



Boston University
Study Abroad Shanghai

CAS LC 211/212: Intermediate Intensive Chinese

Spring/Fall

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This intermediate Chinese course is designed for students who have completed one year of university-level Chinese. It will help students develop a strong foundation for the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing). The course also aims to offer insights into the culture and civilization of countries where Chinese is spoken. Entering students should be able to maintain basic communication skills both orally and in writing. Following ACTFL guidelines, this intermediate level course will focus on language proficiency and cultural awareness.

The course meets 9 hours per week and is equivalent to LC 211 Third Semester Chinese and LC 212 Fourth Semester Chinese.

Credits: 8 credits (4 credits for LC 211 and 4 credits for LC 212)

Prerequisites: LC 112 or equivalent proficiency

LC 211 fulfills a single unit in each of the following BU Hub areas:

- The Individual in Community

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- The Individual in Community
- Global Citizenship and Intercultural Literacy

COURSE MATERIALS:

Textbook:

Integrated Chinese Volume 3 Textbook, Simplified Characters, 4th Edition

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

Workbook:

Integrated Chinese Volume 3 Workbook, Simplified Characters, 4th Edition

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:

Attendance and Participation 20%	93- 100	A
Homework and compositions 20%	90-92.99	A-
	86-89.99	B+
In-class dictation quizzes 15%	83-85.99	B
	80-82.99	B-
Midterm exam 20%	76-79.99	C+
(10% for written, 10% for oral)	73-75.99	C
	70-72.99	C-
Final exam 25%	60-69.99	D
(15% for written, 10% for oral)	0-59.99	F

Attendance, Preparation, and Participation (20% 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. Typically, one unexcused absence lowers 1/2 point of your final grade and your final grade will be lowered one level after 5 unexcused absences. Frequent tardiness will also negatively affect your attendance score and class performance. Absences will not only hurt your grade but also determine borderline cases.

Active participation means that students do not only speak when called upon but also 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 and compositions (20% of grade):

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

You will be required to write 10 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 preview each lesson before class. Guidance will be provided in Study Guide. Missed quizzes cannot be made up. You will have the option of dropping the lowest quiz grade to allow flexibility for excused absences and emergencies.



Midterm Exam (20% of grade)

(10% for written, 10% for oral)

Final Exam (25% of grade)

(15% for written, 10% for oral)

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 1 开学	Lesson 1 开学	Lesson 2 宿舍生活
Week 4	Lesson 2 宿舍生活 Lesson 3 在饭馆儿	Lesson 3 在饭馆儿 Lesson 4 买东西	Lesson 4 买东西
Week 5	Lesson 5 选课	Lesson 5 选课 Review: Lesson 1 - 5	Midterm exams LC 211 (Written and oral)
Week 6	Lesson 6 男朋友 女朋友	Lesson 6 男朋友 女朋友 Lesson 7 电脑和网络	Lesson 7 电脑和网络
Week 7	Holiday break		

Week 8	Lesson 8 打工	Lesson 8 打工	Lesson 9 教育
Week 9	Lesson 9 教育	Review: Lesson 6 – 9	Final exams LC 211 (Written and oral)
Week 10	Lesson 11 中国的节日	Lesson 11 中国的节日	Lesson 12 中国的变化
Week 11	Lesson 12 中国的变化	Lesson 13 旅游	Lesson 13 旅游
Week 12	Lesson 14 生活与健康	Lesson 14 生活与健康	Lesson 15 男女平等
Week 13	Lesson 15 男女平等	Review: Lesson 11 - 15	Midterm exams LC 212 (Written and oral)
Week 14	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 15	Lesson 17 理财与投资	Lesson 18 中国历史	Lesson 18 中国历史
Week 16	Lesson 19 面试	Lesson 19 面试	Review: Lesson 16 - 19
Week 17	Final exams LC 212 (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>