



Boston University  
Study Abroad Shanghai

## CAS LC 211: Third Semester Chinese

Spring/Fall

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course aims to prepare students for the transition from novice to early intermediate level. It will continue to develop learners' basic communication skills in everyday situations and expand learned expressions, structures and patterns to less familiar contexts. Students will also learn more about Chinese cultural concepts, practices, and alternatives prominent in diverse Chinese speaking communities.

The course meets three times (1.5 hours each time) per week.

Credits: 4 credits

Prerequisites: LC 112 or equivalent proficiency

This course fulfills a single unit in each of the following BU Hub areas:

- The Individual in Community

### **COURSE MATERIALS:**

Textbook: Integrated Chinese Volume 3 Textbook, Simplified Characters, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition

Workbook: Integrated Chinese Volume 3 Workbook, Simplified Characters, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The objective of this class is to help students to:

- Develop basic communication skills for daily situations;
- Learn to describe or narrate one's past experiences, current condition and future plans; express affirmation and refusal, personal opinion, make suggestions.
- Use learned expressions, structures and patterns in both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the target language;
- Learn more idiomatic expressions, conjunctions and complex grammar and sentence patterns;
- Increase both in length and depth of speech and text produced;



- Become acquainted with formal and informal contexts in Chinese and use the language appropriate to the context;
- Develop knowledge of customs and manners, in Chinese-speaking cultures.

### **COURSE OUTCOMES:**

If students come to class regularly, complete all of the in-class assignments, homework, and average a B on their tests, they will be able to reach the Intermediate Low or Midlevel on the language proficiency scale developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) after this course.

- In terms of speaking, students will be able to recombine learned material in order to express personal meanings, such as asking and answering simple questions and handling a straightforward survival situation. They will be able to produce sentence level language.
- In terms of writing, students can satisfy some practical writing needs, such as simple messages and letters, requests for information, and notes. They are able to create with the language to communicate simple facts and ideas in a series of loosely connected sentences on topics of personal interest and social needs.
- In terms of listening, students will be able to understand information conveyed in simple, sentence-length speech on familiar or everyday topics. They are able to engage in face-to-face conversations or in routine listening tasks such as understanding highly contextualized messages, straightforward announcements, or simple instructions and directions.
- In terms of reading, students will be able to understand short, non-complex texts that convey basic and familiar information and deal with basic personal topics, such as in notices, weather reports, or a social announcement. Students at this level may comprehend some meaning from short connected texts featuring description and narration, dealing with familiar topics.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

To achieve the objectives of this course, students are expected to spend at least TWO to THREE hours per day outside of class reviewing daily all new words and grammar patterns, memorizing vocabulary, completing homework assignments, listening to supplementary audio materials and previewing the next day's class.

To ensure maximum efficient utilization of class time, you are required to prepare each lesson before class, which means you need to gain familiarity with the new textbook lesson. Study new words (pronunciation, meaning, usage, and characters) and grammatical



structures in the Study Guide on your own. The instructor will distribute a study guide handout in class before every new lesson is introduced.

## **ASSESSMENT, GRADING SCALE, AND COURSE EXPECTATIONS:**

### **Assessment:**

Students' language proficiency will be assessed in a variety of ways, both through formal oral and written tests and informally in class. After students have acquired vocabulary or basic linguistic structures, they will have various opportunities to demonstrate that they have remembered and understood the new material, can apply it in a similar context, compare and analyze, as well as use the language creatively. Informal assessments will take on a variety of forms and may include interviewing your Chinese co-workers or friends, writing a short email to your teacher, texting WeChat messages, using new words to have free conversations with your teacher.

### **Grading Scale:**

Attendance and Participation 20%	93- 100	A
Homework 10%	90-92.99	A-
Compositions 10%	86-89.99	B+
In-class dictation quizzes 10%	83-85.99	B
Oral Presentations 10%	80-82.99	B-
Midterm exam 15%	76-79.99	C+
(10% for written, 5% for oral)	73-75.99	C
Final exam 25%	70-72.99	C-
(15% for written, 10% for oral)	60-69.99	D
	0-59.99	F

### **Attendance, Preparation, and Participation (20% of grade)**

The pace of the class will be steady. Students are required to attend all classes scheduled and take an active part in classroom activities. Typically, one unexcused absence lowers 1/2 point of your final grade and your final grade will be lowered one level after 5 unexcused absences. Frequent tardiness will also negatively affect your attendance score and class performance. Absences will not only hurt your grade but also determine borderline cases.



Active participation means that students do not only speak when called upon but also contribute to class discussions. Students who do not engage in class discussions and only speak when called upon cannot expect to receive a grade higher than C for participation. Please also note that students cannot receive a participation grade if they are absent from class.

**Homework (10% of grade):** *9 homework in total*

Regular homework will be given at the end of each lesson (10%). Late or incomplete homework will be graded but only receive half credit. Homework received more than one week after the due date will receive no credit.

**Compositions (10% of grade):** *3 compositions in total*

Composition Requirements: With given topics, use first person narration; use as many new words and grammar patterns as possible; 200-350 characters, typed or handwritten, double space. Late or incomplete compositions will be graded but only receive half credit. Composition received more than one week after the due date will receive no credit.

**In-class Dictation Quizzes (10% of grade):** *27 Dictations in total*

A written quiz on Chinese characters and grammar will be given before the new lesson is introduced. This means that you are required to preview each lesson before class. Missed quizzes cannot be made up. You will have the option of dropping the lowest quiz grade to allow flexibility for excused absences and emergencies.

**Oral Practices (10% of grade):** *3 Oral Presentations + in class discussions*

Oral practices are not limited to oral reports you are required to give. It also refers to discussions and debates after each new lesson is introduced. Oral reports are usually followed by a Q & A session between the instructor, you, and your classmates.

**Midterm Exam 15%**  
**(10% for written, 5% for oral)**

**Final Exam 25%**  
**(15% for written, 10% for oral)**

**COURSE POLICIES:**

**Absences:**



Excused absences will only be granted for documented illness or emergency, for which you MUST contact Instructor PRIOR TO CLASS. (Doctors in China routinely give out notices for workplaces, to document your illness.) If for some justifiable reasons you need to plan to be absent from class on a certain day, you are required to give advance notice to the instructor, except for emergency cases. Each unexcused absence will result in a 0.5% deduction from your final grade. Make-up tests or exams will not be permitted except in the case of illness or emergency situations.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism Statement:**

Cheating and plagiarism are forbidden. It is your responsibility to know the Academic Conduct Code. See: [www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/](http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/)

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday
Week 1	Arrival and orientation		
Week 2	Educational field trip		
Week 3	Introduction Lesson 1 开学	Lesson 1 开学	Lesson 1 开学
Week 4	Lesson 1 开学	Lesson 2 宿舍生活	Lesson 2 宿舍生活
Week 5	Lesson 2 宿舍生活	Lesson 2 宿舍生活	Lesson 3 在饭馆儿
Week 6	Lesson 3 在饭馆儿	Lesson 3 在饭馆儿	Lesson 3 在饭馆儿
Week 7	Holiday break		
Week 8	Lesson 4 买东西	Lesson 4 买东西	Lesson 4 买东西
Week 9	Lesson 4 买东西	Lesson 5 选课	Lesson 5 选课
Week 10	Lesson 5 选课	Lesson 5 选课	Review: Lesson 1 - 5
Week 11	Midterm exams (Written and oral)	Lesson 6 男朋友 女朋友	Lesson 6 男朋友 女朋友
Week 12	Lesson 6 男朋友 女朋友	Lesson 6 男朋友 女朋友	Lesson 7 电脑和网络
Week 13	Lesson 7 电脑和网络	Lesson 7 电脑和网络	Lesson 7 电脑和网络
Week 14	Lesson 8 打工	Lesson 8 打工	Lesson 8 打工
Week 15	Lesson 8 打工	Lesson 9 教育	Lesson 9 教育
Week 16	Lesson 9 教育	Lesson 9 教育	Review: Lesson 6 - 9
Week 17	Final exams (Written and oral)	Departure	

This schedule may be altered depending on class progress and changing circumstances.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**



**Boston University**  
Study Abroad Shanghai

1. To set up Chinese input and output on your computer: [www.pinyinjoe.com](http://www.pinyinjoe.com)
2. Chinese dictionaries: On the computer: <http://www.nciku.com> On mobile phones: Pleco or nciku
3. Flashcards: <http://www.yellowbridge.com/chinese/fc-options.php?deck=ic3-1-1> 4. Character writing practice: <http://www.skritter.com/>
4. Textbook audios and videos: <https://www.cheng-tsui.com/resources/ic>