

EAST 530D Fourth Level Chinese SYLLABUS 2020-2021

Time: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:35pm-2:25 pm

Instructor:

Jennie Chang: Senior Faculty Lecturer

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The Method of Remote Course Delivery for Fourth Level Chinese (EAST 530D)

This course will be delivered via Zoom. Plenty of exercises materials or flexible activities such as PPTs and videos are available in MyCourses, including the ones used in the fixed sessions. Students who are unable to attend fixed sessions because of the time zones they are in or for any other valid reasons can have access to these materials at any time.

The fixed sessions will be given in real-time with plenty of interactions such as Q&As, group discussions and debates, and the recordings will be made available in MyCourses. It is the students' responsibility to ensure that recorded sessions are not reproduced or distributed.

Syllabus and daily schedules will be posted on MyCourses.

The method of assessment included in the syllabus is as follow: class performance accounts for 10%, in-class exams 24%, quizzes 21%, assignment 10%, composition 15%, and oral presentations 20%.

Quizzes or exams of equal difficulty will be offered to students who are unable to attend the fixed sessions with valid reasons. Students are required to hand-write their answers on paper and submit to [jennie.chang@mcgill.ca](mailto:jennie.chang@mcgill.ca).

Students are required to turn their video "on", for in-class assessments such as oral presentations, quizzes, and exams.

Students can post questions on a discussion forum, where I will provide the answers. Other students are encouraged to respond as well.

The University bookstore is open and is accepting textbook orders. Textbooks can be purchased online and either shipped to the students or made available for curbside pick-up.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this course is to provide students with the skill to read newspaper articles as well as some literary works on various topics such as political, economic,

social, and cultural issues. A More literary and higher levels of expressions will be introduced. There will be a great number of new words. Students will be required to master those which are useful.

Upon completion of one topic, there will be a discussion so as to improve students' oral skill. This course also aims at improving students' writing skill. Therefore, in addition to written assignments, students are required to write short essays.

In sum, upon completion of this course, students should have mastered most of the basic grammatical structures used in Chinese newspapers and literary works and should be able to read the newspaper articles and literary articles with the help of a dictionary and should be able to carry out discussions on these subjects.

Methodology:

Each article shall be divided as follows:

1. Practice the use of expressions and new structures
2. Discussions and/or presentations

TEXTBOOK:

Fall term: some lessons from 汉语阅读教程（修订本） 第三册 Vol. 3 (available at McGill Bookstore)

Winter term: some lessons from the textbook plus newspaper articles and literary works

Reference: Pleco Software (highly recommended): Chinese dictionary app, which can be purchased from Pleco Store ([store.pleco.com](http://store.pleco.com))

MyCourses: Plenty of exercises materials /flexible activities such as PPT and videos are available in MyCourses for each lesson, including the ones used in the fixed/live sessions. Students who are unable to attend fixed/live sessions because of the time zones they are in or for any other reasons, or who choose to participate in the flexible options can have access to these materials at any time.

CONDITIONS FOR THE COURSE:

1. An unexplained absence from any test or examination, written or oral, counts for zero.
2. No make-up tests/exams are given, except in cases of illness (with a doctor's note), family bereavement, or other emergency. The make-up tests/exams may be different.
3. No "K" (incomplete: the work is to be made up later) marks shall be given, except in cases of illness, family bereavement, or other emergencies.
4. Students do not have the options of doing extra work to make up or

improve marks. This includes students with “J” marks.

5. Late submission within one week of homework/assignments will be subject to 20 points mark deduction. No homework/assignments shall be accepted one week after due day.
6. Assignments/homework must be completed independently. Copying other's answers will be considered as plagiarism.
7. Students are required to prepare before coming to class, so that more time can be devoted to practicing the use of new structures and discussions.
8. You are allowed to have 5 absences without excuse. In excess of 5 absences, each absence for reasons other than sickness (with a doctor's note) will result in a deduction of 0.5 point from your class performance. If there is any mistake, you have to bring it up within one week. When you cannot attend a fixed session, a flexible option, the recording of the fixed session is available on MyCourses. Students who listen to the recording instead of attending the synchronous session should email me and answer some questions incorporated in the recording.
9. In excess of 20 unexcused absences may result in failure in the course regardless of a student's performance in other evaluation categories.
10. If you will be absent for religious observance, or other valid reasons, the day an assignment is due/ the day of exam/test, make alternate arrangements with the instructor in advance.
11. Please note that it will be the responsibility of each student to consult with the instructor to determine whether s/he should switch to a higher/lower level.

#### METHOD OF EVALUATION:

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|--|------|
| 1. Class performance                           | 10%  |
| 2. 6 one-hour in-class exams                   | 24 % |
| 3. 15-minute in-class quizzes (on each lesson) | 21%  |
- The format includes fill in blanks, Q&A.

Quizzes or exams of comparable difficulty will be offered to students who are unable to attend the fixed session with legitimate/valid reasons. Students are required to hand write their answers on paper and submit to [jennie.chang@mcgill.ca](mailto:jennie.chang@mcgill.ca).

4. Assignments 10%  
There are 2 assignments for each lesson:
  1. Assignment A: you have to listen to the recordings in MyCourses or read the text in order to answer questions. Assignment A is to be

handed in on the day a new lesson starts. The due date is indicated in the daily schedule.

2. Assignment B (e.g. exercises in the textbook) is to be handed in after a lesson/an article is finished. The due date is also indicated in the daily schedule.

5. Composition (about 1000 characters) 15 %

The composition is due in the first week of the second semester. The content of the composition should be interesting, humorous or moving/touching. It can also be a comparison between Chinese and western cultures or a discussion on current issues. This composition can potentially be used for the annual speech contest held on the third Saturday of March. It should be about 1 ½ page double spaced.

6. Two Oral presentations 20%

Each student should interview a native speaker of Chinese on topics covered in the previous week and present the summary of the interview in class. You will be evaluated based on the content, grammatical structures, pronunciation, and familiarity, 25% each. You will lose 25% if you read from the written text during the presentation.

The duration of the interview should be approximately 30 minutes, and the presentation should be at least 10 minutes. Following the presentation, s/he should lead a discussion on the same topics. An oral summary as well as a typed summary of the interview should be sent to [jennie.chang@mcgill.ca](mailto:jennie.chang@mcgill.ca) prior to the day of the presentation, and on the day of the presentation, a hand-written summary of the interview shall be handed to me, both of which constitute part of your grade. A vocabulary list shall be prepared and projected with PPT.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

You have to keep all the graded assignments, weekly tests, exams or written presentations, because if your marks do not appear in MyCourses, you have to use them as proof.

**McGill Policy Statements**

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 any 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 - see also the section in this document on Assignments and Evaluation.)

*Note: In courses in which acquiring proficiency in a language is one of the objectives, the assessments shall be in the language of the course.*

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”**  
**(see [www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/) for more information).** *(Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)*

Additional Statements

- “© Instructor-generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.”

McGill University is located on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Haudenosaunee and Anishinabeg nations. McGill honours, recognizes and respects these nations as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we meet today.