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# Course Specifications

Valid in the academic year 2024-2025

## 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 2024-2025**

| A (semester 2) | Dutch | Gent | seminar |
| | | | independent work |

**Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025**

| De Rauw, Tom | LW21 | staff member |
| Heirman, Ann | LW21 | lecturer-in-charge |

| Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025 | crdts | offering |
|---|---|---|
| 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 |
| Elective Set Languages of Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe | 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. Parellels and differences with Modern Chinese are studied.
A short paper in Dutch examines the extent to which a student can independently write a text on the traditional culture of China. AI may be used during the research phase.

**Initial competences**

- To have succesfully completed the course Classical Chinese I or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.
- To have succesfully 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.

## Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Classical Chinese I and II, theory and exercises
Indicative price: € 20
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : No
Online Available : No
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No
Additional information: The syllabus can be used for Classical Chinese I and II

Type: Slides

Name: Powerpoint presentations and lists of characters
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No

Type: Handouts

Name: Introduction to Buddhism and Taoism
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly
Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : occasionally

## 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) two mid-term tests examine 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.

**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 tests + 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 succesfully 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.