

Chinese 633: Chinese Dialects

Fall 2018

Lecture Time: Mondays 3:00 p.m. -- 5:30 p.m.

Lecture Room: Moore Hall 394

Course Website: <https://laulima.hawaii.edu/x/ylyU0H>

For the updated version of this syllabus, consult the course website.

Instructor:

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Office hours: Mondays 12:30 p.m. -- 1:30 p.m., and by appointment

1. Course Description

This course investigates the linguistic features of Chinese dialects through a cross dialectal, comparative approach. In this course, students will be introduced to the definition and formation of dialect, Chinese dialect classification, dialect fieldwork, synchronic descriptions of seven major Chinese dialects, and various socio-cultural relations/differences between Standard Chinese (i.e. Mandarin, *Putonghua*) and dialects.

What this course is *not* about: learning a Chinese dialect as a second language, practicing a spoken Chinese dialect.

2. Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students

- [1] know the definition and formation of dialect;
- [2] understand the principle of Chinese dialect classification as well as the method of conducting fieldwork on Chinese dialects;
- [3] are able to recognize some of the key linguistic features of one (or more) Chinese dialects as well as some phonological, lexical, and grammatical variation in several Chinese dialects;
- [4] demonstrate preliminary knowledge of the kinds of issues on Chinese dialects frequently studied and debated by Chinese scholars;
- [5] demonstrate sufficient knowledge to examine some of the topics at a descriptive level and to proceed to further studies in an advanced seminar concerning Chinese dialects.

3. Course Requirements

- [1] Class participation, discussion and exercises (including attendance) (20%)
- [2] Required Readings and presentation of assigned reading materials (20%)
- [3] A paper (about 15 double-spaced pages) that either represents 1). original research on one aspect of one Chinese dialect or on a cross-dialectal comparison between two or more dialects on a particular phenomenon or issue, or 2). a critical survey of a number of treatments/discussions on one phenomenon of one (or more) Chinese dialects. (40%)
- [4] An abstract (or outline plan) of [3] due on the 13th Week of the semester (Nov 17, Saturday) (10%)
- [5] A presentation of [3] in the end of the semester (10%)

4. Lecture Topics

- I. Overview of the phenomena
 1. Basic terminologies and notions: dialect and language
 2. Formation of dialect
 3. Studies on Chinese dialectology
- II. Language Classification and Chinese Dialect Classification
 4. The method and principle
 5. Chinese dialect classification
 6. Some remaining issues
- III. Chinese Dialect Investigation and Fieldwork
 7. Phonetics and phonology & International Phonetics Alphabets (IPA)
 8. Lexicon and grammar
- IV. General Descriptions of Seven Chinese Dialects
 9. Guanhua (官话方言)
 10. Xiang (湘方言)
 11. Gan (赣方言)
 12. Wu (吴方言)
 13. Yue (粤方言)
 14. Kejia (客家方言)
 15. Min (闽方言)
- V. Chinese Dialect Comparison and Variation
 16. Grammar
 17. Grammar

This list may change as we progress in the course. We will *try* to cover most of these topics (some rather superficially). Even with all these topics included, our coverage of Chinese Dialects is far from comprehensive.

5. Course Materials

Textbook

- There is no required textbook for the course. However, most of the readings will be excerpts from the following textbook. If you'd like a Chinese dialect textbook, this work is recommended:

Li, Xiaofan and Xiang, Mengbing. 2013. *Hanyu Fangyanxue Jichu Jiaocheng* 汉语方言学基础教程 [Fundamentals of *Chinese Dialect Studies*]. Beijing: Peking University Press.
- A number of readings will be taken from the following books:

- Chao, Yuen Ren. 1976. *Aspects of Chinese sociolinguistics: Essays*, selected and introduced by Anwar S. Dil. California: Stanford University Press. [PL 1071 .C476](#)
- Chambers, J.K. and Trudgill, Peter. 1998. *Dialectology*. New York: Cambridge University Press. [P 367 .C47 1998](#)
- Thurgood, Graham and LaPolla, Randy J. (eds.) 2003. *The Sino-Tibetan languages*. London: Routledge.
- Norman, Jerry. 1988. *Chinese*. New York : Cambridge University Press. [PL1075 .N67 1988](#)

- Most readings from the above the above books will be provided by the instructor.

Journals

- In addition to the above books, we will read some articles from the following journals:

Bulletin of Chinese Linguistics <http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/2405478x>

Journal of Chinese Linguistics 中国语言学报 [P1 .J57](#) (only hardcopy available)

Fangyan 方言 [Dialect] (online issues, see below)

Zhongguo Yuwen 中国语文 [Studies of The Chinese Language] (online issues, see below)

- UH members can login in Online Database to gain internet access to all issues in *Fangyan* 方言 and *Zhongguo Yuwen* 中国语文 via China Academic Journals. Search *China Academic Journals* in the database or simply follow this link to log in (then click on *Journals* and search 'Dialect' or 'Studies of The Chinese Language'): <http://eng.oversea.cnki.net.eres.library.manoa.hawaii.edu/kns55/>

Other Resources and References

Kurpaska, Maria. 2010. *Chinese Language(s): A Look Through the Prism of The Great Dictionary of Chinese Dialects*. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter. [P25 .T76 no.215](#)

[Marjorie Chan's Chinese 7385 Chinese Dialects](#)

6. Statement on Course Materials

Please note that the course packet and other course materials are copyrighted and you do **not** have permission to distribute them to third parties for reproduction. In particular, private companies that request to purchase course materials from students have not been authorized by the instructor or the University.

7. Collaboration Policy

Discussion and the exchange of ideas are essential to academic work. For assignments in this course, you are encouraged to consult with your classmates on the choice of paper topics and to share sources. You may find it useful to discuss your chosen topic with your peers, particularly if you are working on the same topic as a classmate. However, you should ensure that any written work you submit for evaluation is the result of your own research and writing and that it reflects your own approach to the topic. You must also adhere to standard citation practices in this discipline and properly cite any books, articles, websites, lectures, etc. that have

helped you with your work. If you received any help with your writing (feedback on drafts, etc), you must also acknowledge this assistance.

8. Disability Accommodations

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is invited to contact me privately. I would be happy to work with you, and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course. KOKUA can be reached at (808) 956-7511 or (808) 956-7612 (voice/text) in room 013 of the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

9. Schedule of Topics

The following is a preliminary schedule of topics. We may diverge slightly from this schedule, and I will notify you if we do.

WEEK 1 (Aug 20)	Course Introduction, Background Information Sheet, library facilities; etc. & Preliminary
BACKGROUND READINGS	

WEEK 2 (Aug 27)	I. Overview of the Phenomena (Dialect and language, Formation of dialect, Studies on Chinese dialectology)
REQUIRED READINGS	--Chambers and Trudgill 1998: chapter 1 'dialect and language', pp. 3-12 --Li and Xiang 2013: chapter 1 'Introduction' (绪论), pp. 1-22
RECOMMENDED READINGS	--Norman 1988: chapter 1 --Rickford 2002

WEEK 3 (Sept 03) No Class	Holiday: Labor Day
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WEEK 4 (Sept 10)	II. Language Classification and Chinese Dialect Classification (I) (Language Classification: Genetic classification, Typological Classification; Chinese Dialect Classification: The methods, principles and standards of Chinese dialect classification)
REQUIRED READINGS	-- O'Grady et al 2010: chapter 8 The Classification of Languages --Li & Xiang 2013: chapter 2 'Distribution and classification of Chinese dialects' (汉语方言的分布), Section 1, pp. 24-34
RECOMMENDED READINGS	--F.K. Li 1937/1973 --Norman Jerry 1988: chapter 1, p. 8-16 -- Section 1.3 Typological characteristics of Chinese, p. 8-12 --Section 1.4 The genetic affiliation of Chinese, p. 12-16

WEEK 5 (Sept 17)	II. Language Classification and Chinese Dialect Classification (II) (Chinese Dialect Classification: The methods, principles and standards of Chinese dialect classification (continued), Basics in Phonetics and Phonology)
REQUIRED READINGS	--Li & Xiang 2013: chapter 3, section 1, pp. 54-67
BACKGROUND READINGS	--O'Grady et al 2010: chapter 2 Phonetics --O'Grady et al 2010: chapter 3 Phonology, pp.59-86
RECOMMENDED READINGS	--Chao 1943 --R. Li 1989a, b --Norman 1988: chapter 8, section 1-5 --Chambers and Trudgill 1998: chapter 2, pp. 13-31 --Xiong and Zhang 2008 --Xiong et al 2008

WEEK 6 (Sept 24)	III. Chinese Dialect Investigation and Fieldwork (I) (Historical linguistics: Sound Change; Basics in Historical Chinese Phonology)
REQUIRED READINGS	--O'Grady et al 2010: chapter 7 Historical Linguistics, section 2 Sound Change, pp.249-259 --Li & Xiang 2013: chapter 3, section 1, pp. 67-85
RECOMMENDED READINGS	--Norman 2003: pp.77-78 ---Chao 1975

WEEK 7 (Oct 01)	III. Chinese Dialect Investigation and Fieldwork (II) (Phonetic and Phonological Investigation of Dialects)
REQUIRED READINGS	--Li & Xiang 2013: chapter 3, section 1, pp. 67-85
RECOMMENDED READINGS	<i>TBD</i>

WEEK 8 (Oct 08)	III. Chinese Dialect Investigation and Fieldwork (III) (Lexicon and grammar)
REQUIRED READINGS	--Li & Xiang 2013: chapter 3, section 2-3, pp. 86-105
RECOMMENDED READINGS	<i>TBD</i>

WEEK 9 (Oct 15)	IV. General Descriptions of Seven Chinese Dialects (I) (General Descriptions, Mandarin Dialects)
REQUIRED READINGS	--Li & Xiang 2013: chapter 4, pp. 109-150 --Norman 2003
RECOMMENDED READINGS	--Norman 1988: chapter 8, section 6-10; chapter 9

WEEK 10 (Oct 22)	IV. General Descriptions of Seven Chinese Dialects (II) Student presentation I: Student 1 (Xiang), Student 2 (Gan), Student 3 (Wu)
REQUIRED READINGS	--Li & Xiang 2013: chapter 4, pp. 151-192
RECOMMENDED READINGS	--Norman 1988: chapter 8. section 8.6

WEEK 11 (Oct 29)	IV. General Descriptions of Seven Chinese Dialects (III) Student presentation II: Student 5 (Yue), Student 5 (Kejia), Student 6 (Min)
REQUIRED READINGS	--Li & Xiang 2013: chapter 4, pp. 194-235
RECOMMENDED READINGS	--Norman 1988: chapter 8. section 8.7-8.10; chapter 9

WEEK 12 (Nov 05)	V. Chinese Dialect Comparison and Variation (I) (Grammar)
REQUIRED READINGS	--Yue 2003
RECOMMENDED READINGS	<i>TBD</i>

Week 13 (Nov 12) No Class	Holiday: Veteran's Day
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WEEK 14 (Nov 19)	V. Chinese Dialect Comparison and Variation (II) (Grammar)
REQUIRED READINGS	<i>TBD</i>
RECOMMENDED READINGS	<i>TBD</i>

WEEK 15 (Nov 26)	Course Wrap-up
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WEEK 16 (Dec 03)	Final Project Presentations
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10. Readings and References

(to be updated continually)

General References:

- Chao, Yuen Ren. 1976. *Aspects of Chinese sociolinguistics: Essays*, selected and introduced by Anwar S. Dil. California: Stanford University Press.
- Chambers, J.K. and Trudgill, Peter. 1998. *Dialectology*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Li, Xiaofan and Xiang, Mengbing. 2013. *Hanyu Fangyanxue Jichu Jiaocheng* (汉语方言学基础教程) [Fundamentals of *Chinese Dialect Studies*]. Beijing: Peking University Press.
- Norman, Jerry. 1988. *Chinese*. New York : Cambridge University Press.
- Thurgood, Graham and LaPolla, Randy J. (eds.) 2003. *The Sino-Tibetan languages*. London: Routledge.

References on Specific Topics:

- Chao, Yuen Ren. 1943. Languages and dialects of China. *The Geographical Journal* CII.2:63-66. [Reprinted in: *Aspects of Chinese Sociolinguistics: Essays by Yuen Ren Chao*. Selected and introduced by Anwar S. Dil. Stanford: Stanford University Press. 1976. pp. 21-25.]
- Chao, Yuen Ren. 1975. My fieldwork on the Chinese dialects. *Computational Analyses of Asian and African Languages* 2:3-7. [Revised and condensed by the author in: *Aspects of Chinese Sociolinguistics: Essays by Yuen Ren Chao*. Selected and introduced by Anwar S. Dil. Stanford: Stanford University Press. 1976. pp. 226-33.]
- Cheng, Lai-Shen, Lisa & Rint, Sybesma. 2005. Classifiers in four varieties of Chinese." In Guglielmo Cinque and Richard Kayne, *The Oxford handbook of comparative syntax*, 259-292. New York: OUP USA.
- Li, Fang-kuei. 1973. Languages and dialects of China. *Journal of Chinese Linguistics* 1.1:1-13. [Originally published in *The Chinese Yearbook* (1937), pp. 59-65. Shanghai: Commercial Press.
- Li, Rong (李荣). 1989a. Zhongguo de yuyan he fangyan (中国的语言和方言) [Languages and dialects in China]. *Fanyan* 3: 161-167.
- Li, Rong (李荣). 1989b. Hanyu fangyan de fenqu (汉语方言的分区) [Classification of the Chinese dialects]. *Fanyan* 4: 241-259.
- Norman, Jerry. 2003. The Chinese dialects: Phonology. In Thurgood, Graham and LaPolla, Randy J. (eds.) *The Sino-Tibetan languages*. London: Routledge.
- O'Grady, William, et al. 2010. *Contemporary linguistics: An introduction*. St. Martin—Bedford. (6th edition).
- Rickford, John R. 2002. How linguists approach the study of language and dialect. Stanford University. ms.
- Xiong, Zhenghui (熊正辉) and Zhang, Zhenxing (张振兴). 2008. Hanyu fangyan de fenqu (汉语方言的分区). [Classification / Distribution of Chinese Dialects]. *Fangyan* 2: 97-108.
- Xiong, Zhenghui (熊正辉) and Zhang, Zhenxing (张振兴), and Huang, Xing (黄行). 2008. Zhongguo de yuyan (中国的语言). [Languages of China]. *Fangyan* 3: 193-203.
- Yue, Anne O. 2003. Chinese dialects: Grammar. In: Graham Thurgood and Randy J. Lapolla (eds.) *The Sino-Tibetan languages*. London: Routledge.