Course name: Contemporary Chinese Studies through Media
Course number: CHIN 3003 CNAN
Programs offering course: Nanjing Intensive Chinese Language and Culture
Language of instruction: Chinese
U.S. Semester Credits: 3
Contact Hours: 45
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description
Contemporary Chinese Studies through Media is an advanced Chinese language class with a focus on specific topics. It aims to further improve students’ overall language skills, particularly listening comprehension on news broadcast, reading comprehension on newspaper articles as well as oral communication skills. The listening and reading material is selected from mainstream media and reflects the most recent changes and hot topics on Chinese society, economy, culture, politics, etc. Through a large amount of reading, visual, listening, practice and in-class discussion, students will deepen their understanding of contemporary China as well as the formal vocabulary used in the media.

Learning Objectives
After taking this course, students should have improved their listening, speaking, reading skills and mastered more spoken and written language structure related to topics on contemporary China. They should be able to discuss hot topics on contemporary Chinese society and express their views accurately and fully. In the mean time, they will get familiar with the online resources in Chinese and develop the ability to search relevant information using Chinese.

Course Prerequisites
This course is designed for students with two years of college-level Mandarin Chinese or above. Students should process a working vocabulary of approximately 2,000 commonly used words.

Methods of Instruction
The instruction focuses on the listening and reading comprehension of the texts and supplementary material and the discussion of the topics. Instruction will use multimedia including PowerPoint, news broadcast, documentary, and films. Students should actively participate in discussions and use new vocabulary and grammatical structure deliberately inside and outside classroom. In order to improve their ability to use Chinese in real life situations, students are encouraged to read Chinese newspapers, watch Chinese TV programs and movies, write emails and texts in Chinese on a daily basis.
**Assessment and Grading**

Grading will be based on the following:

- Participation: 15%
- Homework: 20%
- Presentation: 20%
- Language Commitment: 5%
- Midterm: 20%
- Final: 20%

**Course Requirements**

All course work 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 no credit for lost assignments.

**Participation**

Your active participation in each class is essential for successful language learning. It is important that you come to class well prepared. Participation means both physical attendance and active engagement in class. Late to class or leaving early three times will be counted as one absence. Throughout this semester, you have three excused absences, reserved for serious sickness or emergencies. In such cases, you should inform the Director and the course instructor ahead of time. You may present a note from a doctor or other supporting documentation to the Director to request the Excused Absence Form. With Director's approval and signature, you may submit the form to the language instructor for his/her approval and signature. The form will be kept by the language instructor for records. After the three excused absence, each absence per class will reduce your final grade by 0.5% up to 15%. Therefore, use your excused absences wisely!

**Homework**

Students should spend approximately 3-4 hours outside class on lesson preparation and homework assignments. It is important that you hand in your homework in the beginning of the class. Late homework is accepted up to one week after the deadline and will be marked down 1 point (out of 10) per day on each assignment grade. Missing homework will reduce your final course grade by 0.5% per assignment, up to 20% of your final grade.

**Presentation**

Students choose a news article with regards to this week’s topic and send it to teacher two days before class, write down your views and opinions on the article. Students should make PowerPoint according to the news with pictures and introductions. Each student has to prepare a presentation for at least 10 minutes.
1. Be able to clearly summarize the contents of the selected articles in Chinese.
2. According to the article, extend beyond the topic and add your own views and opinions.
3. Be able to interact with the audiences, ask questions and discuss with peers.
Mid-term and Final exams
Mid-term exam will be in the seventh week and final exam in the fifteenth week. The written exams include making new words with given characters, completing sentences, completing dialogues, translation, reading comprehension and essay writing.

Language Commitment
You will sign a language commitment on the first day of classes. Language commitment is worth 5% of the final grade. Speaking Chinese is required in the classroom and the designated areas in the dorm building, including study center offices, student lounge, study room, hallway and dorms. Speaking Chinese is required when interacting with Chinese roommates/host families, tutors, other CIEE students and staff on campus. Speaking languages other than Chinese in these areas or environments may reduce your final grade in Chinese class by 1-5%.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Topic: Course Introduction and Requirements
Content: Introduction to all the topics covered in the semester. Understand students' current perceptions and knowledge about China. Watch two short videos to learn about China in the eyes of foreigners and Chinese people respectively.
Homework: Students read an article on environmental issues and send it to the teacher before class.

Week 2

Topic: Environmental Issues
Content: Read and analyze article 《不归环保部门的那些事儿》; watch video “Under the Dome”
Reading: 《不归环保部门的那些事儿》 http://www.infzm.com/content/138578
Presentation on the news articles selected by students
Homework: Students read an article on environmental issues and send it to the teacher.

Week 3

Topic: Traffic & Transportation
Content: Read and analyze article 《设计的陷阱：从高铁座位号标记说起》, watch and discuss video “中国高铁的崛起 & 北京城市道路规划 & 小品《碰瓷》”
Reading: 《设计的陷阱：从高铁座位号标记说起》 http://www.infzm.com/content/139851
Presentation on the news articles selected by students
Homework: Students read an article on traffic and send it to the teacher.

Week 4

Topic: Education in China (part1)
Content: Read and analyze article 《寒门再难出贵子，很现实》， watch and discuss video “纪录片《高考》”
Reading: 《寒门再难出贵子，很现实》
https://baijiahao.baidu.com/s?id=1607684810748792604&wfr=spider&for=pc
Presentation on the news articles selected by students
Homework: Students read an article on educational issues and send it to the teacher.

Week 5

**Topic: Educational in China (part2)**
Content: Read and analyze article 《高考真的可以改变命运吗？》， watch and discuss video “疯狂的课外辅导班 & 学区房”
Reading: 《高考真的可以改变命运吗？》
https://www.sohu.com/a/234484361_390121
Presentation on the news articles selected by students
Homework: Students read an article on educational issues and send it to the teacher.

Week 6

**Topic: Public Health & Medical System**
Content: Read and analyze article 《请记住，医生是人不是神！》， watch and discuss video “医患矛盾知多少 & 医闹 & 生门”
Reading: 《请记住，医生是人不是神！》
https://www.sohu.com/a/117004750_349675
Presentation on the news articles selected by students themselves
Homework: Students read an article on China’s public health and send it to the teacher.

Week 7 Spring Break

Week 8 Mid-term: Written Exam & Presentation

Week 9

**Topic: Migration & Left-behind Children**
Content: Read and analyze article 《孩子别哭！》， watch and discuss video ‘来自大山深处的呼唤’.
Reading: 《孩子别哭！》
http://edu.youth.cn/jyzx/xykx/201607/t20160728_8359883_1.htm
Presentation on the news articles selected by students themselves
Homework: Students read an article on the social issues of migration and send it to the teacher.

Week 10

**Topic: China’s Economic Development & Nail Household**
Content: Read and analyze article 《最牛钉子户》， watch and discuss video “钉子户 & 强拆之痛”
Reading: 《最牛钉子户》
https://baijiahao.baidu.com/s?id=1608303021109293921&wfr=spider&for=pc
Presentation on the news articles selected by students themselves
Homework: Students read an article on the social problem of nail household and send it to the teacher.

Week 11 Excursion to southwestern China

Week 12
  Topic: China’s Housing Market
  Content: Read and analyze article 《地产调而未控，原因何在？》, watch and discuss video “年轻人如何能留在大城市？”
  Reading: 《地产调而未控，原因何在？》http://www.infzm.com/content/138383
  Presentation on the news articles selected by students themselves
  Homework: Students read an article on China’s housing market and send it to the teacher.

Week 13
  Topic: China’s Household Registration System and Five-one Insurance Fund
  Content: Read and analyze article 《上海户口的积分政策》, watch and discuss video
  Presentation on the news articles selected by students themselves
  Homework: Students read an article on China’s household registration system and send it to the teacher.

Week 14
  Topic: Overview of China's Development & Newsreel: Discovery of China
  Content: watch and discuss video “Discovery of China”
  Presentation on the news articles selected by students themselves
  Homework: Students read an article on China’s development and send it to the teacher.

Week 15 Final Written Exam & Presentation

Resources


Online Resources:
  • News:
    1. 新华网：www.xinhuanet.com
    2. 南方周末：www.infzm.com
    3. 凤凰网：www.ifeng.com
    4. 华尔街日报：cn.wsj.com/gb/
    6. 联合早报网：www.zaobao.com
• **Videos (网路直播、转播中文新闻、电视节目):**
  1. 土豆网: [www.tudou.com](http://www.tudou.com)
  2. 优酷网: [www.youku.com](http://www.youku.com)

• **Blogs**