

COURSE SYLLABUS



ADVANCED CHINESE IV IFSA Program Center in Shanghai, China

US semester credit hours: 4

Course code: CHIN401

Contact hours: 91

Course length: Semester

Delivery method: Face to Face

Course Overview

This course is designed for language students with at least 8 semesters of formal training in Chinese. Course contents are structured to help students strengthen their language skills through improved proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Chinese. Through a wide range of learning activities such as daily dictation, oral and written tests, recalling of conversation, story-telling, dialogue construction, presentations, and skit performances, the course focuses students toward further improving their pronunciation and tones; learning new grammar patterns; and applying the grammar and vocabulary learned.

Learning Objectives

Students learn at least 30 new Chinese words in each class session; and are encouraged to master approximately 1150 new words; and 123 new grammar patterns by the end of the semester. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Use Chinese confidently as they navigate through their day-to-day activities;
2. Hold conversations with local Chinese communities on common topics such as those related to culture, food, local arts, etc.;
3. Apply a more sophisticated vocabulary to engage in conversations on social issues, such as those pertaining to birth control in China, the status of Chinese women in society, etc.

Course Structure

The 14-week course incorporates a series of classes that meet four times a week for a total of 6.5 hours each week. Students are required to take the following three modules as part of the course:

1. Grammar Class
2. Drill Class (Grammar & Vocabulary Practice, and Application of Communication Skills);
3. One-to-One Tutoring Sessions

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Textbook

Alliance Reader II&III, the Alliance for Global Education

Class Hours

1. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: Grammar Class & Drill Class
 - Module 1: 9:00-10:00
 - Module 2: 10:10-11:00
2. One-to-One: Each student is allocated a 25-minute One-to-One session per week.
3. Additional language practicums i.e. Chinese Table and Language Partner meetings: TBA

Pre-Class Preparation

Students are encouraged to spend 2-3 hours a day in course related work, including preparing for class, reviewing daily dictations, and completing assignments. Pre-class preparation may include:

- Listening to the DVDs that are included in the textbook;
- Practicing the reading and writing of words assigned;
- Practicing vocabulary from assigned dialogues;
- Reviewing grammar patterns in the assigned chapters from the textbook;
- Memorizing dialogues or chapters assigned by class instructors;
- Practicing oral language skills with Chinese roommate or language partner by role-playing and engaging them in daily conversations and cultural activities; and
- Completing assignments

Grammar Class

Students are required to use only Chinese when classes are in session. In addition to scheduled class activities, new grammar patterns and vocabulary are introduced during each class session. Each class session typically begins with a daily dictation of vocabulary and key sentences. Students are required to write both in pinyin and in Chinese characters for these dictations. Students are also expected to reconstruct the texts from assigned dialogues and retell the dialogues with accurate and fluid pronunciation.

Drill Class

The Drill Classes offer students the opportunity to practice applying the newly acquired grammar patterns and vocabulary, before focusing on applying these skills to hold conversations in more spontaneous and creative real-life scenarios; and participate in in-depth discussions on social issues from a cross-cultural perspective.

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One-to-One Tutoring Sessions

The One-to-One sessions allow students to engage in individual discussions with class instructors, as well as to focus on a specific aspect of the language. They also provide students with the opportunity to work with their instructors to address the language needs of their internships; and develop a stronger familiarity with words and expressions typically used in business environments.

Course Policies

Exams and Assignments

Students are required to take all regularly scheduled exams in courses for which they are registered and submit all assignments on time. Any compelling academic, personal, or medical reason that might justify a rescheduled exam or assignment must be raised with the Resident Director, not program faculty. Failure to take scheduled exams or submit the requisite assignments will adversely affect your grade.

Classroom Conduct

Student punctuality is extremely important in China and India. Please do not be late for classes or other activities, as it is considered impolite to do so. It is improper to eat in class, to engage in other activities such as texting, or to slump or nap. Students are expected to be alert and engaged as a sign of respect for their professors.

Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. It is essential that the students participate fully in the coursework and all required academic activities. Authorized absences may only be approved by the Resident Director, and students are expected to make up any missed work. Unauthorized absences will adversely affect a student's grades.

As this is an intensive course, it is essential that students come to the class on time and attend class regularly. Students are allowed to miss class only if it is approved by the Resident Director. Make-up exams, homework will be offered to students who have Resident Director's approval.

Evaluation

During the semester, there will be the following assessments:

Quizzes

Mid-Term exam

Final exam

Evaluation Methods

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| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Participation | 10% |
| Dictation | 10% |
| Homework | 10% |
| Oral and Written Test | 15% |
| Mid-Term Exam | 25% |
| Final Exam | 30% |

Grading Policies

IFSA programs in Shanghai utilize the follow standard grading policy well accepted by most US institutions.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|---------|------|----|--------|----------------|----|--------|
| Excellent | A | 93-100% | Good | B+ | 87-89% | Acceptable | C+ | 77-79% |
| | A- | 90-92% | | B | 83-86% | | C | 73-76% |
| | | | | B- | 80-82% | | C- | 70-72% |
| | | | | | | Unsatisfactory | D+ | 67-69% |
| | | | | | | | D | 63-66% |
| | | | | | | | D- | 60-62% |
| | | | | | | Failing | F | <60% |

Class Schedule

*Class schedule is subject to change.

| Week 1 | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|---------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Grammar | Grammar |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | Drill |

| Week 2 | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | Mid-autumn Festival | Grammar | | Grammar | Grammar |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | Drill |
| | | Chinese Workshop 7:00-9:00 PM | | | |

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| Week 3 | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Review | | Grammar | Grammar |
| Section 2 | | Written Test 1 | | Drill | Drill |

| Week 4 | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Grammar | Grammar |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | Drill |

| Week 5 | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | National Holiday | National Holiday | National Holiday |
| Section 2 | | Drill | Day off | Day off | Day off |

| Week 6 | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 10/6—10/10 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Field Study Trip. | | | | | |

| Week 7 | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Review | Grammar |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Written Test 2 | Drill |

| Week 8 | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Grammar | Grammar |

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|-----------|--|-------|--|-------|-------|
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | Drill |
|-----------|--|-------|--|-------|-------|

| Week 9 | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Grammar | Mid-term Exam |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | |

| Week 10 | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Independent Travel. | | | | | |

| Week 11 | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Grammar | Chinese Speech Contest |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | |

| Week 12 | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Grammar | Grammar Drill |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | |

| Week 13 | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Review | Long Weekend |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Written Test 3 | |

| Week 14 | | | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
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| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Grammar | Grammar |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | Drill |
| | | | | Chinese Performance 7:00-9:00 PM | |

| Week 15 | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|------------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Grammar | | Grammar | Exit Exam |
| Section 2 | | Drill | | Drill | |

| Week 16 | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|--------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Section 1 | | Review | | Final Exam | |
| Section 2 | | Final Oral Test | | | |

Academic Integrity

Any academic endeavor must be based upon a foundation of honesty and integrity. Students are expected to abide by principles of academic integrity and must be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work while studying abroad. Any academic work (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill an academic requirement must represent a student's original work. Any act of academic misconduct, such as cheating, fabrication, forgery, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty, will subject a student to disciplinary action.

IFSA takes academic integrity very seriously. Students must not accept outside assistance without permission from the instructor. Additionally, students must document all sources according to the instructions of the professor. Should your instructor suspect you of plagiarism, cheating, or other forms of academic dishonesty, you may receive a failing grade for the course and disciplinary action may result. The incident will be reported to the IFSA resident director as well as your home institution.

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