

## East430D\_Third Level Chinese\_Course Outline

August 28, 2024 – April 11, 2025

**Instructor:** Bill R. Wang

**Office:** Room 253, 680 Sherbrooke W.

**Office Hours:** by appointment only for Thursday afternoons, between 3:40 pm and 5:40 pm

**Email:** [renzhong.wang@mcgill.ca](mailto:renzhong.wang@mcgill.ca)

**Prerequisite:** East330D or equivalency

**Communication:** students must use their McGill email to contact the instructor on course related issues and questions. Please allow up to 48 hours to receive a response due to high volume of emails not including weekends.

### Course Description

*Third Level Chinese* is an intermediate Chinese language course designed to satisfy the interest of students who wish to continue their learning of Chinese following their completion of McGill's EAST 230D and EAST 330D or equivalent courses from other institutions.

Along with other pedagogical methods, this course attempts to employ a more communicative approach for students to engage in a more meaningful and interactive learning experience. At the core of this approach is the idea of learning the target language by using it in an authentic context to introduce, express and describe orally as well as in writing.

Development of the four skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) will be equally emphasized in this course. To achieve this goal, the class will go beyond the textbooks and try to sample selected materials from various Chinese sources. These may include news stories, journal articles, and passage of literary works, which have appeared either in original Chinese media or have been selected and used in some Chinese textbooks. In addition, some audio/video materials reflecting real life situations from the internet will also be selected, and all these will be used to serve as the very basis for our reading comprehension and oral discussions. Students are strongly encouraged to prepare ahead of class meetings each time and actively participate in class discussions and learning activities.

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course students are expected to master a few more hundreds of authentic Chinese expressions, including commonly used proverbs, idiomatic phrases, as well as some most useful grammatical devices and syntactical patterns for a relatively coherent expressions of ideas and smooth narrations in better organized structures. In addition to further development of handwriting skills in Chinese, you will also learn to use computer to type Chinese characters and AI tools such as ChatGPT to read authentic Chinese passages and write Chinese composition.

**Mode of Course Delivery**

Class meetings are held mostly in-person, for Mondays and Wednesdays, with lectures, discussions, and interactive activities in classroom settings. However, Fridays will be reserved for students to work independently on written and oral-listening assignments, and/or group activities or special events such as group visit to Chinatown, participation in local Chinese cultural activities, celebration of Chinese festivals, Chinese calligraphy and arts exhibitions.

Besides the required textbooks and workbooks, electronic platforms such as myCourses, Learning Branch, as well as some relevant internet recourses and tools will be used for course management, course material delivery, discussions and practice, as well as class-related announcements.

**Required Course Materials**

1. ZHU Zhiping. 《实践汉语 - 中级读写》 *Application: Intermediate Chinese-Reading and Writing* (Peking Normal University Press, 2009 or later edition)
2. ZHU Zhiping. 《实践汉语 - 中级读写 练习册》 *Workbook for Application: Intermediate Chinese-Reading and Writing* (Peking Normal University Press, 2009 or later edition)

In addition to the required textbooks, other course material will be selected by the instructor and to be used for the purpose of enhancing students' proficiency level in understanding authentic Chinese speeches and texts. In this way the students can learn the language in a more meaningful way.

**Importance of Class Attendance:**

Class attendance and active participation in this course are extremely important and mandatory. We will take attendance **10** times during each semester. Students are allowed to be absent **twice** during those 10 times each semester. Absence of more than two class meetings during the dates checked, **that is not backed up by medical documentation**, will result in 1% grade reduction of the final total grade for every missed session. Please note, you should not email to inform the instructor of your intended or planned class absence, as such email notice will not be accepted as an excused and acceptable absence.

The lectures are not to be recorded. Therefore, in case you have missed a lecture/class, you may check with fellow students to share notes with you, and it is encouraged that students help each other and foster a friendly and positive learning community either in person or online, such as in myCourses – Discussion, where discussion groups will be created.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

- Class attendance and participation, 5%
- Eight quizzes, 12%
- Eight Assignments, 12%
- Two oral presentations, 10%
- Two listening/oral tests, 10%
- Four midterm written exams, 24%
- Final Assessment (written exam), 27% (to be scheduled in April by Exam Office)

**Late Assignment and Missing Quizzes**

No extensions will be given for assignments. Late assignments are subject to a penalty of 1% per day for each submission, up to a total grade reduction of 10% in your final grade, calculation of the number of days of delay include weekends. No assignments are accepted after one week past the due date. Exceptions are only made in extraordinary circumstances (illness, family emergency), if arrangements are made in advance of the due date, and appropriate documentation (e.g., a medical note or a funeral notice) is provided to the instructor.

No makeup quizzes will be granted, except for acceptable reasons such as serious illness, and such claim must be supported by proper documentation such as a letter from your doctor.

### **Requests for Reread**

Appeals or requests for a re-read of written assignments, quizzes and exams must be made within one week after the graded materials have been returned or otherwise made available for the students to view.

### **McGill Policies and Regulations**

- **Language of Submission**

“In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French written work that is to be graded. This does not apply to courses in which acquiring proficiency in a language is one of the objectives.” (Approved by Senate on 21 January 2009)

« Conformément à la Charte des droits de l’étudiant de l’Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté, sauf dans le cas des cours dont l’un des objets est la maîtrise d’une langue. » (Énoncé approuvé par le Sénat le 21 janvier 2009)

- **Academic Integrity**

“McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures” (Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003) (See McGill’s guide to academic honesty for more information).

« L’université McGill attache une haute importance à l’honnêteté académique. Il incombe par

conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et procédures disciplinaires. » (Énoncé approuvé par le Sénat le 29 janvier 2003) (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le guide pour l'honnêteté académique de McGill).

- **Statement on the Use of Generative AI tools**

While we do not encourage it, students may use artificial intelligence tools, including generative AI, in this course as learning aids. **However, students are ultimately accountable for the work they submit.** Students who choose to use generative artificial intelligence tools as they work through the assignments in this course must document their use in an appendix for each assignment. The documentation should include what tool(s) were used, how they were used, and how the results from the AI were incorporated into the submitted work. Any content produced by an artificial intelligence tool must be cited appropriately. Many organizations that publish standard citation formats are now providing information on citing generative AI (e.g., MLA: <https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/> ).

- **Extraordinary Circumstances:**

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of McGill University, assessment tasks in a course are subject to change, provided students are sent adequate and timely communications regarding the change.