
**CN401 Chinese Language in Context: Emerging Competent I
IES Abroad Shanghai Center Syllabus**

DESCRIPTION:

This class is intended to be a course in Chinese language as part of IES Abroad Shanghai Program for students who have studied Chinese for at least eight semesters or learners with equivalent language proficiency. During the three-month Chinese course, the students are expected to acquire a variety of business Chinese skills and Chinese linguistic knowledge, and they will also engage in various kinds of language activities and field trips.

STUDENT PROFILE:

Students who enter this course will have mastered most of the outcomes of the Independent Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad *MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication*. Among other characteristics, these students are able to converse at a rate of speed approaching normal conversation. They are creative, spontaneous and self-reliant as they solve problems, interpret texts, negotiate, express their opinions, likes and dislikes in the culture. Although they still make errors and experience communication breakdowns, these students tend to resolve these challenges on their own. Students who enter this level can already understand a variety of colloquial expressions and slang, and are also able to understand a wider variety of native speakers from different backgrounds.

By the end of this course, students will have started to acquire the subtlety of expression and control of complex structures that characterize Competent Abroad learners. However, Emerging Competent Abroad learners have only partial mastery of these structures and quite often resort to simpler and more direct modes of expression, particularly when negotiating linguistically difficult or unfamiliar situations. Students at this level begin to understand some local cultural attitudes, values, beliefs, and behavior patterns. However, there will be numerous gaps and inconsistencies in their knowledge, and they lack the depth of understanding and sophistication of those who have spent more time living and working in the local context.

CREDITS: 4 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 60

PREREQUISITES:

Students who are placed in this level should be capable of achieving the outcomes in the Emerging Independent Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad *MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication*.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION: Case teaching method, task-based language teaching and learning, audio-lingual method and communicative approach

LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION: Chinese

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who are placed in this level should be capable of achieving the outcomes in the Independent Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad *MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication*.

By the end of the course, students will be able to achieve some of the outcomes for the Emerging Competent Abroad level as defined by the *MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication*. The key learning outcomes from the MAP are summarized below:

Intercultural Communication

Students will be able to recognize and describe key host cultures, subcultures, habits, norms, and behaviors in a variety of settings, and they will be aware of the risk that generalizations can lead to stereotypes.

Students will be able to reflect on and discuss the validity of their own cultural beliefs, behaviors, and values by contrasting and comparing them with the host cultures.

Students will demonstrate openness toward different beliefs and styles even when they do not agree with them.

Students will accept responsibility for their own learning by defining their linguistic goals and demonstrating independence in their exploration of the culture

Listening

Students will be able to identify a range of dialects of the spoken language as they are related to cultural, economic, and educational differences.

Students will be able to understand a variety of native speakers and non-native experts and comprehend an array of moderately complex interactions.

Speaking

Students will participate reasonably well in most academic and social interactions using when appropriate complex language including slang, colloquial expressions, double meaning, and humor with increasing confidence.

Students will be able to make arguments and form opinions on almost any topic of their interest.

Reading

Students will be able to read and understand textbooks and academic articles for classes taught in the host language as well as some popular texts for enjoyment.

Students will be able to read and understand authentic materials including newspapers, advertisements, brochures, instruction manuals, etc. on abstract topics with some assistance at times.

Writing

Students will be able to write for certain native audiences and express themselves somewhat clearly and effectively.

Students will be able to write essays for classes incorporating aspects of appropriate academic style with some assistance at times.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

Mid-term exam (10%)

Final exam (10%)

Quizzes every two weeks(10%)

Homework (30%)

Participation (20%)

Attendance (10%)

Dictation (10%)

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments
Topic 1 Internet, Technology and Life	Cultural: Understand the importance and impact of Internet and technology in Chinese people's daily life. Analyze the reason why online shopping carnival on Single's day is successful, and identify both good and bad impact of it.	Talk with Chinese people about their online shopping experience and find out their opinion on online shopping carnival.

	<p>Compare Chinese online shopping carnival with American Black Friday, and summarize the similarity and difference.</p> <p>Functional:</p> <p>Talk about your online shopping experience. Describe a graph, table or chart.</p>	
<p>Topic 2</p> <p>Family</p>	<p>Cultural:</p> <p>Get a general understanding of the structures, traditional values, changes and challenges of family in China.</p> <p>Functional:</p> <p>Make a contrast between two things.</p>	<p>Compare Chinese and American families.</p>
<p>Topic 3</p> <p>City and Urbanization</p>	<p>Cultural:</p> <p>Understand the characteristic of Chinese urbanization. Identify the differences between cities of different regions and different tiers in China</p> <p>Functional:</p> <p>Share your impression of Chinese cities.</p>	<p>Collect Chinese people's views on staying in first-tier cities or going back and settle down in hometown.</p>
<p>Topic 4</p> <p>Housing in China</p>	<p>Cultural:</p> <p>Understand the characteristics and challenges of Chinese housing market, and analyze the reason behind China's property boom.</p> <p>Functional:</p> <p>Talk about your opinions about the Chinese housing market.</p>	<p>Interview: find out Chinese people's views on whether buying a property is a must in their life.</p>
<p>Topic 5</p> <p>Gender</p>	<p>Cultural:</p> <p>Understand different social pressure for male and female in China.</p> <p>Functional:</p> <p>Talk about your opinion about plastic surgery.</p>	<p>Watch a commercial exploring the pressures placed on single women in China, and share your opinions with your classmates.</p>
<p>Topic 6</p> <p>Education</p>	<p>Cultural:</p> <p>Get a general idea of Chinese education system, and reflect on the advantage and disadvantage of it.</p> <p>Understand the education inequality in multiple</p>	<p>Compare Chinese and American education system and summarize the similarities and differences.</p>

	forms.	
	Functional:	
	Make suggestions to improve education quality and reduce education inequality in China.	

GRADING POLICY:

● Attendance

Every day you start with 100 points (including fieldtrips and Chinese class activities).

- Late within 10 minutes, 10 points will be deducted from your score.
- Late between 10 and 30 minutes, 30 points will be deducted.
- Late over 30 minutes, 50 points will be deducted.
- The same rule applies to leaving class early.
- Unexcused absences will result in 0 points, and from the fourth absence onward, every absence will result in degrading the final course grade by one-third, e.g. from B- to C+.

● Participation

Every day you start with 100 points (including fieldtrips and other Chinese class activities)

- If you actively participate in the classes and the class-related activities or field trip, you will receive 100 points.
- If you do not participate actively, certain points will be deducted accordingly.

● Dictation

A Dictation is worth 100 points

- If you are late or absent, you will probably miss it, and, therefore lose the 100 points.
- For an absence(with a doctor's note or center director's written approval), you can make up the previous dictation with your instructor or the language coordinator on the same day. However, you will receive, at most, 70 points for a make-up dictation.
- After the third unexcused absence, that day's dictation will be 0 points.

● Homework

Every homework is worth 100 points.

- If you do it carefully and hand it in on time, you will receive 100 points.
- If you finish it rashly with a careless attitude, certain points will be deducted accordingly.
- If you forget to do the homework or hand it in, you are required to hand it in the next day, and you will receive at most 70 points.
- If you forget to do the homework or hand it in more than two days late, you will get 0 points.

● Grading System

Letter	GPA	Percent
A	4.0	95-100
A-	3.7	90.5-94.5
B+	3.3	87.5-90
B	3.0	84.5-87
B-	2.7	81.5-84
C+	2.3	78.5-81
C	2.0	75.5-78
C-	1.7	70-75
D	1.3	60-69
F	0	

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Application: All Things Considered: Advanced Reader of Modern Chinese (Revised Edition)
《事事关心》(Chou, Xia, Goh) (ISBN 978-0-691-15310-0) (Third-year level)
IES selected reading materials

Extra reading materials about current events
时事阅读材料