

**City University of Hong Kong**  
**Course Syllabus**

**offered by Chan Feng Men-ling Chan Shuk-lin Language Centre**  
**with effect from Semester A 2020/21**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Mandarin for Non-Chinese Speakers I

**Course Code:** LC2956

**Course Duration:** 1 semester

**Credit Units:** 3 credits

**Level:** B2

**Proposed Area:**  Arts and Humanities  
*(for GE courses only)*  Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations  
 Science and Technology

**Medium of Instruction:** English/Chinese

**Medium of Assessment:** English/Chinese

**Prerequisites:** Nil  
*(Course Code and Title)*

**Precursors:** Nil  
*(Course Code and Title)*

**Equivalent Courses:** CAH2956/CTL2956 Mandarin for Non-Chinese Speakers I  
*(Course Code and Title)*

**Exclusive Courses:** Nil  
*(Course Code and Title)*

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

This is a beginning language and culture course designed for non-Chinese speakers in the university (including students who can speak Putonghua or a certain dialect but cannot read or write in the language). This course will enable students to apply their knowledge of Chinese language and culture to communication in daily life.

### 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 <sup>#</sup>   | Weighting*<br>(if applicable) | Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate) |    |    |
|-----|--|-------------------------------|---|----|----|
|     |  |                               | A1  | A2 | A3 |
| 1.  | Describe the phonetic system of the language.                            |                               |   | √  |    |
| 2.  | Enumerate the vocabulary of basic Chinese.                               |                               |   | √  |    |
| 3.  | Identify basic sentence patterns and ways of expression in Mandarin.     |                               |   | √  |    |
| 4.  | Demonstrate the ability to read and write in basic Chinese.              |                               |   | √  |    |
| 5.  | Apply their knowledge of Chinese culture and tradition to communication. |                               |   |    | √  |
|     |  | 100%                          |   |    |    |

\* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

# Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

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 self-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. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

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

| TLA                | Brief Description   | CILO No. |   |   |   |   | Hours/week<br>(if applicable) |
|--------------------|---|----------|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------|
|                    |   | 1        | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |                               |
| Lecture            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>introducing the phonetic system of Chinese and the grammatical structure and expressions of Chinese Transcribing and indexing of Pinyin</li> <li>explaining the structure and meaning of Chinese characters</li> </ul> | √        |   |   |   |   |                               |
| Assignment         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exercises on the stroke order and use of Chinese words</li> </ul>  |          | √ |   |   |   |                               |
| Assignment         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exercises on Chinese grammar</li> </ul>  |          |   | √ |   | √ |                               |
| Tutorial           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading comprehension exercises Drills and group discussion on sentence patterns and expressions</li> <li>Exercises on writing Chinese characters and simple sentences</li> </ul>                                      |          |   |   | √ | √ |                               |
| Group Presentation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Role play</li> <li>Presentation</li> </ul>   |          | √ | √ | √ | √ |                               |

### 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<br>The students are required to write Chinese character, practice on language use and work on grammatical exercises.   | √        | √ | √ | √ | √ | 20%        |         |
| Class participation  | √        | √ | √ | √ | √ | 10%        |         |
| Quizzes<br>The quizzes are designed to test students' knowledge on Pinyin, Chinese character writing, situational language use, grammatical structures, and translation. | √        | √ | √ | √ | √ | 40%        |         |
| Final test<br>The final test covers the entire materials discussed during the semester.  | √        | √ | √ | √ | √ | 30%        |         |
| Examination: - (duration: -)   |          |   |   |   |   |            |         |
| * The weightings should add up to 100%.  |          |   |   |   |   | 100%       |         |

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

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

| Assessment Task | Criterion   | Excellent<br>(A+, A, A-)  | Good<br>(B+, B, B-)   | Fair<br>(C+, C, C-)   | Marginal<br>(D)   | Failure<br>(F)  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assignments     | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Excellent command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Excellent understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Excellent competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Excellent skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Good understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Good competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Good skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adequate command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Adequate understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Fair competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Acceptable skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Marginal command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Marginal understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Marginal competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Marginal skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Extremely limited command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Extremely limited understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Extremely limited competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Extremely limited skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> |

| Assessment Task     | Criterion   | Excellent<br>(A+, A, A-)  | Good<br>(B+, B, B-)   | Fair<br>(C+, C, C-)   | Marginal<br>(D)   | Failure<br>(F)  |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Class participation | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Excellent command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Excellent understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Excellent competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Excellent skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Good understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Good competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Good skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adequate command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Adequate understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Fair competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Acceptable skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Marginal command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Marginal understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Marginal competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Marginal skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Extremely limited command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Extremely limited understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Extremely limited competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Extremely limited skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> |

| Assessment Task | Criterion   | Excellent<br>(A+, A, A-)  | Good<br>(B+, B, B-)   | Fair<br>(C+, C, C-)   | Marginal<br>(D)   | Failure<br>(F)  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Quizzes         | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Excellent command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Excellent understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Excellent competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Excellent skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Good understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Good competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Good skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adequate command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Adequate understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Fair competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Acceptable skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Marginal command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Marginal understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Marginal competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Marginal skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Extremely limited command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Extremely limited understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Extremely limited competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Extremely limited skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> |

| Assessment Task | Criterion   | Excellent<br>(A+, A, A-)  | Good<br>(B+, B, B-)   | Fair<br>(C+, C, C-)   | Marginal<br>(D)   | Failure<br>(F)  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Final test      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Excellent command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Excellent understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Excellent competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Excellent skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Good understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Good competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Good skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adequate command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Adequate understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Fair competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Acceptable skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Marginal command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Marginal understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Marginal competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Marginal skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Extremely limited command of Pinyin and basic Chinese characters</li> <li>2. Extremely limited understanding of basic sentence structures and ways of expression in Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua)</li> <li>3. Extremely limited competence in conducting basic dialogues with proper use of vocabulary and grammar</li> <li>4. Extremely limited skills in reading and writing in basic Chinese</li> </ol> |

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

#### 1. Keyword Syllabus

- Pinyin: initials, finals and tones
- Introduction to the basic elements of Chinese characters
- Vocabulary building
- Grammatical structure
- Daily conversation
- Reading and writing
- Chinese culture and the language

#### 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.)*

N/A

##### 2.2 Additional Readings

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

Recommended Reading:

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1. | Practical Chinese Reader, Book I, Beijing Language Institute. Hong Kong: The Commercial Press Ltd, 2003. (Simplified version or traditional version) |
| 2. | Supplementary materials  |