

Classical Chinese II (A003208)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

seminar

independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

De Rauw, Tom

LW21

staff member

Heirman, Ann

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

crdts

offering

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject China \(China Track\)\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject China \(UGent Track\)\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject India\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject Japan\)](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Classical Chinese, Chinese language

Position of the course

This intermediate course helps students to understand, analyse and use basic structures of Classical Chinese and to translate them into Dutch. The course teaches students how to read, write, and pronounce basic characters of Classical Chinese. It also shows them how to relate the main Classical Chinese texts to the historical, religious-philosophical, social and cultural evolutions in China. Frequently, and wherever relevant, the course makes links with Modern Chinese structures as taught in the course Modern Chinese I and II. Students are required to write a short paper in Dutch.

Contents

By means of short Chinese texts, basic vocabulary and basic structures of Classical Chinese are analysed, and the study of Classical Chinese is situated within the larger framework of the study of the Chinese language.

Simplified texts and simple excerpts from the main Classical Chinese sources are studied and related to the historical, religious-philosophical, social and cultural evolutions in China. Parallels and differences with Modern Chinese are studied.

Initial competences

- To have successfully completed the course Classical Chinese I or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.
- To have successfully completed the course Modern Chinese I or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.
- To have a passive knowledge of English.

Final competences

- 1 To be able to relate the main Classical Chinese texts to their relevant contexts.
- 2 To be able to relate the main Classical Chinese texts to the historical, religious-philosophical, social and cultural evolutions in China.

- 3 To be able to read, write and pronounce elementary Classical Chinese sentences.
- 4 To be able to understand, analyse and use basic structures of Classical Chinese.
- 5 To be able to translate basic structures of Classical Chinese into Dutch.
- 6 To be able to translate and grammatically analyse elementary Classical Chinese texts.
- 7 To be able to point out the main parallels and differences between Classical and Modern Chinese.
- 8 To be able to write a short paper in Dutch.

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

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminar: in guided exercises attention goes to reading and writing skills, translation, and analysis of basic structures, as well as to the relevant historical, religious-philosophical, social and cultural context. A comparison is also made between Classical and Modern Chinese.
Independent work: the students write their papers individually, for which they receive classical and individual coaching.

Learning materials and price

- A syllabus for theory and written exercises. Price: ca. 20.00 €.
- Ufora documents (such as powerpoint presentations, lists of characters and questions).

References

Kerstens, J. en A. Sturm. *Beknopte grammatica van het Nederlands*. Bussum: Coutinho, 2002
Barnes, A., D. Starr and G. Ormerod. *Du's Handbook of Classical Chinese Grammar*. Writersprintshop, 2009

Course content-related study coaching

The class exercises offer the students a continuous feedback. Exercises can be discussed individually.

The students write their papers individually, for which they receive classical and individual coaching.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Written assessment, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment moment

Periodical: oral examination (50%) and non-periodical evaluation: continuous assessment (50%)

Students have to pass both parts.

(if a student does not pass the non-periodical evaluation, a second chance is offered by means of a compensatory activity at the second exam period.)

Assessment form

Periodical: there is an oral examination, with a written preparation. The examination focuses on reading skills, the understanding of the texts read in class in relation to the historical, religious-philosophical, social and cultural evolution of China, the analysis and translation of basic structures of Classical Chinese, and the comparison of Classical and Modern Chinese.

Continuous assessment: There are two parts:

1) a mid-term test examines the knowledge of the Chinese characters and of the basic grammar of Classical Chinese. In addition, the tests ask for translations of basic Classical

Chinese structures and short texts into Dutch.

2) an individual short paper in Dutch will be used to evaluate the ability of the student to (independently) write a text on the traditional culture of China. It is not allowed to use AI to write this paper.

Calculation of the examination mark

The periodical assessment (= oral examination) counts for 50%; the non-periodical continuous assessment (= a test and a short paper) equally counts for 50%.

Students have to pass both parts (= the periodical and the non-periodical assessments).

Results of 10 out of 20 and above on the periodical assessment or on the continuous assessment (= the total of the test + the paper) can be transferred to the second examination session.

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 strongly recommended in order to be able to successfully follow the course.
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the examination period.
- 3 Feedback can be given online, or at an appointment during and after office hours.