

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation
with effect from Semester A 2024 / 25**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title:	<u>Grammar of Chinese</u>
Course Code:	<u>LT5454</u>
Course Duration:	<u>One Semester</u>
Credit Units:	<u>3</u>
Level:	<u>P5</u>
Medium of Instruction:	<u>English supplemented with Putonghua</u>
Medium of Assessment:	<u>English supplemented with Chinese</u>
Prerequisites: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>Nil</u>
Precursors: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>Nil</u>
Equivalent Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>Nil</u>
Exclusive Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>CTL5404 Chinese Linguistics Structure / CAH5404 Chinese Linguistics Structure</u>

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course aims to help students analyse words, phrases and sentences in Modern Standard Chinese in a logical and systematic way, and familiarize them with the morphological, syntactic and semantic properties of Modern Standard Chinese. Focus will also be on topics that are currently discussed in the literature and unique to Modern Standard Chinese. Upon completing this course, students should be able to apply the knowledge of Chinese grammar and the analytic skills they acquire in the course to conduct linguistic analyses on their own.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick ✓ where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	recognize the lexical and functional categories of Modern Standard Chinese structures;		✓	✓	
2.	describe the argument structure of Modern Standard Chinese and the linguistic differences between Chinese compounds and phrases;		✓	✓	✓
3.	identify the verb phrases in Modern Standard Chinese, and the constituents involved in relevant constructions;		✓	✓	
4.	identify and explain linguistic properties and features that are unique to Modern Standard Chinese; and		✓	✓	
5.	identify special constructions in Modern Standard Chinese and do relevant basic analyses.		✓	✓	✓
		100%			

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.					Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	5	
1	<p>Lecture and Class Activities: Learning through teaching is mainly based on lectures. Theoretical foundations and concepts related to the above learning outcomes are laid in the lecture.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	<p>Tutorials: Discussion and exercises are provided to familiarize students with the theoretical concepts acquired in the lecture and to use these concepts to generate new ideas. Tutorial groups are formed to serve two objectives.</p> <p>(1) Work on exercises to help students apply the concepts acquired in the lecture into actual analysis; and (2) conduct discussion on special topics covered in some of the recommended readings.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	<p>Independent learning: Recommended readings, including journal papers and articles, on topics in Chinese linguistics, particularly on those related to special constructions in Modern Standard Chinese.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
4	<p>Take-home assignments: Take-home assignments will be given to students as part of the course assessment. Students will be asked to conduct a guided literature review on a topic related to the lecture contents.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.					Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4	5		
Continuous Assessment: 100 %							
Assignments: Students are required to complete one assignment during the semester	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	30%	
Quiz: A quiz will be given in the middle of the semester to evaluate students' understanding of the topics covered in the lectures	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	20%	
Final paper: Students are required to submit a final paper (35%) and an abstract of it (15%) to demonstrate the analytical ability of the syntax of a Chinese language.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	50%	
Examination: % (duration: , if applicable)						100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024-25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Assignments:	Understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Excellent understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Good understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Fair understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Poor understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Little to no understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax
2. Quiz:	Understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Excellent understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Good understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Fair understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Poor understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Little to no understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class
3. Final paper:	Understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language	Excellent understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and excellent ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language	Good understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and good ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language	Fair understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and fair ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language.	Poor understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and poor ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language	Little to no understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and no ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language

Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Assignments:	Understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Excellent understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Good understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Poor understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax	Little to no understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to understand current literature of Chinese syntax
2. Quiz:	Understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Excellent understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Good understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Marginal understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class	Little to no understanding of the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese relating to topics introduced in class
3. Final paper:	Understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language	Excellent understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and excellent ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language	Good understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and good ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language	Poor understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and poor ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language	Little to no understanding of current issues in the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Chinese and no ability to propose a new syntactic analysis for a Chinese language

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Chinese morphemes and words, words and phrases, lexical categories, verbs and nouns, adjectives and prepositions, functional categories, argument structures, Chinese resultative compounds, adjuncts, complements and verb phrases, double objects and the structure of verb phrase, aspectual phrases and modals, passives, the ba construction, topic constructions, questions, nominal expressions, anaphora.

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Huang, C.-T. James, Y.-H. Audrey Li and Andrew Simpson, eds. (2014). <i>Handbook of Chinese Linguistics</i> . Malden: Wiley-Blackwell.
2.	Huang, James C.-T., Audrey Y.-H. Li and Yafei Li. (2009) <i>The Syntax of Chinese</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Zhu, Dexi. (1982). <i>Yufa Jiangyi</i> [Lecture Notes on Grammar]. Beijing: The Commercial Press.
2.	Carnie, Andrew. (2007). <i>Syntax: A generative introduction</i> . 2 nd edition. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
3.	Li, Charles N. and Sandra A. Thompson. (1981). <i>Mandarin Chinese: a functional reference grammar</i> . Berkeley: University of California Press.
4.	Chao, Yuen-Ren. (1968). <i>A Grammar of Spoken Chinese</i> . University of California Press, Berkeley.