

Division of Humanities
Course Syllabus

Course Code: HUMA 2050
Course Title: Classical Chinese
Course Offered in: Fall 2021
Course Instructor: Dr. Dechao Li
TA: Miss. Mengyuan Tong

Course Description: An introduction to the fundamental aspects of Classical Chinese grammar and a linguistic study of Classical Chinese texts selected from the classics in the pre-Qin era and the Han period, including *Shijing* (Book of Songs), *Zuozhuan* (Zuo's Commentaries), *Lunyu* (Analects), *Mengzi* (Mencius) and *Shiji* (Records of the Historian). This course also teaches students how to translate classical Chinese into modern Chinese and how to improve Chinese communication skills. This is a Chinese communication course.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1	Have basic knowledge and understanding of the function words and syntax of Classical Chinese
2	Understand the fundamental differences in structural device and lexical/morphological mechanisms between ancient and modern Chinese language
3	Apply the basic principles of Classical Chinese in translating Classical Chinese texts into modern Chinese
4	Improve their reading and writing ability and oral communication skill in modern Chinese
5	Understand and appreciate better the works of the Chinese classics, especially in terms of their literary innovation, philosophical value, and cultural significance

Course Outline:

1	Introduction; texts selected from <i>Zuozhuan</i> (Zuo's Commentaries 左傳)
2	Structure and development of Chinese script; texts selected from <i>Zuozhuan</i>
3	Diachronic similarities and differences of word meaning; texts selected from <i>Hanshu</i> (The Book of Former Han 漢書)
4	The tentative use of words; texts selected from <i>Zhanguoce</i> (Stratagems of the Warring States 戰國策)
5	How to translate classical Chinese into modern standard Chinese; texts selected from <i>Shiji</i> (Records of the Historian 史記)

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6	“Five pests 五蠹” (by Han Feizi 韓非子)
7	Word order; texts selected from <i>Lunyu</i> (Analects 論語)
8	Passive construction; texts selected from <i>Mengzi</i> (Mencius 孟子)
9	Pronoun; texts selected from <i>Mengzi</i> (Mencius 孟子)
10	How the knowledge of classical Chinese can help improve writing articles in modern Chinese; texts selected from <i>Laozi</i> (Writings by Laozi 老子)
11	Adverb and Conjunction, texts selected from <i>Liji</i> (The Book of Rites 禮記)
12	Final particle; texts selected from <i>Daxue</i> (The Great Learning 大學)
13	Texts selected from <i>Shijing</i> (Book of Songs 詩經); selected Tang Poems and Song Ci, Review

Planned Assessment Tasks:

Final:	40%
Midterm:	25%
Quizzes:	10%
Assignments (2 times):	7.5%×2
Attendance:	10%

Readings:

郭錫良、唐作藩、何九盈、蔣紹愚、田瑞娟編著《古代漢語》，上、下冊，北京：商務印書館，1999。

王力主編 (編者：吉常宏、祝敏徹、馬漢麟、郭錫良、許嘉璐、趙克勤、劉益之、蕭璋) 1999.《古代漢語》(校訂重排本)，北京：中華書局。