

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	CBS1CN08
Subject Title	Chinese Language and the Chinese Societies
Credit Value	3
Level	1
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Exclusion: CBS1C12P and CBS1CN12P and CBS1C08
Objectives	<p>The Chinese language, especially in its written form, has always been one of the most powerful symbols of cultural unity among all Chinese communities. Many Chinese, hence, look upon the Chinese language as being more uniform and unchanging than it actually is (Norman 1988:1). In fact, Chinese has developed into a pluricentric language just like English since the mid-20th century by having several standard versions in its spoken and written form. As reflected by the strong degree of diversity of the lexical items appeared in newspapers published in different regions, the unintelligibility among the Chinese adopted in Inland China and that in other principal Chinese communities overseas, such as Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and Singapore, is much greater than expected. In addition to diversity, Chinese is an ever changing language just like any other human language. There is ongoing influx of new words, new expressions and new sentence structures in Chinese language from every area of life which describes the changes and developments in the societies that take place day to day.</p> <p>This subject aims at helping students to develop a deeper understanding of the diverse nature and the development of Chinese language; and improve their intercultural communicative competence in global Chinese by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raising their awareness of the heterogeneous and changing nature of the Chinese language; • examining the major factors, such as the influence of dialect strata, the differences in political structures, economic systems and socio-cultural backgrounds of the Chinese language; • developing the necessary linguistic skills and contextualized cultural knowledge to use contemporary Chinese more effectively; and • fostering intercultural attitudes of respect and understanding for their language and culture and the languages and cultures of other Chinese communities.
Intended Learning Outcomes <i>(Note 1)</i>	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <p>(a) develop a higher-order appreciation of the diverse nature of Chinese language with a local-global vision;</p> <p>(b) develop the linguistic skills needed to comprehend accurately the vocabulary, sentence patterns, styles and usages of the Chinese varieties</p>

	<p>adopted by different Chinese communities;</p> <p>(c) describe and examine critically the similarities and differences among different varieties of Chinese;</p> <p>(d) Identify and make use of the available internet resources and reference materials to solve Chinese language related problems encountered in their lifetimes;</p> <p>(e) Develop a deeper understanding of the Chinese cultures in contemporary Chinese societies;</p> <p>(f) Communicate effectively with members of other Chinese communities in linguistically accurate and culturally appropriate ways.</p> <p>Please explain how the stated learning outcomes relate to the following three essential features of GUR subjects: Literacy, Higher order thinking, and Skills for life-long learning</p> <p>Literacy Literacy skills in Chinese will be greatly improved by (1) the extensive reading on works describing the current status of Chinese language and societies; (2) collecting authentic linguistic data from different varieties of Chinese; (3) writing reports on the observations of the usage of different Chinese variants.</p> <p>Higher order thinking Systemic and critical thinking skills will be enhanced through the tests and the final project. The tests will require students to examine critically some linguistic phenomena where as the final project will train students to identify a topic to study, collect appropriate data and analyze the data critically.</p> <p>Life-long learning The subject will provide students the impetus to actively enquire the differences and similarities of different varieties of Chinese. It further introduces students to the essential resources and reference materials to comprehend the ever changing Chinese language and societies so that they can solve real-life problems encountered in their workplaces or China-relates social lives.</p>
<p>Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus <i>(Note 2)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The genetic affiliation of Chinese. • Typological characteristics of Chinese. 2. Modern standard Chinese and dialects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The formation of modern standard Chinese. • The norms of modern spoken standard Chinese. • Overview of modern Chinese dialects. • The dialect strata in the Chinese communities overseas. 3. The rise and development of Inland written Chinese <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociopolitical factors leading to the formation of Inland written Chinese. • Newly emerged words and expressions. • New words from foreign languages. • Europeanized structures in contemporary Chinese. 4. Language and societies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diglossia, bidialectalism and multilingualism in the principal Chinese communities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language policy in Inland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore. <p>5. The varieties of modern written Chinese</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual (un)intelligibility among different Chinese variants. • The lexical differences among different Chinese variants. • The grammatical differences among different Chinese variants. • The prospects of Global Chinese in the internet age. 																																														
<p>Teaching/Learning Methodology (Note 3)</p>	<p>The subject will be conducted in both lectures and seminars. Subject matter is delivered in lectures enhanced with multimedia and web demonstrations. Seminars are more interactive in nature in which students are required to critically reflect on the assigned readings. The group project is another significant learning means in this subject. In Week 6, students are required to collect authentic linguistic data from an unfamiliar Chinese variant. Through analyzing the collected data, students will be able to achieve most of the intended learning outcomes.</p>																																														
<p>Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes (Note 4)</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="512 837 1431 1379"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="6">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>a</th> <th>b</th> <th>c</th> <th>d</th> <th>e</th> <th>f</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Test I</td> <td>30%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Test II</td> <td>30%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Group project and presentation</td> <td>40%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>100 %</td> <td colspan="6"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)						a	b	c	d	e	f	1. Test I	30%	✓	✓					2. Test II	30%	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	3. Group project and presentation	40%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Total	100 %						
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郭熙 2003 《中國社會語言學》，南京：南京大學出版社。

鄒嘉彥、游汝杰編 2003 《漢語和華人社會》，香港：香港城市大學

周荐、董琨主編 2008 《海峽兩岸語言與語言生活研究》，香港商務。

Recommended

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Lee, K.-S. & Leung, W.-M. (2012) The status of Cantonese in the education policy of Hong Kong. *Multilingual Education*, 2:2, Spinger.

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石定栩、朱志瑜 1999 英語對香港書面漢語辭彙的影響—語言接觸引起的語言變化，《外國語》4.2-11.

石定栩、朱志瑜 2005 英語對香港書面漢語辭彙的影響—香港書面漢語和標準漢語中的同形異義詞，《外國語》6.2-9.

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李貴生、梁慧敏（2010）：教育政策專題評論 -- 教學語言（三語政策下粵語的定位問題、語言調查與語文政策），《教育政策論壇文集（二）》，香港，香港教育學院政策與領導學系編，頁 106-109。

李貴生、梁慧敏（2010）〈香港工作場所中三語使用的初步調查〉，《中國語文研究》，香港中文大學中國文化研究所，第 29 期，頁 97-110。

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梁慧敏、李貴生（2012）〈香港非粵語母語者語言轉移的初步探討〉，《人文中國學報》，第 18 期，頁 367-400。

陳建民 1999 《中國語言和中國社會》，廣州：廣東教育。

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李谷城 1992 《中國大陸政治術語》，香港：中文大學。

	<p>李谷城 2006《中國大陸改革開始新詞語》，香港：中文大學。</p> <p>沈孟璵 2009《新中國 60 年新詞新語詞典》，成都：四川辭書出版社。</p> <p>施光亨 2003《兩岸現代漢語常用辭典》，北京：北京語言大學出版社。</p> <p><u>Chinese corpora on the Internet</u></p> <p>The Hong Kong Institute of Education: Linguistic Variations in Chinese Speech Communities synchronous corpus, contains texts http://www.livac.org/</p> <p>The UCLA Corpus of Written Chinese http://score.crpp.nie.edu.sg/laohong/UCLA.htm</p> <p>Chinese corpus consortium http://www.d-ear.com/CCC/</p> <p>北京大學中國語言研究中心：現代漢語語料庫 http://ccl.pku.edu.cn/Yuliao_Content.Aspx</p> <p>台灣中央研究院：現代漢語平衡語料庫 http://db1x.sinica.edu.tw/kiwi/mkiwi/</p> <p><u>Documentary Videos</u></p> <p>香港理工大學中文及雙語學系：《中國語言文化系列》（1998）</p> <p>電視廣播有限公司：《星期二檔案：鄉音鄉情》（2010）</p>
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[Syllabus prepared by Dr Roxana Fung and revised by Dr Leung Wai Mun]