



**Chinese Language Centre**

**漢語中心**

**2024/25 Executive Programme in Chinese Language  
(Cantonese and Mandarin)**

<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Cantonese for non-Chinese speaking students</b>
<b>Term 1</b>	
<p>This course is intended for foreign learners who have no prior knowledge of Cantonese. The course introduces students to present-day Cantonese, with an emphasis on learning correct pronunciation through the Jyutping phonetic romanization transcription system and basic structure. It aims to develop fundamental oral communication skills through a variety of situational conversations in a highly interactive classroom. Additionally, the course includes instruction in basic traditional Chinese character writing, covering various strokes, proper stroke order, and the mastery of 100 characters. Furthermore, students will learn word processing using Jyutping, which is crucial for everyday communication on the internet and through mobile phone SMS.</p>	
<b>Term 2</b>	
<p>This course is designed for the students who have completed the Cantonese course offered in Term 1 or who can demonstrate equivalent competence through the placement test. It aims at strengthening students' mastery of the phonetic romanization transcription, the <i>Jyutping</i> system, and at enhancing their competence in expressing themselves both orally in Cantonese and in writing short messages or speeches in <i>Jyutping</i>. The course will emphasise growth in oral communication and listening comprehension abilities through a wide variety of communication-based assignments such as show-and-tell sessions, journal presentations and phone calls. Practical sentence patterns and useful words and expressions for everyday life will also be introduced.</p>	
<b>Term 3</b>	
<p>The course is designed for the students who have completed the Cantonese course offered in Term 2 or who can demonstrate equivalent competence through the placement test. It aims to enhance students' speaking and listening skills through ample practice and refinement of sentence patterns, natural expressions, and storytelling techniques. By participating in thought-provoking discussions on various special topics, students will deepen their understanding of Chinese language and culture, and improve their fluency and confidence in expressing their ideas. The course includes an intensive study of modern written texts, enabling students to acquire new vocabulary and phrases, and master sentence structure and grammar in Cantonese to communicate more effectively and accurately.</p>	



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<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Cantonese for Mandarin speaking students</b>
<b>Term 1</b>	
<p>The beginning level Cantonese language course is designed for heritage Mandarin Speakers who have no background in Cantonese. Students will learn Jyutping phonetic romanization transcription system, pronunciation, grammar, unique Cantonese vocabulary and expressions, and Cantonese sentence patterns. The course will be taught in both Mandarin and Cantonese. The emphasis of this course is training for basic conversational and presentational skills in Cantonese. It is designed to help students with Mandarin knowledge to understand the basic differences between Cantonese and Mandarin Chinese, and also to learn about local culture and customs.</p>	
<b>Term 2</b>	
<p>The course is designed for the students who have completed the Cantonese course offered in Term 1 or who can demonstrate equivalent competence through the placement test. It aims to enhance students' proficiency in Cantonese by utilizing everyday life scenarios, practical vocabulary, succinct grammar explanations, and intensive speaking practice. It will improve language usage and pronunciation, as well as facilitate integration into the local community. The instructional approach emphasizes conciseness, using Hong Kong's society and culture as the thematic backdrop, enabling students to comprehend and acquaint themselves with the divergences between Mandarin and Cantonese in terms of pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, and other linguistic elements. Substantial emphasis is placed on comprehensive training in listening and speaking skills, with particular emphasis on fostering linguistic proficiency, especially in oral expression.</p>	
<b>Term 3</b>	
<p>The course is designed for the students who have completed the Cantonese course offered in Term 2 or who can demonstrate equivalent competence through the placement test. It aims to augment students' oral proficiency and aural comprehension skills through a range of pedagogical strategies, including group discussions and multimedia instructional exercises. The curriculum encompasses a broad spectrum of topics, including local culture and social situations, to cultivate students' linguistic and cultural competence. This comprehensive training course, on the other hand, seeks to equip students with the ability to fluently and appropriately employ Cantonese in diverse contexts and for varying purposes, surpassing the rudimentary conversational skills. Moreover, the programme imparts the necessary language skills to meet the demands of professional settings, which include formal expressions and public speaking engagements.</p>	



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<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Mandarin for non-Chinese speaking students</b>
<b>Term 1</b>	
<p>This course is designed to the students who have no prior knowledge of Chinese. It aims to enhance students' proficiency in all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing as well as Chinese word processing. It covers instruction in the pinyin system, pronunciation and basic sentence patterns to enable students to speak sentences accurately, clearly, and fluently, engage in basic conversations, and discuss simple topics. Listening comprehension training focuses on the ability to distinguish sounds and tones and comprehend short sentences. Additionally, the course includes instruction in basic character writing, covering various strokes, proper stroke order, and the mastery of 150 characters. Furthermore, students will learn word processing using pinyin, which is crucial for everyday communication on the internet and through mobile phone SMS.</p>	
<b>Term 2</b>	
<p>This course is designed for students who have successfully completed the Mandarin course offered in Term 1 or have demonstrated equivalent competence through the placement test. It aims to cultivate a solid foundation in the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as well as to enhance students' linguistic output, progressing from the sentence level to the level of composing short paragraphs in both spoken and written forms. The course curriculum starts from daily life scenarios and gradually expanding to encompass broader cultural and societal topics. Through the use of carefully selected texts and different audiovisual media, students will develop a comprehensive understanding of contemporary Chinese culture and society.</p>	
<b>Term 3</b>	
<p>This course is designed for students who have successfully completed the Mandarin course offered in Term 2 or have demonstrated equivalent competence through the placement test. It aims to enhance students' communicative and linguistic competence in listening, speaking, reading, writing. Additionally, the course provides an in-depth exploration of Chinese culture, geography, history, and modern society. By focusing on analyzing short passages and presentations, students will learn effective communication techniques and practice them through various activities such as in-class discussions, presentations and etc. This comprehensive approach will establish a solid foundation for students' language abilities, enabling them to progress to higher levels of Chinese proficiency. The topics in the Term 3 course will include focus on more advanced language skills for use in personal and professional activities, such as shopping for specific brands or products, asking for contact information, ordering food in formal contexts, as well as introducing hobbies, personal qualifications, holiday plans, professional business activities, etc.</p>	

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