Chinese herbal medicines

Reading: Textbook page 182-186

**Week 8**      **《塞翁失马》 Ancient fable: "Blessing or Bane"**

Discuss the reading material  
 Discuss core sentences:焉知非福

**《饮酒·第五》 Ancient poetry: "Drinking (The Fifth)"**

Discuss the reading material

Cultural knowledge: Tao Yuan-ming and the moral spirit of the ancient Chinese literati

Reading: 205-209

**Week 9**

**Field trip: visit old city God's Temple 城隍庙**

Learn about temple culture of China

Visit 童涵春店 Tonghanchun Pharmacy to develop a deeper understanding of ancient Chinese medicine culture

Cultural knowledge: Chinese ancient folk culture

**《黄帝内经·轻身延年》 Chinese medicine: 《Huangdi Neijing》**

Discuss the reading material

Discuss core sentences: 五脏六腑、耳目聪明

Cultural knowledge: the diagnostic methods of traditional Chinese medicine

Reading: Textbook page 129-135

**Week 10**

**《霸王别姬》 Chinese drama: "Farewell to My Concubine"**

Discuss the reading material

Discuss core sentences: 四面楚歌、楚河汉界

Cultural knowledge: Chinese drama

**《君子必慎交游》 Chinese family precepts: "A Gentleman Must Be Careful of Making Friends"**

Discuss the reading material

Discuss core sentences: 芝兰之室、交友不慎

Cultural knowledge: traditional Chinese family maxims

Reading: Textbook page 176-181

**Week 11**

**《董永与织女》 "Dong Yong and the Weaver Girl" ("Anecdotes About Spirits and Immortals")**

Discuss the reading material

Discuss core sentences: 七仙女、天衣无缝

Cultural knowledge: traditional Chinese festivals

**《昭君出塞》 Chinese historical story: "Zhaojun Goes Beyond the Great Wall as a Bride"**

Discuss the reading material

Discuss core sentences: 沉鱼落雁

Cultural knowledge: Jiangnan(south of the Yangtze River)and Saibei(North of the Great



Wall)

Reading: Textbook page 142-148

**Week 12**      **《画蛇添足》 Ancient fable: "Adding Feet to a Snake While Drawing It"**

Discuss the reading material

Chinese language knowledge: 酉 radical in Chinese characters

Reading: Textbook page 21-22

**Final Exam**

**Required Texts**

**Course Materials**

Readings

Yao Meiling. Classical Chinese. East China Normal University Press, 2010. 姚美玲, 《古代汉语》. 华东师范大学出版社, 2010.