

## **Taiwan Intensive Semester Language Program**

**CNSE 221/547: Intermediate Chinese Speaking and Listening II**

**CNSE 222/548: Intermediate Chinese Grammar, Reading, and Writing II**

**SOCL 320/520: Culture and Society of Taiwan**

**American Councils for International Education** 美國國際教育委員會

**Tamkang University** 淡江大學



淡江大學  
Tamkang University



## **Program Statement of Purpose**

The Taiwan Intensive Semester Language Program in Taipei, Taiwan, will provide fifteen weeks of intensive Chinese language instruction and will take place at Tamkang University (TKU) in Taipei, Taiwan. The curriculum will focus on intensive speaking, listening, reading, and writing practice through 18 class hours of Chinese instruction per week. Students will also participate in a Chinese language pledge and strengthen their language skills with locals through activities and excursions designed to reinforce their understanding of Chinese culture and language.

## **Curriculum Overview**

The Chinese Language Center (CLC) at TKU provides a highly demanding, total immersion academic program to Taiwan Intensive Semester Language Program participants. Classes are held five days per week, with two to four sessions per day. On days with four sessions, students will attend three lecture or drilling classes and one situational conversation or discussion class. On days with three sessions, students will attend two lecture or drilling classes and one situational conversation or discussion class. On days with two sessions, students will attend one lecture or drilling classes and one situational conversation or discussion class. Participants also receive one hour of personalized instruction each week. Students are required to actively participate in all classes, cultural enrichment activities, excursions, and ceremonies. Evaluation will include attendance and participation, quizzes and tests, midterm and final exams, oral presentations, and homework.

## **Policies**

### **Attendance and Participation**

Students who routinely miss classes or excursions without a valid medical excuse or other approved reason will be subject to verbal and written warnings and the possibility of lowered grades. Students are required to actively participate in all classes, cultural enrichment activities, excursions, and ceremonies.

### **Preparation and Self-Study**

This program is highly demanding, and students should expect to spend a minimum of three hours on class preparation and self-study daily. This preparation should include both written and audio texts, as well as vocabulary and sentence patterns.

### **Completion of Homework**

Students are assigned homework in each class and are expected to complete it by the date indicated by their teacher. Instructors factor student work into planning for future classes; timely completion of all assigned homework allows teachers to more accurately gauge student progress and effectively utilize class time. Homework is graded and will factor into students' overall course grades.

**Daily Quizzes, Weekly Tests, Midterm, & Final Exams**

TISLP Chinese instructors at the Chinese Language Center at Tamkang University will administer all quizzes, tests, and exams. Quizzes focus on new materials introduced in daily classes and are held during the lecture and drill classes. Weekly tests cover what students learned during the week. The two-hour long midterm and final written exams help students review what they have learned during the preceding two months. A final oral exam is held on the last day of the program.

**Oral Presentation**

Students will give two formal oral presentations over the course of the program. Students are required to organize three minutes of content and orally present it to their peers in class. All presentations should be reviewed for grammatical errors in collaboration with one-on-one class instructors.

**Chinese Language Pledge**

Students will sign a language pledge and are expected to speak Chinese both to classmates and to teachers throughout the duration of the program. This language pledge requires students to speak only Chinese in the following settings:

- In all program classes
- On the grounds of Tamkang University (including in hallways and cafeterias)
- On group excursions and trips
- With other program students
- With their host families/roommates
- With their language partners
- When speaking with local staff, officials, and teachers

**Materials**

- A. Textbooks
  - Modern Chinese, Volume 3
- B. PowerPoint Notes
- C. Supplemental Materials
  - a. Selected articles from Modern Chinese, Volume 4
  - b. Online listening and reading tests
  - c. Related articles

## Evaluation

Participant grades are determined by the following components:

|                                                                                        |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Attendance & Participation (All language classes, cultural activities, and excursions) | 15% |
| Daily Quizzes                                                                          | 10% |
| Weekly Tests                                                                           | 10% |
| Homework                                                                               | 15% |
| Oral Presentations                                                                     | 15% |
| Written Midterm Exam                                                                   | 5%  |
| Performance                                                                            | 15% |
| Final Written Exam                                                                     | 5%  |
| Final Oral Exam                                                                        | 10% |

Students will be graded according to the following grading scale:

| Letter Grade | Percent Grade | 4.0 Scale |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| A+           | 97-100        | 4         |
| A            | 93-96         | 4         |
| A-           | 90-92         | 3.7       |
| B+           | 87-89         | 3.3       |
| B            | 83-86         | 3         |
| B-           | 80-82         | 2.7       |
| C+           | 77-79         | 2.3       |
| C            | 73-76         | 2         |
| C-           | 70-72         | 1.7       |
| D+           | 67-69         | 1.3       |
| D            | 65-66         | 1         |
| E/F          | Below 65      | 0         |

### Classroom Behavior

Students are expected to make an effort to act in a culturally appropriate way. They are also expected to treat their fellow students, instructors, and Chinese Language Center staff respectfully. Students should raise their hands before speaking in class. If a student needs to leave the classroom, she/he should ask for permission to leave. During classes, students are expected to follow the rules below:

- No eating
- No cell phones or any digital devices
- No feet on desks
- Be cooperative (be on time, etc.)
- Actively participate
- Be respectful to the instructor and classmates
- Be respectful to the local culture and others' cultures
- Be appropriately dressed

### Sample Daily Schedule

|                 | Monday                      | Tuesday        | Wednesday      | Thursday       | Friday         |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 09:10am-10:00am | Free                        | Free           | Free           | Mandarin Class | Free           |
| 10:10am-12:00pm | Mandarin Class              | Mandarin Class | Mandarin Class |                | Mandarin Class |
| 12:00pm-1:00pm  | Lunch Break                 | Lunch Break    | Lunch Break    | Free           | Free           |
| 1:10pm-3:00pm   | Mandarin Class              | Mandarin Class | Mandarin Class |                |                |
| 3:10pm-4:00pm   | Teacher Tutoring<br>or Free |                |                |                |                |
| 4:10pm-5:00pm   |                             |                |                |                |                |

*Please note: The schedule is subject to change depending on student progress, interest, and other factors.*

## Course Descriptions

**CNSE 221: Intermediate Chinese Speaking and Listening II**  
(1.5 units of Bryn Mawr College academic credit — 6 undergraduate credit hours)

**CNSE 547: Intermediate Chinese Speaking and Listening II**  
(1.5 units of Bryn Mawr College academic credit — 5 graduate credit hours)

The course is designed to reinforce language skills in speaking and listening as they relate to everyday life situations. The objectives of the course are to obtain information during extended conversation, to express feelings and opinions on common topics at length, and to deepen argumentative discussions with appropriate vocabulary and accurate grammar reasonings. The class is designed to perform extensive drill practices that are focused on practical daily dialogues within the class. Students are expected to perform weekly role-plays to apply newly acquired vocabulary and grammar patterns. Oral skills will be further enhanced through weekly one-on-one sessions with their teachers and language partners. Students will apply their language skills in daily conversations and will gain confidence conversing with locals through real-time scenarios. Students will be able to respond to various linguistic situations, including indicating a possibility, bringing up a topic, making emphasis, reproaching and questioning, clarifying one's point of view, and making a decision.

**CNSE 222: Intermediate Chinese Grammar, Reading, and Writing II**  
(1.5 units of Bryn Mawr College academic credit — 6 undergraduate credit hours)

**CNSE 548: Intermediate Chinese Grammar, Reading, and Writing II**  
(1.5 units of Bryn Mawr College academic credit — 5 graduate credit hours)

Students are required to have studied Chinese for at least 800 hours and learned approximately 1000-1200 vocabulary words before taking the Intermediate II course. The course is designed to develop language skills in reading and writing as they relate to daily life situations. The objectives of the course will be focused on expanding vocabulary and applying compound sentence structures accurately, developing reading comprehension of simple argumentative passages, and solving basic contextual problems. The class will meet five days every week for a total of 18 hours. Students are expected to preview material before class and will apply new vocabulary and grammar patterns within class through repetitive practices in reading and writing. Students are expected to learn 650 vocabulary and 60 new grammar patterns by the end of the course.

**SOCL 320: Culture and Society of Taiwan**  
(1 unit of Bryn Mawr College academic credit — 4 undergraduate credit hours)

**SOCL 520: Culture and Society of Taiwan**  
(1 unit of Bryn Mawr College academic credit — 5 graduate credit hours)

This course emphasizes not only seeing (e.g., detecting, experiencing, and interacting) but also interpreting observed facts according to value assumptions in local contexts. Course design thus features lectures, field work, and self-exploration through a mini project.

Lectures will provide the necessary background information on local social conditions and issues, including geophysical and socioeconomic conditions, structural problems, and prevailing values and their corresponding rationales.

Field work provides opportunities for direct exposure to the pulse of local life, allowing students access to the imagination and aspirations of local people. The act of collecting and interpreting immediate sensory inputs offers a deeper understanding of social reality.

The mini project emphasizes self-learning with clear direction. Students are challenged to raise relevant and interesting questions to investigate and to seek answers through field work and consulting with local experts.