

**FOURTH-LEVEL CHINESE (I)**  
**CHINESE 610.01/610.51**

**TIMES AND LOCATIONS**

時間和地點

Time: 9:30-10:18 M-F/Individualized.

Place: Hagerty 120 H

**Textbooks** (available at Foreign Language Press@OSU)

課本

实话实说 *Tell It Like It is (TI)*

Online Readings of Chinese Newspaper, Journal Articles and governmental documents

**Videotapes**

錄像帶

Chi TI I for *Tell It Like It is, Volume I*.

**Course Description**

課程介紹

This course is designed to combine your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills into a general proficiency in Chinese. From this course and on, your Chinese language courses will no longer have a separate track for “Reading and Writing”. It is expected that any learner at this level should be able to communicate in the target language with all the four skills. Therefore, this course is a continuation of both Chinese 510, (510.51) and Chinese 511 (511.51).

In this course, you will work on spontaneous language materials such as Chinese talk shows as well as other language materials that are created for native Chinese speakers. You will be trained to process spontaneous language exchanges in contexts, do research through the Internet on similar topics as discussed in the talk shows, report to your peer students and instructors via email writing in Chinese and comment on your fellow students’ writings and presentations. If you are taking this course in Individualized Instruction, you will have one small group meeting for each Unit (equivalent to one credit work). At the meeting, you are required to present your research verbally on assigned topics and discuss or debate with fellow students on the topics.

At the end of this course, you will be able to understand discussants’ intention and expectation embedded in their speeches in the studied talk shows. You will learn some basic discourse strategies in dealing with argumentation and debates with native Chinese. You will also be able to find related articles through the Internet and write and present your own comments and ideas on similar topics.

The materials covered in this course are all from the mass media of China. Materials contained in TI is segmented and analyzed for foreign learners. All other materials are in their original states, produced for the consumption by native Chinese.

## Course Procedures

## 課程內容、進度及成績評定

- a) **UL:** You will be working one program from TI, namely *Corporal Punishment of Children*. Children's socialization is a good entry point for foreign learners to investigate Chinese interpersonal culture. In the show, you will discover how Chinese parents treat their children and how children grow up in Chinese culture. The debates between the discussants, as well as among parents, are good reflections of the conflicts between the traditional cultural values of rearing the younger generation and that of the modern. You should pay special attention to the interactions between children and their parents, students and teachers, the young and the elderly. You should not only understand what people say but also why they say it and how their interlocutors react to the utterances. At this level, we do not expect you to understand the local accents featured in some speeches but we do expect you to note the existing differences between standard Mandarin and the spoken local variations.
- b) **Readings:** You will be assigned five online readings in this course (one for each Unit or Credit). They are taken from mainland Chinese newspapers, journals and government documents. It is recommended that you purchase the online Chinese-English and English-Chinese dictionary, PowerWord, for it gives you instant meanings and pronunciations of new words. No pre-analysis or translation is provided for these readings, you are supposed to work them out with this dictionary. If you have questions, you should schedule a FACT session and come to ask your instructors.
- c) **Research Assignment:** You will be required to search for five other articles (one for each Unit or Credit) on the Internet similar to the ones you are to read. You are expected to submit these articles to your instructors together with five written reports on them. For each Unit or Credit, you will be asked to present verbally about your findings in relation to the talk show and the discussed topic. This research and presentation assignment trains you to work on your own in gathering and disseminating information.
- d) **Writing.** We do not expect you to write like a well-educated native writer at this point. But you must clearly present the content of the articles you read, your critique on them and your own opinions regarding the topics. A well-educated native reader should have no problem in understanding what you mean and feel comfortable about the points you made. Therefore, if you suspect that one of your points may irritate well-educated native speakers, think of another way to express it.
- e) **Presentation:** You are learning to express yourself in a public forum consisting mostly of native speakers such as those in the studied talk show. Your feelings, your opinions and the way you express them must be in line with the expectations of the native audience. You have to keep in mind that you are talking to, writing to, and dealing with a group of native Chinese and they expect you to be a foreign

professional at the same level as they. Since they know you are a foreigner, they won't be surprised if you make mistakes here and there. Your linguistic and minor cultural mis-representation may not affect your achievement in reaching your goals. If it is a major detrimental mistake, you will impede your relations. That will be reflected in your grade of this course.

- f) **Class Schedules:** class schedules are available online at <http://deall.ohio-state.edu/c-lang/ii/610.51>
- g) **Tests:** There will be no mid-term or final for this course. Your final grade is determined by your daily grade, namely your grades on 9 Stages, five readings, five written reports and five verbal presentations. Their contribution to your final grade is roughly as follows:
- Verbal presentations 25%
  - Research Reports 25%
  - Nine Stages in TI 50%
- (Please refer to the class schedule for detailed information)

h) **Grades scale:**

- 4.0 Excellent performance that promises interaction with a native speaker with no difficulty, discomfort or misunderstanding.
- 3.5 Some minor errors draw a native's attention to your language but do not hinder communication and they still like to interact with you.
- 3.0 More serious errors affect communication but do not seriously disrupt it. A native may ask you to clarify your meaning, or need to repeat something for you. To some degree, they may feel discomfort.
- 2.5 Preparation evident, but requires a lot of help from the interlocutor or audience. An English-speaking native might avoid using Chinese with you.
- 2.0 Minimal preparation, which puts burden on interlocutor. A native would avoid using Chinese with you or avoid you.
- 1.5 barely prepared
- 1.0 in class but unprepared
- 0.0 absent

If your score is lower than 2.5 in I.I., you must prepare and perform the same Stage or Task once again. If you miss three appointments, your final grade will be lowered by one point (B to B- for instance.)

Assignments are due as designated on the class schedule. **You are not allowed to move on to the next stage until you finish all the work required in the current Unit.**

Classes will, with few exceptions, be conducted in Chinese. The exceptions will be FACT classes in which we will use English to explain materials or answer questions you may have. You have to specify which session (ACT or FACT) you want it to be when you are online to schedule an appointment with an instructor.

Your instructors are patient and strong-willed and are committed to your progress in Chinese language skills. Your responsibility is to be engaged with the materials and instructors and to do the work to the best of your ability. This is an active—not a passive—process on everyone’s part. You must come to class well-prepared to perform the assignments, pay attention to instructor feedback, and ask questions when you have questions to ask.

This course will continue to help you develop skills in Mandarin Chinese to communicate across ethnic, cultural, ideological and national boundaries and to develop an understanding of Chinese interpersonal behavioral culture and related thought patterns. At the end of the course, you will be expected to perform in speaking, listening, reading and writing Chinese at a level of proficiency appropriate for continuing on to the next course in the sequence. You should also demonstrate a level of cultural understanding suitable for correct performance of assigned tasks in Chinese.

### ***Note on Disabilities***

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the coordinating instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services (614-292-3307) in Rm 150 Pomerene Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

### **Who This Course is For**

This course is for persons who have completed Chinese 509 or 510/511 at OSU or have demonstrated proficiency at a level appropriate to take this course. It is not for students who are proficient in Mandarin beyond this level. If you are unsure of your level of proficiency in Mandarin, please arrange for a placement test with Mr. Knicely so that we can enroll you in a suitable course and/or give you credit. Enrollment in a course for which you are overqualified may be a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and could result in your dismissal from the course.

### **Academic Misconduct Statement:**

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct at [http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource\\_csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp).

## **FINAL WORDS**

## 忠告

In this course your listening will proceed at a faster pace than your reading and writing. It is one of the aims of this program to have you working with spontaneous exchanges at the professional by the end of 612. This is not an unrealistic objective, but your success in attaining it depends on your willingness and commitment.

Our overall purpose is to train you as directly as we can to a measurably higher level of functional skills in Chinese. Your teachers are determined to give you the best possible opportunity to learn the language. If you ever think we are not living up to this, discuss it with your instructors. If we think you are not giving your best, we will be sure to let you know.

學無止境