EAST 530D  Fourth Level Chinese SYLLABUS  2021-2022  in person

530DF 2021
Time:  Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10:35am-11:25 am  SH688 room 465
530DW 2022
Time:  Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:35 am-11:25 am
Instructor:  
Jennie Chang:  Senior Faculty Lecturer
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Telephone number:  514-398-6744
Office hours:  Mon. 14:30- 15:30

Syllabus and daily schedules will be posted on MyCourses.

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:  Selected lessons from 汉语阅读教程（第三版） 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)
MyCourses: Plenty of exercises materials /flexible activities such as PPT and videos are available in MyCourses for each lesson.

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. More than 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 must bring it up within one week.
9. More than 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.
12. Students who arrive after the examination/test has begun will not be given extra time.
METHOD OF EVALUATION:

1. Class performance 10%
2. 6 one-hour in-class exams 30%
3. 15-minute in-class quizzes (on each lesson) 25%
4. Homework/assignments 15%
5. Composition 5%
6. Oral presentations 15%

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University’s control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

4. Assignments 15%

There are 2 assignments for each lesson:

1. Assignment A: you must listen to the recordings in MyCourses or read the text 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) are 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) 5%

The composition is due on the first day 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. This composition can potentially be used for Annual Chinese Speech Contest held on the third Saturday of March. Therefore, the content should be interesting, humorous or moving/touching. For example, you can write about your interesting experience in China or elsewhere, the difference between Chinese and Western culture, or discuss an issue. Humor is always appreciated.

6. Two Oral presentations 15%

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@mccgil.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 along with PPT.

IMPORTANT NOTE:
You must 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

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/ for more information).
(Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)

Additional Statements

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