

FOURTH-LEVEL CHINESE III
CHINESE 612.01/612.51

TIMES AND LOCATIONS

時間和地點

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

Place: HH 120H

Textbooks (available at SBX)

課本

实话实说 *Tell It Like It Is*

Online Readings of Chinese Newspaper, Journal Articles and governmental documents

Videotapes

錄像帶

DVD for Tell It Like It Is

Course Description

課程介紹

This course is a continuation of Chinese 611. It is designed to combine your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills into a general proficiency in Chinese. There is no more “Reading and Writing Track” in your Chinese language courses. It is expected that any learner at this level should be able to communicate in the target language with all the four skills.

In this course, you will work on spontaneous language materials such as Chinese talk shows as well as language materials that are created for native Chinese speakers. You will be trained to process spontaneous language exchanges, do your own research on topics such as discussed in the talk shows, report to your peer students via email messages in Chinese and comment on your fellow students’ writings and presentations. You will be required to do formal presentations to your fellow students and your instructors on the research assignment you completed. For each Unit (equivalent to one credit hour), you are required to do one written report and one presentation. You are also expected to discuss and debate with fellow students and/or the instructor the topics studied.

At the end of this course, you should be able to conduct yourself as a foreign professional when interacting with the native Chinese. You will not only become aware of the fundamental discourse strategies in dealing with argumentation, confrontation and debates with native Chinese, but also how to implement them. You will also be able to find related articles to support your argumentations through various sources, including the Internet. You will be able to articulate your points in both written and oral forms in a professional manner. The research topics and reports you will be assigned cover a mix of academic tasks and practical tasks such as a sales presentation.

The materials covered in this course are all media-based, initially made for native speakers of Mandarin. Materials in *Tell It Like It Is* are segmented and analyzed for foreign learners. All other materials, including the supplemental materials you should find in your research, are in their original forms.

As with previous courses, one of the goals of 612 is to train you to become an effective manager of your own learning so that you will be able to function independently in Chinese culture. With this goal in mind, we will, to the extent possible, tailor this program to the individual needs and abilities of each student. You will be expected to demonstrate significant progress in your studies, progress commensurate with your ability, background, and the level of this course.

It is very important to maintain an attitude of cooperation and a willingness to explore difficult and challenging material to an extent you may not have previously experienced. Ideally, at the end of fourth level, you should be able to learn Chinese independently of any formal academic program.

Course Procedures

課程內容、進度及成績評定

- a) **Tell It Like It Is:** You will be working Episode III from *Tell It Like It Is*, namely Fighting Fake Products for Profit. Fighting fake products is a good entry point for foreign learners to investigate one of the major changes in China, with its introduction of free markets. In the show, you will discover an unprecedented phenomenon in China –customers would intentionally buy fake merchandise from department stores and then sue for compensation. The debates between the discussants are good reflections of the conflicts between different attitudes appearing after 1983, when China’s market economy began to flourish. You should pay special attention to the interactions between guests and the audience, 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 differences between standard Mandarin and these local variations.

- b) **Readings and Discussions:** 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 governmental 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. Neither pre-analysis nor 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. For each Unit or Credit, you will be asked to discuss the readings and the videos you have watched with your peer students. The reading materials are accessible at <http://people.cohums.ohio-state.edu/wang551/ttl/reading/default.htm>

- c) **Writing.** We do not expect you to write like a well-educated native writer at this point, but we do look for some improvement over 611. You must not only clearly present the content of the articles you read, but also convincingly present your own opinions regarding the same topic. A well-educated native reader should have no problem in understanding what you mean and feel comfortable about the points you make. They may disagree with you, but you should make them feel that their culture and perspectives are respected. If you are not sure about appropriate strategies and language in presentation or in dealing with disagreement, you should ask your instructor or a well-educated native speaker.

- d) **Presentation:** You are required to observe the formal codes of Chinese presentation. Your audiences are your instructor as well as your classmates (if any). Your success in convincing them not only relies on your clarity of thought and expression, but also on your sensitivity and awareness of appropriate cultural behaviors. Your feelings, your opinions and the way you express them must be in

line with the expectations of a native audience. In order to do this, 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 linguistic mistakes here and there. Your linguistic and minor cultural errors may not impair your ability to reach your goal; however, a major mistake which could negatively affect your relations with the Chinese will have a similar negative effect on your grade in this course.

e) **Class Schedules:** you can make your appointments directly with your instructor

f) **Tests:** There will be no mid-term or final for this course. Your final grade is totally 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 UL 50%

(Please refer to the class schedule for detailed information)

g) **Grade 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 Some 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 points are lower than 2.5, you will be sent back to prepare for the same Stage or Task for one more time. However, if you miss appointment three times, your final grade will be downgraded by one point (B to B- for instance.)

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

Classes will be conducted in Chinese, with the occasional exception of a definition or clarification in English.

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 your part. You must come to each session 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 611 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 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.

FINAL WORDS

忠告

It is one of the aims of this program to have you working with spontaneous exchanges at the level of a 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.

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