GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Modern Chinese IV (A002944)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 7.0 **Study time 210 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	Chinese, Dutch	Gent	practical

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Liu, Jun	LW21	staff member
Matthyssen, Mieke	LW21	staff member
Dessein, Bart	LW21	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (China Track))	7	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (UGent Track))	7	A
Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures	7	A

Teaching languages

Chinese, Dutch

Keywords

Modern Chinese, oral language, written language, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, listening comprehension, reading, translation, conversation.

Position of the course

This introductory course helps students master the basic vocabulary of Modern Chinese (speaking, reading, writing, understanding). The course helps them to understand the grammar of Modern Chinese, enables them to make grammatical analyses, and teaches them how to apply grammatical structures in actual situations. Students are taught how to translate basic texts from Chinese into Dutch/English, and vice versa. The course also teaches them the basic listening comprehension and writing skills. Students learn to be able to have a basic conversation with a native speaker.
Exchange students may take up this course unit, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required.

Contents

By means of dialogues and texts on specific situations in everyday life in China, the basic vocabulary and basic grammatical structures of Chinese are further taught and practised. The students learn how to write, read, pronounce and understand the vocabulary. They learn how to use this subject matter in written and in oral form. They learn how to use this vocabulary and the grammar in different actual situations: comprehensive reading, written and oral translation, speaking, listening comprehension, and composition. Attention also goes to theoretical grammatical analysis and reading skills.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed the course 'Modern Chinese III' or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

1 1. To master the basic vocabulary and grammar of Modern Chinese orally and written;
2 2. To understand the grammar of Modern Chinese, to be able to make grammatical analyses, and to be able to apply grammatical structures in actual

situations;
3 3. To be able to translate non-specialised basic texts from Chinese into Dutch/English, and vice versa;
4 4. To be able to have a basic conversation with a native speaker;
5 5. To be able to write a basic composition.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Practical

Extra information on the teaching methods

In formal lectures, the theoretical framework, the basic vocabulary and the grammar are explained. The practical language acquisition classes (oral and written translation exercises, speaking exercises, writing exercises, listening exercises) are offered by language lecturers and native speakers.

No recordings are provided.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Integrated Chinese 4, Textbook en Workbook (door: Yuehua Liu, Tao-Chung Yao, Nyan-Ping Bi)
Indicative price: € 150
Optional: no

References

Li, Charles, N. and Sandra A. Thompson, *Mandarin Chinese. A Functional Reference Grammar.* University of California Press, 1989.
Cheung Hung-nin Samuel, et al., *A practical Chinese grammar.* Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 1994.
Wiedenhof, Jeroen, *A Grammar of Mandarin.* Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing, Company, 2015.
Ross, Claudia and Jing-heng Sheng Ma, *Modern Mandarin Chinese Grammar. A Practical Guide.* London and New York: Routledge, 2017.

Course content-related study coaching

In the practical language acquisition classes, with the help of a language lecturer and native speaker, all theoretical knowledge is immediately put into practice. These classes consist of conversation exercises, listening exercises, writing exercises, written translation exercises, composition exercises).
In the conversation exercises, immediate feedback is possible. The written translation exercises are corrected by the language lecturer and discussed with the individual student. This guarantees a quick feedback for the individual student.
The students have the opportunity to individually and at personal pace make translation exercises. When needed, these are discussed individually with the student.
Oral and written exercises are also supported through Ufora.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment moment
Continuous assessment (20 %) + End-of-term assessment (80%)

Assessment form
Continous assessment (20 %): On a test moment during the semester, the knowledge of the vocabulary and grammar is tested. This is done through a dictation, a composition exercise, written translation exercises (Dutch/English-Chinese and Chinese-Dutch/English), grammatical analysis, listening comprehension, and speaking skills.
End-of-term assessment (80 %): The end-of-term exam consists of three parts: (1) listening and speaking comprehension, (2) reading and writing comprehension, and (3) translation and grammatical analysis. The part listening and speaking comprehension consists of a test on listening comprehension and a test on conversation ability (with a native speaker). The part reading and writing comprehension consists of a dictation, and a redaction exercise. The part translation and grammatical analysis consists of a written translation Dutch/English-Chinese and Chinese-Dutch/English, as well as an exercise on analysis (written).
(If a student does not pass for the whole of the continuous and the end-of-term assessment, there is a possibility to do a resit exam and the second examination period. This exam consist of the complete subject matter and all parts (listening and speaking comprehension, reading and writing comprehension, and translation and grammatical analysis)(100%).)

Calculation of the examination mark

Continuous assessment (20 %) + end-of-term assessment (80 %). The student has to pass for each of the three parts of the evaluation ((1) listening and speaking comprehension, (2) reading and writing comprehension, and (3) translation and grammatical analysis) separately, as well as for the total 100 %.
Students who do not take part in the assessment of one or more parts of the course evaluation or obtain a mark of less than 10/20 for one of its parts cannot pass the course evaluation. Should the average mark be higher than 10/20, the final mark will be reduced to the highest non-pass mark (=9).

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:
1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3 Feedback can be given during an appointment during office hours

Extra information:
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy