

LANG 2000 Intermediate Mandarin for Non-Chinese Speakers (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: LANG 1000 Introductory Mandarin for Non-Chinese Speakers or consent of the School of Continuing Education

This is a continuing course for students who have successfully completed LANG 1000 Introductory Mandarin for Non-Chinese Speakers in the first semester or others with equivalent prior training. It aims at reinforcing students' understanding of the phonetic patterns of Putonghua, enlarging their Chinese vocabulary as well as developing their spoken and listening abilities of Putonghua. Topics covered include idiomatic expressions, practices on difficult terms and intonation. Students will be trained through various learning activities and hands-on simulated exercises to use Putonghua for daily conversations.

LANG 2020 English in the World Today (3,2,1)

The most epoch-making development in the field of language in the last 50 years was the rapid rise of English as a *de facto* "world language", spoken all over the world by more non-native than native speakers. China (including Hong Kong) alone can now boast more speakers of English than the US itself. The world in the 21st century will need to come to terms with these new realities—where English belongs to the entire world rather than to just a few countries, and where many "new varieties" of English are emerging alongside the old varieties. The "post-80s generation" are caught in the middle of this transition, and the present course aims to help them acquire a totally new perspective on the English language they hear around them in the world today—no longer a semi-homogeneous language serving the needs of a semi-homogeneous culture, but a language rich in variety and shaped by diverse cultures and communicative needs. Students will see that the spread of English is not just a story of expansion but a story of evolution and transformation, as the language changes and adapts itself to new environments and communities, and new challenges and functions, in contexts like Singapore, India, Hong Kong and mainland China. They will acquire the necessary concepts and tools to understand and analyse the linguistic as well as social, political, cultural and educational issues arising from the emergence of English as a world language. One expected benefit of the course is that students will develop into better educated and more versatile users of the English language, better able to understand different varieties of English as spoken by people around the world and more sensitive to the cultural assumptions of different speakers.

LANG 2030 Fostering Whole Person Education through Current Issues (3,3,0)

The concept of Whole Person Education, embodied in HKBU's Graduate Attributes, includes communicative competence, critical thinking, broad general knowledge, independent learning, information literacy, a sense of ethics and civic-mindedness, good citizenship and a healthy lifestyle. The course aims to foster all these attributes by engaging students in discussing and thinking about important current issues that impact on human life in all its aspects, including political, social, moral, cultural, artistic, educational, technological and health issues, and at the same time improve their linguistic and communicative competence through meaningful and purposeful language use (in all the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking). Students will get extensive opportunities to discuss and write about (after reading and listening) current issues in every sphere, both local and worldwide, and in the process improve their critical thinking and argumentation, their independent learning and information literacy skills, and their awareness of and engagement with important issues in the world today, as well as their competence in spoken and written English. An important objective and implied outcome of the course is that this engagement with current issues will help transform their values, attitudes and beliefs, and shape them into good citizens with an international outlook.

LANG 2040 Being a Communicatively Effective Language Learner and User (3,2,1)

This course aims to develop students' critical thinking and analysis of learning and using English appropriately as the lingua franca for various communicative purposes and in different interaction modes. Students will be exposed to the new targets and attitudes of language learning and language use. They will evaluate and reflect on the ways in which they learn and use English, and their behaviour as English learners and users now and then. Based on personal reflections, evaluations and actions, they will be able to decide on the most effective method of being effective intercultural speakers (in Byram's term) at the end of the course. The contemporary theoretical concepts (i.e. ethnography of learning, communication and learners, communicative competence) will be illustrated by examples taken from social, academic and workplace face-to-face and online contexts. To consolidate learning and language use, students will be asked to apply the new theoretical concepts to critically evaluate the ways in which English is used effectively, with particular reference to interpersonal/intercultural experiences. They will also be asked to record, comment and reflect on the use of English in various settings and interaction modes as ethnographers while they are studying the course. They will be encouraged to explore and share the issues and problems they have encountered in the territory, on campus, in dormitory or during part-time work. The acquired knowledge, skills, awareness, analysis, reflections and actions would enable students to have an inside view of the way they learn and use English, their behaviour and that of others, and in return would enhance their communicative competence as intercultural speakers in the global village.

LANG 2140 Language Use and Communication in a Bilingual Context (3,3,0)

This course aims to promote students' awareness of, and ability to adapt to, various language needs and demands in study, work and society, as well as their ability to use English and Chinese effectively for communicative purposes. The course will engage students in exploring how language functions in daily communication (e.g. grammatical, semantic and discourse features) and the ways in which linguistic and non-linguistic features affect communication. It will also introduce students to some fundamental linguistic concepts which they are required to apply in comparing, analysing and composing English and Chinese messages.

LANG 2150 English through Films and Short Stories (3,3,0)

This course aims to enhance students' general proficiency in English in all the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing through films and short stories. Students will get extensive opportunities to watch and read, analyse, discuss, evaluate, and write about films/short stories. These learning activities will improve students' independent English language learning skills and strengthen their critical thinking and imaginative response. As films and stories reflect human life, by engaging students in in-depth discussions of various issues related to society and life, the course will help them gain a better understanding of the value and meaning of life and their relationship with other people; and this in turn will enhance their cross-cultural awareness. In this respect, this course fulfils several HKBU's graduate attributes.

LANG 2160 社交普通話 Interpersonal Putonghua (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: LANG 1610 Elementary Putonghua or equivalent
本課程在初級普通話語音及朗讀說話基礎上著重訓練學生口語表達及社交能力。課程內容包括針對社交場合設計的朗讀、對話及情景模擬會話、普通話口語與書面語的互譯、廣州話及普通話互譯等等。在大量的訓練中學生得到各種不同場合的普通話聽說訓練，提高總體表達能力及社交能力。

The course is designed for students who have already completed elementary Putonghua training. The course aims to improve students' oral communication skills in various interpersonal situations. The course content consists of extensive Putonghua