

# CET Syllabus of Record



**Program:** Intensive Chinese Language in Harbin

**Course Title:** Conversation Seminar

**Course Code:** HB/LANG 325

**Total Hours:** 80

**Recommended Credits:** 5

**Primary Discipline:** Chinese Language

**Language of Instruction:** Chinese

**Prerequisites/Requirements:** 2 years of previous study

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## Description

This course is designed to provide intermediate to advanced-level students with additional practice in spoken Chinese. The course pushes students beyond the structured drill and information gap communicative exercises typical of lower level language courses, and aims to provide students the linguistic tools necessary to participate in a substantive exchange of ideas. Emphasis is placed on communicative competence during free discussion and debate. Topics of discussion are broad, ranging from social and cultural issues to political issues such as economic reform.

## Objectives

By the end of the course, students:

- Demonstrate general improvement of Chinese oral skills
- Are able to communicate clearly about topics of interest to an educated audience
- Form sentences clearly with improved fluency of expression
- Demonstrate improved confidence with speaking in Chinese to native speakers

## Course Requirements

This course is highly interactive. Classes are typically arranged as follows:

- Each student presents an oral report to the class using vocabulary and grammar previously studied. Preparation for the oral report sometimes involves interviewing people or investigating topics outside of class. The student responds to his/her classmates' questions before the instructor corrects mistakes and reviews difficult segments.
- The class reviews the previous lesson as a group.
- The class reads the new text, practicing new vocabulary and grammar structures, discussing the material, and engaging in formal debate on the topic.

Students are expected to prepare thoroughly for each class session. This includes listening to audio materials on a daily basis, reviewing new grammar and vocabulary covered in class, memorizing new vocabulary prior to class, preparing all discussion topics, etc. Students are expected to participate actively in class, proactively attempting to incorporate new patterns into their speech. Students have daily homework assignments that must be returned to the instructor on time. In addition, there are biweekly quizzes and midterm and final exams.

## Methods of Evaluation

Attendance	10%
Class Preparation	10%

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Homework	10%
Quizzes and Review	10%
Daily Participation	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%

## Primary Texts

*Advanced Spoken Chinese*, Vol. 1, Vol. 2, and Advanced Reader, Beijing University Press, 2004.

*Meeting China*, Advanced Level, Beijing University Press, 1997.

*Advanced Spoken Chinese Tutorial*, Vols. 1 and 2, Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2000.

*Intermediate Spoken Chinese Tutorial*, Vols. 1 and 2, Beijing University Press, 2007.

*A Course in Conversational Chinese*, Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 1999.

*Elementary Spoken Chinese*, Beijing University Press, 2004.

## Supplementary Texts

Additional primary source materials

## Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

Students cover 1 lesson (approximately 40 new characters) every 4 to 5 class hours, and are tested on material every two weeks. Lessons from the above listed Primary Texts are chosen based on student interest and level. Students complete 15 to 18 lessons total over the course of the term.