

**Chinese 452 Structure of Chinese**  
Spring 2023 (Jan 9th to May 12th)

**Lecture Time:** Tuesday & Thursday, 12:00 pm -- 1:15 pm

**Lecture Room:** Moore 228

**Instructor:** Shu-Yu Huang (黄书郁), Dept. of East Asian Languages and Literatures

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Office hours: Thursday 1:30 pm --3:00 pm and by appointment, Moore 375

**1. What this course is about**

This course aims to introduce and study the basic of Chinese morphology, syntax, and semantics. Topics to be covered in this course include: typological features of Chinese structures, morphosyntactic characteristics, verb phrases, noun phrases, classifiers, sentence structures, etc.

**2. Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, students

- [1] are able to describe the most grammatic features of Chinese;
- [2] demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the kinds of issues on the structure of Chinese frequently studied and debated;
- [3] are able to analyze key Chinese structures through concepts and analytical techniques acquired in this course

**3. Course requirements and grading**

[1] Class participation (including attendance)	(15%)
[2] Homework assignments*4	(40%)
[3] Self-reflection journal*3	(6%)
[4] Tests*3	(15%)
[5] Take-Home Final Exam	(24%)

**\*All of your grades will be accessible on Laulima-Gradebook.**

**4. Class Participation and Attendance**

- (1) Participation and attendance will be taken very seriously in this course. All students are expected to arrive on time, attend class regularly, and participate actively in class discussions. Absences without valid reasons will affect your grade. Anyone who is late for more than **10 minutes** will be regarded as absent. **Three unexcused absences will result in one letter grade lower toward your final grade** (A to B, B becomes C, C becomes D, etc)
- (2) Class preparation and participation (15%): All students are expected to participate actively in class discussion. Students' class participation and performance will be evaluated daily and a final score will be given at the end of each class period on a regular basis on the following scale:

**4 (out of 4 points) = Well prepared with excellent performance:**

Maintains focus in class. Enthusiastically participate in class discussions. Volunteers to answer teacher's and students' questions. Actively discusses with different partners.

**3 (out of 4 points) = Participated but with inadequate preparation:**

Focuses most of time in class. Participates in class discussions. Tries to answer questions when be called on. Discusses with different partners.

**2 (out of 4 points) = Participated but with inadequate preparation:**

Participates somewhat in class activities.

**1 (out of 4 points) = Present but with almost no participation.**

**0 (out of 4 points) = Absent or 10 minutes late.**

## **5. Homework Assignments, Journals, Tests, and Final Exam**

- (1) **Four homework assignments** (most likely in the form of problem sets) (40%) will be assigned to check students' understanding of the materials covered during the lecture and the readings.
  - Students are permitted to collaborate on homework assignments. However:
    - a. Each person must submit their own write-up of the assignment (**no** direct copies or jointly authored assignments allowed).
    - b. You must list at the top of your assignments all the people you've collaborated with.
  - No special arrangements will be made for missed deadlines without a valid, documented excuse. In special circumstances, however, you should come and see me for other options.
  - Please upload all of the assignments to **Assignments** on **Laulima**. Whenever you upload a document, please add you name (First Name + Last Name) to the title of the document (e.g., Shu-Yu Huang Homework 1, Shu-Yu Huang Reflection journal 1)
- (2) **Three Self-reflection Journal** (6%) are required assignments for communicating in timely manner with the teacher the students' suggestions and comments with regards to students' self-reflection, the teaching materials, teaching approaches, as well as students' individual needs, self-evaluation and summery of his/her progress.
- (3) **Three Tests** (15%): The tests will be based on the assignments. Every effort should be made to take tests at the specified times. If you know you must miss a class ahead of time, tell the teacher before that class. Tests cannot be made up unless arrangements are made **BEFORE** being absent from class. No one is allowed to make up a missed test without a valid, written excuse.
- (4) **Take-Home Final Exam** (24%) will be assigned in the end of the semester. You will have at least 10 days to do the exam. No special arrangements will be made for the missed deadline without a valid, documented excuse. In special circumstances, however, you should come and see me for other options.

Students taking the course on the Cr/NC option must achieve at least a "C" overall average to receive credit.

100-97 =A+	96.9-93=A	92.9-90=A-
89.9-87=B+	86.9-83=B	82.9-80=B-
79.9-77=C+	76.9-73=C	72.9-70=C-
69.9-67=D+	66.9-64=D	62.9-60=D-
59.9 and below = F		

*You are reminded that each student's background, interests, learning style, difficulties and goals are different. Please be patient with each other and do not hesitate to see me for extra help or explanations in certain areas.*

## **6. Course Materials**

There is no required textbook for the course. All readings will be made available on LauLima. However, most of our readings will be excerpts from the following book.

- 1) Huang, Chu-Ren & Yen-Hwei Lin, and I-Hsuan. Chen. 2022. *Cambridge Handbook of Chinese Linguistics*. Cambridge University Press.
- 2) Huang, Chu-Ren & Dingxu Shi. 2016. *A Reference Grammar of Chinese*. Cambridge University Press.
- 3) Wang, S-Y. William and Sun, Chaofen. 2015. *The Oxford Handbook of Chinese linguistics*. Oxford University Press
- 4) Huang, C.-T. James, Li, Y.-H. Audrey, and Li, Yafei. 2009. *The Syntax of Chinese*. Cambridge University Press.
- 5) Norman, Jerry. 1988. *Chinese*. Cambridge University Press.

This is not the kind of course where everything you hear in class is in the book and everything that is in the book will be explained in class. The readings are there in order to enhance your learning experience, to add factual information to the issues discussed in class, and sometimes to argue against the point of view presented in class.

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. In-Class Rules**

Be respectful of others; treat others the way you want to be treated. Students will be held to the highest standards of conduct. Go to the link below for details:

[http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct\\_code/proscribed\\_conduct.php](http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/proscribed_conduct.php)

## **8. 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.

## **9. Plagiarism**

Cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty are not permitted within this course and are prohibited within the Systemwide Student Conduct Code (EP 7.208). Examples include: fabrication, facilitation, cheating, plagiarism, and use of improper materials. Any incident of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported to the office of Student Conduct for review and possible adjudication. Additionally, the instructor may take action in regards to the grade for the deliverable or course as they can fit.

It is ultimately each student's responsibility to understand the rules regarding plagiarism and cheating at UH, and to learn how to avoid such violations. At UH, common punishments for such violations include failing the assignment, failing the course, suspension from the university, or even expulsion.

## **10. 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.

## 11. Daily Schedule

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

Introduction to Chinese language (I)		
Week 1	1/10 (T): Orientation	1/12 (R): Chinese varieties & a brief history of Chinese
Readings	N/A	Norman 1988, p.16-21

Introduction to Chinese language (II) & Classifying Chinese in the world language family		
Week 2	1/17 (T): The Formation of the Modern Standard Language & the study of grammar in China	1/19 (R): Genetic affiliation & typological characteristics
Readings	Norman 1988, p. 157-162 (Section 6.1, 6.2); 176-178 (Section 7.1)	Norman 1988, p.23-31 (Section 1.3, 1.4)

Morphemes and words		
Week 3	1/24 (T): Morphemes	1/26 (R): Word formation
Readings	Packard 2015, p. 264-267	Shi & Huang 2016, p. 15-19 (Section 2.1.2)

Word classes		
Week 4	1/31 (T): nouns and verbs	2/2 (R): adjectives and prepositions
Readings	Norman 1988, p. 181-183 Huang, Li, & Li 2009, p. 9-13	Huang, Li, & Li 2009, p. 21-29
Assignments	Homework 1 due on 2/5 (S) midnight	

Review & Test 1 (Week 1-4)		
Week 5	2/7 (T): Review	2/9 (R): Test 1
Assignments	Reflection journal 1 due on 2/12 (S) midnight	

Predicates and argument structure		
Week 6	2/14 (T): Verb types	2/16 (R): Argument structure
Readings	Li 2016, p. 91-94	Li 2016, p. 94-101

Thematic-roles and Sentence Ambiguity in Chinese		
Week 7	2/21 (T): thematic-roles	2/23 (R): sentence ambiguity
Readings	Carnie 2002, 166-173	

Typological characters of Chinese structure		
Week 8	2/28 (T): word order patterns	3/2 (R): unusual Chinese syntactic constructions
Readings	Wu & He 2015, p. 379-384	Wu & He 2015, p. 384-389
Assignments	Homework 2 due on 3/5 (S) midnight	

Review & Test 2 (Week 6-8)		
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Week 9	3/7 (T): Review	3/9 (R): Test 2
Assignments	<i>Reflection journal 2 due on 3/12 (S) midnight</i>	

<b>Spring recess</b>		
Week 10	<i>No class</i>	

<b>Nouns and classifiers</b>		
Week 11	3/21 (T): Nouns & nominal phrases	3/23 (R): Types of classifiers
Readings	Shi 2016, p. 199-205	Jiang, Jenks, & Jin 2022, p.1-4

<b>Classifiers and numbers</b>		
Week 12	3/28 (T): More about classifiers	3/30 (R): Numbers
Readings	Shi 2016, p. 220-222	Shi 2016, p. 213-219

<b>Determinatives</b>		
Week 13	4/4 (T): Definite and indefinite determinatives	4/6 (R): Universal and existential quantifiers and interrogative determinatives
Readings	Shi 2016, p.206-209	Shi 2016, p.209-212
Assignments	<i>Homework 3 due on 4/9 (S) midnight</i>	

<b>Nominal predicates &amp; final particles</b>		
Week 14	4/11 (T): Nominal predicates	4/13 (R): sentence final particles
Readings	Shi 2016, p.249-253	TBA

<b>Review &amp; Test 3 (Week 11-14 excluding final particles)</b>		
Week 15	4/18 (T): Review	4/20 (R): Test 3
Assignment	<i>Reflection journal 3 due on 4/23 (S) midnight</i>	

<b>Adverbs</b>		
Week 16	4/25 (T): properties and overview of adverbs	4/27 (R): frequently used adverbs (就 jiu, 才 cai, 又 you, 再 zai, 也 ye)
Readings	Biq & Huang 2016, p. 315-320	Biq & Huang 2016, p. 336-343
Assignment	<i>Homework 4 due on 4/30 (S) midnight</i>	

<b>Review and course summary</b>		
Week 17	5/2 (T): Review and course summary	5/4 (R): No class
Readings	N/A	
Final exam	<i>Take-home final exam due on 5/10 (W) midnight</i>	