



Boston University
Study Abroad Shanghai

CAS LC 212: Fourth Semester Chinese

Spring/Fall

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

LC 212 is designed for students who have completed three semesters of Chinese or the equivalent. It will improve students' knowledge of Chinese language and culture through the practice in four language skills - listening, speaking, reading, and writing and engagement with authentic Chinese language materials. Chinese audio-visual material, situational survival phrases via role-playing, and authentic reading materials will facilitate students' skills development in combining or recombining learned linguistic structures. Students will discuss Chinese customs and manners, acquire information about history, holidays, and investigate social issues such as gender equality and environmental protection. Assignments and in-class activities enable students to acquire language functions and vocabulary necessary to discuss the course materials, sustain basic conversations, and make comparisons between common social issues and conventions in contemporary Chinese society to those in the US or their own cultures. For most students fulfilling the CAS foreign language requirement, LC 212 constitutes the final piece. As such it builds on all the language skills practiced in the preceding three semesters. This course also provides students with the foundation to continue their exploration of the language and cultures of Chinese-speaking societies. Like all of BU's language courses, LC 212 focuses on issues in intercultural communication and comparisons.

The course meets three times (1.5 hours each time) per week.

Credits: 4 credits

Prerequisites: LC 211 or equivalent proficiency

This course fulfills a single unit in each of the following BU Hub areas:

- The Individual in Community
- Global Citizenship and Intercultural Literacy

COURSE MATERIALS:

Textbook: Integrated Chinese Level 2 Part 2 Textbook, Simplified Characters, 3rd Edition

Workbook: Integrated Chinese Level 2 Part 2 Workbook, Simplified Characters, 3rd Edition



COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this class is to help students to:

- Continue to develop basic communication skills at “survival” level (e.g. ask and answer simple questions on familiar topics and handle a simple situation or transaction);
- Combine and recombine learned materials in personal meaningful communication;
- Locate Chinese language information on familiar topics (e.g. daily life, asking direction, hobbies, and so on);
- Continue to gain concrete knowledge of Chinese customs and manners, geography, shopping conventions, and major holidays in Chinese-speaking countries;
- Continue to acquire some commonly used idiomatic expressions;
- Continue to master the standard sound system and acquire correct pronunciation and tones;
- Continue to learn what it is like to live in China or other Chinese-speaking countries;
- Be able to use more complex grammatical constructions such as:
 - Complex directional and resultative complements; complements of state
 - Progressive and continuous aspect
 - Passive constructions (marked and unmarked)
 - Comparative constructions (comparative and superlative)
 - More complex sentence structures (e.g. sufficient and necessary conditional, causal and disposal constructions)
 - Serial verb constructions
 - Reduplication of nouns, adjectives and verbs
- Continue to study when to use formal and informal registers of language
- Learn to describe or narrate one’s past experiences, current condition, and future plans;
- Express affirmation and refusals, personal opinions, make suggestions, and so on.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

If students come to class regularly, complete all of the in-class assignments, homework, and average a B on their tests, they will be able to reach the Intermediate Low or Midlevel on the language proficiency scale developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) after this course.

- In terms of speaking, students will be able to recombine learned material in order to express personal meanings, such as asking and answering simple questions and



handling a straightforward survival situation. They will be able to produce sentence level language.

- In terms of writing, students can satisfy some practical writing needs, such as simple messages and letters, requests for information, and notes. They are able to create with the language to communicate simple facts and ideas in a series of loosely connected sentences on topics of personal interest and social needs.
- In terms of listening, students will be able to understand information conveyed in simple, sentence-length speech on familiar or everyday topics. They are able to engage in face-to-face conversations or in routine listening tasks such as understanding highly contextualized messages, straightforward announcements, or simple instructions and directions.
- In terms of reading, students will be able to understand short, non-complex texts that convey basic and familiar information and deal with basic personal topics, such as in notices, weather reports, or a social announcement. Students at this level may comprehend some meaning from short connected texts featuring description and narration, dealing with familiar topics.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

To achieve the objectives of this course, students are expected to spend at least TWO to THREE hours per day outside of class reviewing daily all new words and grammar patterns, memorizing vocabulary, completing homework assignments, listening to supplementary audio materials and previewing the next day's class.

To ensure maximum efficient utilization of class time, you are required to prepare each lesson before class, which means you need to gain familiarity with the new textbook lesson. Study new words (pronunciation, meaning, usage, and characters) and grammatical structures in the Study Guide on your own. The instructor will distribute a study guide handout in class before every new lesson is introduced.

ASSESSMENT, GRADING SCALE, AND COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

Assessment:

Students' language proficiency will be assessed in a variety of ways, both through formal oral and written tests and informally in class. After students have acquired vocabulary or basic linguistic structures, they will have various opportunities to demonstrate that they have remembered and understood the new material, can apply it in a similar context, compare and analyze, as well as use the language creatively. Informal assessments will take on a variety of forms and may include interviewing your Chinese co-workers or friends,



writing a short email to your teacher, texting WeChat messages, using new words to have free conversations with your teacher.

Grading Scale:

Regular attendance (5%), preparation (5%) and participation (5%) = 15%	93- 100	A
	90-92.99	A-
	86-89.99	B+
Homework (10%), presentation (10%) and Compositions (10%) =30%	83-85.99	B
	80-82.99	B-
	76-79.99	C+
In-class dictation quizzes =15%	73-75.99	C
	70-72.99	C-
Midterm exam =15% (10% for written, 5% for oral)	60-69.99	D
	0-59.99	F
Final exam =25% (15% for written, 10% for oral)		

Attendance, Preparation and Participation (15% of grade):

The pace of the class will be steady. Students are required to attend all classes scheduled and take an active part in classroom activities. Please note two unexcused absences will lead to one point deduction from your final score, as will three unexcused lateness. Active participation means that students do not only speak when called upon but contribute to class discussions. Students who do not engage in class discussions and only speak when called upon cannot expect to receive a grade higher than C for participation. Please also note that students cannot receive a participation grade if they are absent from class.

Homework, presentation and compositions (30% of grade):

Regular homework will be given at the end of each lesson. (10%)

The topic of presentation is based on every chapter we will learn. (10%)

You will be required to write six compositions during the semester. (10%)

Late or incomplete homework or compositions will be graded but only receive half credit. Homework received more than one week after the due date will receive no credit.

In-class Dictation Quizzes (15% of grade):



A written quiz on Chinese characters and grammar will be given before the new lesson is introduced. This means that you are required to review the lesson you've learnt last time and preview each lesson before class. Missed quizzes cannot be made up. You will have the option of dropping the lowest quiz grade at the end of semester to allow flexibility for excused absences and emergencies. And the word of every chapter will be divided into two parts, so for one chapter, we will do dictation twice.

COURSE POLICIES:

Absences:

Excused absences will only be granted for documented illness or emergency, for which you **MUST** contact Instructor **PRIOR TO CLASS**. (Doctors in China routinely give out notices for workplaces, to document your illness.) If for some justifiable reasons you need to plan to be absent from class on a certain day, you are required to give advance notice to the instructor, except for emergency cases. Each unexcused absence will result in a 0.5% deduction from your final grade. Make-up tests or exams will not be permitted except in the case of illness or emergency situations.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism Statement:

Cheating and plagiarism are forbidden. It is your responsibility to know the Academic Conduct Code. See: www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/

COURSE SCHEDULE:

	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday
Week 1	Arrival and orientation		
Week 2	Educational field trip		
Week 3	Introduction Lesson 11 中国的节日	Lesson 11 中国的节日	Lesson 11 中国的节日
Week 4	Lesson 11 中国的节日	Lesson 12 中国的变化	Lesson 12 中国的变化
Week 5	Lesson 12 中国的变化	Lesson 12 中国的变化	Lesson 13 旅游
Week 6	Lesson 13 旅游	Lesson 13 旅游	Lesson 13 旅游
Week 7	Holiday break		
Week 8	Lesson 14 生活与健康	Lesson 14 生活与健康	Lesson 14 生活与健康
Week 9	Lesson 14 生活与健康	Lesson 15 男女平等	Lesson 15 男女平等
Week 10	Lesson 15 男女平等	Lesson 15 男女平等	Review: Lesson 11 - 15
Week 11	Midterm exams (Written and oral)	Lesson 16 环境保护与 节约能源	Lesson 16 环境保护与 节约能源



Week 12	Lesson 16 环境保护与 节约能源	Lesson 16 环境保护与 节约能源	Lesson 17 理财与投资
Week 13	Lesson 17 理财与投资	Lesson 17 理财与投资	Lesson 17 理财与投资
Week 14	Lesson 18 中国历史	Lesson 18 中国历史	Lesson 18 中国历史
Week 15	Lesson 18 中国历史	Lesson 19 面试	Lesson 19 面试
Week 16	Lesson 19 面试	Lesson 19 面试	Review: Lesson 16 - 19
Week 17	Final exams (Written and oral)	Departure	

This schedule may be altered depending on class progress and changing circumstances.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

1. To set up Chinese input and output on your computer: www.pinyinjoe.com
2. Chinese dictionaries: On the computer: <http://www.nciku.com> On mobile phones: Pleco or nciku
3. Flashcards: <http://www.yellowbridge.com/chinese/fc-options.php?deck=ic3-1-1> 4. Character writing practice: <http://www.skritter.com/>
4. Textbook audios and videos: <https://www.cheng-tsui.com/resources/ic>