

CHIN9511

Cantonese as a Foreign Language I

6 credits - total learning hours: 120 (including 60 contact hours)

Session B: July 3 – 27, 2018

09:30 to 12:30, Mon-Fri

Course Description

This course is intended for foreign learners who have no prior knowledge of Cantonese (Mandarin speakers may apply). The course introduces the fundamental structure of the language that can immediately be put to use in daily life. It aims to develop oral communication skills through a variety of situational conversations to make life in Hong Kong easier and more enjoyable.

Aims and Objectives

1. To understand the basic characteristics of the Cantonese dialect
2. To learn the phonetic structure and the transcription system of Cantonese
3. To acquire basic communication skills in daily life
4. To learn some simple sentence constructions
5. To have a better understanding of Chinese culture and Hong Kong people

List of Topics to be covered in meetings

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. The following content will be covered:

1. Introduction of the language
2. Study of Cantonese phonetic system
3. Practice of useful expressions & numerals
4. Practice of everyday life vocabulary and situational conversation
5. Study of simple sentence structure & usage

Teaching resources

Chow, Bun-Ching (2009) *Cantonese for Everyone* (Jyutping version), The Commercial Press (HK)

(Please note the topics and teaching resources may vary and are provided here as a guide.)

Assessment

100% coursework

Assessment methods	Weighting (%)
1. Self-introduction	10
2. Group presentation	20
3. Two written tests	40
4. Two Jyutping reading tests	20
5. Class participation & exercises	10

Learning outcomes:

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic ability to communicate and express ideas in Cantonese using correct and appropriate expressions.
2. Demonstrate mastery of 400+ frequently used Cantonese words or short phrases, and about 100 sentence patterns/structures.
3. Demonstrate an ability to write down any Cantonese sounds in Jyutping in order to check them with on-line dictionary.

4. Demonstrate an ability to read out any Cantonese sounds written in Jyutping transcription correctly in order to continue learning Cantonese by oneself.