

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTFC.

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	General Education
<b>Programme:</b>	Richmond Core Curriculum
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	5
<b>Course Title:</b>	Chinese Language and Culture 4
<b>Course Code:</b>	MCL 5105
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Professor George X Zhang
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	160
Lectures:	52
Seminar / Tutorials:	8
Independent / Guided Learning:	100
<b>Semester:</b>	Spring/Fall 2015
<b>Credits:</b>	16 UK CATS credits 8 ECTS credits 4 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This is the continuation of MCL 5100, with an integrated approach similar to the Chinese Language and Culture III. The course covers a range of practical scenarios and topics as one would encounter in China. These are designed to strengthen the application and understanding of the students of essential linguistic elements such as key structures, extended vocabulary and communicative competences, acquired in both oral and written interactions. The course continues to expand the repertoire of the students of essential Chinese characters and vocabulary as well as their cultural and linguistic knowledge associated with the use of the Chinese language in a Chinese speaking environment. In this way students should be able to communicate confidently and effectively and cope with daily needs when studying or working in China or in communication with other Chinese speaking people.

### **Prerequisites:**

Chinese Language and Culture III (MCL5100) or equivalent

**Aims and Objectives:**

Being a continuation course to Chinese Language and Culture III, the course is designed to consolidate and further develop students' cross-cultural and linguistic communicative competences in modern Mandarin Chinese with effective linguistic skills and cultural awareness. This course expands the scope of communication, with an extended vocabulary to deal with a range of everyday life scenarios in an authentic Chinese speaking environment, based upon the key language structures and essential vocabulary learned so far. The course also aims to develop students into true independent learners at B1 level as proposed by the European Benchmarking Chinese project, with the necessary linguistic and intercultural communicative competences that enable them to deal confidently with an extended range of communicative functions concerning daily life situations in Chinese speaking parts of the world.

**Programme Outcomes:**

A1; A3; B1; B2; C1; D1; D2; D3 (Richmond Core Curriculum)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- follow common daily routine spoken information/interactions delivered in common speech (*Putonghua*) at normal speed and confidently engage in conversations and/or verbal transactions concerning everyday life situations in authentic Chinese speaking environment
- understand common signs in simplified Chinese and extract facts or data from reading extended Chinese texts on a range of familiar topics in everyday life situations
- fulfil simple writing tasks in everyday life scenarios and compose coherent texts as and when needed or required on familiar topics with or without use of references and word processing software
- acquire an enhanced knowledge of social and cultural issues with the use of the Chinese language in China and a cross-cultural communication competence in using Chinese language based upon sound analytical and synthetical skills of the Chinese language and an extended knowledge and understanding of the Chinese society and Chinese culture.

The course is designed to be at B1- to B1 level on the CEFR as proposed for Chinese for the topics and domains covered.

**Indicative Content:**

- Additional 220 Chinese characters and over 500 vocabulary items from the key textbook and supplementary materials.

- Interact actively with both controlled and authentic materials in different formats and live daily routine scenario with Chinese speaking people regardless of whether they are native speakers or not, employing appropriate communication strategies in adequate linguistic form and cultural norms to cope with everyday life scenarios
- Use of both edited and authentic text materials from a wide range of sources to comprehend written communications in a range of styles commonly encountered in daily life, especially those relevant for students studying and doing internship in a Chinese speaking environment
- Thematic and practical activities which strengthen students' independent learning ability and their cross-cultural and intercultural communicative competences so they are able and ready to interact with each other as well as with native speakers by making use of independent learning strategies and their cross and intercultural communicative competences.

**Assessment:**

This course uses atypical assessment proposed in line with the Special Assessment Norms approved at Academic council on June 28, 2012 and the one for Chinese approved at Learning and Teaching Policy Committee on May 23, 2013.

**Teaching Methodology:**

Weekly classroom teaching with emphasis on class participation based on task based exercises and practical scenarios, using pair work, group work, discussion, role play and presentation to encourage and maximise interactive communications. Class will be taught increasingly in Chinese. Self study and group study outside class form an integral part of the delivery, including blended learning with support from the instructors. Timely feedback will be provided to facilitate the learning. The students are expected to put in at least an additional two hours studying outside each class meeting, or a minimum of six hours a week over and above the class attendance.

**Bibliography:**

Liu, Xun, et al. 2013. New Practical Chinese Reader 4 (2nd Ed. textbook with MP3). Beijing Language and Cultural University Press.

Tung, Ping-Ching and Pollard, D.E. 1983 and 1982 Colloquial Chinese (character book and pinyin book), PC T'ung and London Routledge

Ross, Claudia and Ma, Jing-heng sheng. 2006. Modern Mandarin Chinese Grammar: A Practical Guide (Modern Grammars) [Paperback] London: Routledge

Allinson, Robert E. 1991. Understanding the Chinese mind: The philosophical roots. Oxford University Press

**IndicativeText(s):**

Zhang, George X et al, 2009. Chinese in Steps, Volume 4, London: Cypress Books

