

Cantonese DeCal – Beginning / Intermediate (2 units)

Course meeting times and rooms:

Beginning: MW 5-6:30 PM
TuTh 5-6:30 PM

Intermediate: MW 5-6:30 PM
TuTh 5-6:30 PM

Faculty Sponsor: Sau-Ling Wong

Course Coordinator: Jeannie Fong & Mel Lo

Course Website: <http://www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~canto/>

Instructors:

E-mail address:

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites to the beginning course. However, we do not encourage native Cantonese speakers to join the class. The class is tailored to students who have little or no knowledge of the language.

For the intermediate course, students can either:

1. have taken the beginner's course
2. have some exposure (from parents, friends, and various types of media), and be able to at least introduce themselves in Cantonese

Introduction: Students might want to take this class because:

- Although mainland China is enjoying the economic spotlight, Hong Kong is still one of the major economic powerhouses of China, and Cantonese is heavily spoken there.
- Many students who already speak Mandarin might understand Cantonese, but does not know how to speak it.
- Students might simply want to learn another language!

Whatever the reason, we are willing to teach students who have the curiosity and motivation to learn Cantonese

Purpose & Objectives: This course is solely for the basis to learn how to hold a conversation in Cantonese. Students will work in groups to practice Cantonese with teaching assistants, and will be given both written and visual material to work with. This class will also cover aspects of Cantonese culture and how they differ from other Chinese cultures. The main goal for this course is to have students hold a simple conversation in Cantonese.

Course Organization: We will occasionally have students perform skits simulating practical everyday situations. In addition, field trips will be utilized in order to enhance their understanding of Cantonese culture. Lastly, music and video clips will also be incorporated into the lesson plans.

Materials: Course reader and additional handouts

Grading Scheme: Since this is a conversational course, active participation will be expected. This is a P/NP [pass / not pass] course, and students can take from 1-2 units (Coursework and attendance are the same no matter how many units you choose). There are two 1.5 hour sessions per week.

Below are the percentages of each category:

- **50% participation** – students are required to participate in skits, practice out loud in class, and raise questions, if any. Since this is a conversational class, STUDENTS CANNOT BE ABSENT MORE THAN 2 TIMES.

- Students can have at most 2 unexcused absences.
 - Students must inform instructors ahead of time (24 hrs before class, unless it's an emergency) if they need to be absent in order for the absence to be excused.
 - Students more than 15 minutes late to class will receive a tardy.
 - Students with excess absences/tardies will also risk receiving a NP for the class.
- **30% homework and weekly quizzes** – students are to take weekly quizzes at the second session about last week's material. These quizzes can be either oral or listening
 - **10% cultural presentation** – all students are required to present about Hong Kong / Cantonese culture. More details will be released later in the course
 - **10% final exam** – the final is comprehensive – it will require students to perform a skit or take an oral/listening exam. Format will be determined by instructors

As we are expecting many students to have interest in both the beginning and intermediate course, students are required to turn in application forms at enrollment session in order to be considered enrollment. Attendance on the first day of class is also required. Students may be dropped from the class if they are absent on the first day.

- The cultural presentations are individual / pair presentations about any Chinese or Hong Kong cultural issues of student's interests. More information will be given to students later in the course.
- The midterm and final is cumulative and will have two components – oral and written.

**Students are to abide by the academic code of conduct even in a DeCal class. Plagiarism will result in a non-passing grade.

Tentative Class Schedules:

Beginning Level:

Week 1: Course overview, introduction, basic phrases (greetings)
 Week 2: Lesson 1: Introductions
 Week 3: Lesson 2: Introductions part II
 Week 4: Quiz 1 & Activities
 Week 5: Lesson 3: Family
 Week 6: Lesson 4: Date & Time
 Week 7: Midterm & Activities
 Week 8: Presentations
 Week 9: Lesson 5: Hobbies
 Week 10: Quiz 2 & Activities
 Week 11: Lesson 6: Transportation
 Week 12: Review and Final

Intermediate Level:

Week 1: Course overview, introduction, basic phrases (greetings)
 Week 2: Lesson 1: Introductions
 Week 3: Lesson 2: Dining & Lesson 3: School Life
 Week 4: Quiz 1 & Activities
 Week 5: Lesson 4: Shopping
 Week 6: Lesson 5: Going out with friends
 Week 7: Midterm & Activities
 Week 8: Presentations
 Week 9: Lesson 6: Music
 Week 10: Quiz 2 & Activities
 Week 11: Lesson 7: Movies
 Week 12: Review and Final