HUMA 5240 Chinese Dialectology [Pu] [C] [3-0-0:3]

Instructor: ZHANG Min

Course description:
This course will provide an introductory survey of the phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexicon of major Chinese dialects, including Mandarin, Wu, Xiang, Gan, Hakka, Yue, and Min.

ILOs
1. Obtain a holistic perspective on linguistic diversity of China;
2. Understand the geographical distribution, grouping/subgrouping, synchronic characteristics and diachronic evolution of major regional varieties of the Chinese language;
3. Be acquainted with fundamental concepts, theories, and methods in the field of Chinese dialectology;
4. Analyze dialectal data of Chinese from synchronic and diachronic perspectives, and evaluate controversial issues in the study of Chinese dialects.

Course objectives:
The course is designed to give graduate students in Chinese linguistics an overview of important features of major Chinese dialects, and expose them to data, theories, methodologies, and recent advancement in the field of Chinese dialectology. It also provides opportunities for students to delve into some interesting issues of their own choice, and share their findings in class. Major topics to be covered include: classification of Chinese dialects, phonological systems and characteristics of major Chinese dialects, quantitative approaches to Chinese dialectology, dialect geography, comparative dialectal grammar, etc.. The course will also introduce some outstanding issues in the study of Chinese dialects for discussion.

Student responsibilities:
The course will be conducted through lectures combined with class discussion of assigned readings, individual class assignments and presentation of research projects. Students are required to read and reflect on all assigned readings before class, and to participate actively in class discussion. Students are also encouraged to introduce supplementary materials (such as new findings in the relevant fields and additional dialect data) for class discussion. In addition, students are expected to (1) submit one take-home assignment/squib, or make an oral presentation on a chosen topic; (2) present an oral version of the research project; and (3) turn in a term paper before the end of the semester (typed and double-spaced; an electronic version in .doc or some other format may be submitted in addition to, or in lieu of, a hardcopy).

Assessment:
(a) Assignment/squib, or presentation: 20%
(b) Class discussion/participation: 20%
(c) Term paper: 60%

Course Outline:
(Course outline and reading list may be subject to change after the first week of class.)
1. Chinese Dialects and Dialectology in Historical Perspective
2. When East Meets West: Theories and Methodologies
3. Classification of Chinese dialects: An Overview and Theoretical Consideration
4. Classification of Chinese dialects: Mandarin and Jin

5. Hakka, Gan, and Related Issues

6. Yue (Part One): Its Subgrouping

7. Yue (Part Two): Historical Considerations

8. Yue (Part Three): Morpho-phonological Interface

9. Min and Proto-Min

10. Min and Other Southeastern Dialects

11. Synchronic Approaches to Chinese Dialectal Grammar

12. Diachronic Approaches to Chinese Dialectal Grammar

13. Comparative Studies on Dialectal Grammar

14. Term-paper Presentations

Selected Readings:

張洪年. 1968. 《香港粵語語法研究》. 香港：香港中文大學出版社。

何大安. 1988《規律與方向：變遷中的音韻結構》. 臺北：中央研究院。


侯精一主編. 2002. 《現代漢語方言概論》. 上海：上海教育出版社。


李榮. 1963. 《漢語方言調查手冊》. 北京：科學出版社。
李如龍. 2001. 《漢語方言學》. 北京：高等教育出版社。


王力. 1958. 《漢語音韻學常識》. 北京：商務印書館。（又見《王力文集》第四卷，濟南：山東人民出版社，1979）


游汝傑. 2000. 《漢語方言學導論》 (修訂本). 上海：上海教育出版社。


