



Italian code: GSD 10/ASIA 01/F (new code) L-OR/21 (old code)

Credits: 9

Course: Political Science/ Language and Literatures of China and South-East Asia

Main language of instruction: Italian

Other language of instruction: English

Head instructor

Professor Ronzoni Silvia silvia.ronzoni@unicusano.it

Objectives

The Chinese language and culture course aims to provide both linguistic and cultural tools to begin interacting with a Chinese counterpart. The cultural tools provide a framework of Chinese history and literature, as well as a vision of political and economic developments. The linguistic tools allow the acquisition of a level equal to HSK1 (basic level officially recognized by Hanban). The language lessons aim to introduce the basics of writing, pronunciation and comprehension, to train listening and comprehension of everyday language, to present everyday life situations, to learn more about Chinese culture in general. At the end of the course, the student will have acquired the tools and knowledge necessary to carry out the verification of the level of learning in the appropriate external locations where the official exams take place.

Course structure

The Political Science course (Language and Literatures of China and South-East Asia) has the following learning objectives:

Chinese language

- listening skills in simple contexts
- ability to write characters
- knowledge at least 150 characters to construct basic sentences
- learning the tools for studying the language
- providing the student with a good knowledge of Chinese history and culture,
- knowledge of Chinese context of life and civilization



Competencies

A. Knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course, the student will have demonstrated knowledge of the topics of Chinese culture through the study of history and literature, thus being able to analyze the different socio-cultural contexts. Furthermore, the student will acquire the techniques for studying the modern Chinese language, will study pronunciation, the method of writing and reading and a series of words (about 200) of daily use.

B. Applying of knowledge and understanding

The student will be able to use the knowledge of words to express basic concepts and to interact in the Chinese language. With the study of history and literature, he will be able to analyze and compare the different historical periods in the literary, artistic and cultural fields

C. Ability to draw conclusions

The student will be able to write and read the basic Chinese characters and by studying the radicals, he will also be able to understand new characters, thus implementing the basic study.

D. Communication skills

The student will be able to describe and maintain basic conversations with native Chinese speakers.

E. Learning skills

At the end of the course, the student will have knowledge of the fundamental linguistic notions. All this will allow him to continue his studies of the Chinese language and culture.

Syllabus

Module 1 – Chinese Language (Lessons 1-6)

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a commitment of 15 hours) where the following topics are addressed:

1. Introduction to Chinese writing
2. Phonetics,
3. strokes
4. radicals
5. Numbers
6. Geography and toponyms



Module 2 – Introducing yourself and getting to know a family (Lessons 7-12)

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a commitment of 24 hours) where the following topics are addressed:

- 7. Greetings
- 8. Saying your name
- 9. Family (possessive)
- 10. Nationality (v. to be)
- 11. Verb to be and construction of the interrogative sentence
- 12. Adjectives

Modulo 3 – Interagire nel tempo (Lezioni 13-18)

Module 3 – Verbs to have and to be, date and time

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a 24-hour commitment) where the following topics are covered:

- 13. Verb to have
- 14. Demonstratives this/that
- 15. The date
- 16. The time
- 17. Verb to be
- 18. Use of the dictionary

Module 4 – Daily life 1 (Lessons 19-24)

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a 24-hour commitment) where the following topics are covered:

- 19. Drinks
- 20. Food
- 21. At the restaurant (doubling of the verb)
- 22. Regional cuisines (classifiers)
- 23. Making a phone call
- 24. Means of transport

Module 5 – Ancient History (Lessons 25-30)

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a commitment of 18 hours) where the following topics are addressed:

- 25. Historical periods
- 26. Zhou Dynasty
- 27. Confucianism
- 28. Taoism
- 29. Qin Dynasty,



30. Han Dynasty

Module 6 – History from 220 BC to 1911 (Lessons 31-36)

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a commitment of 18 hours) where the following topics are addressed:

31. From 220 to 581 BC

32. Sui Dynasty

33. Tang Dynasty

34. 906-1279

35. 907-1368

36. Ming Dynasty

Module 7 – Contemporary History and Current Events (Lessons 37-42)

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a commitment of 18 hours) where the following topics are addressed:

37. Qing Dynasty I

38. Qing Dynasty II

39. The People's Republic of China

40. Deng Xiao Ping

41. The New Political Course

42. Xi Jinping

Module 8 – Daily Life 2 (Lessons 43-48)

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a commitment of 24 hours per week) where the following topics are covered:

43. Business interview

44. Job interview

45. Weather

46. Calendar

47. Art and hobbies

48. Medicine and the human body

Module 9 – In-depth study (lessons 49-54)

(6 video-recorded theory lessons for a commitment of 24 hours per week) where the following topics are addressed:

49. Use of the dictionary and the PC

50. Ethnic groups

51. The Silk Road

52. Grammar summary

53. Chinese literature

54. HSK 1 test

Evaluation system and criteria

The exam consists of an oral and/or written test aimed at assessing the ability to analyse and re-elaborate the concepts acquired, as well as a series of interactive activities carried out during the course.

Erasmus students are encouraged to contact the professor to agree on a customized syllabus.

Study materials (available in both Italian and English) will be provided directly by the professor if not available in the library. The oral exam can be taken in English.

The examination will be aimed at:

- ascertaining the knowledge and comprehension of 150 characters of Chinese language (written and oral)
- ascertaining the ability to make elementary sentences
- ascertaining the knowledge of main Chinese history and literature culture

Bibliography and resources

1. Materials to consult

Most of notes written by the instructor are available in Italian and also in English.

2. Recommended bibliography

Chinese culture

- An Introduction to Chinese History and Culture, Qizhi Zhang - Springer Berlin, Heidelberg
- Storia della Cina Mario Sabattini, Paolo Santangelo - Biblioteca Storica Laterza Bologna
- La Cina dal 1949 ai giorni nostri Marie Claire Berge, Ediz. Il Mulino, 2000
- Dove va la Cina? Da Tienanmen a oggi Jean-Luc Domenach, , Carocci 2003

Chinese Language

- HSK STANDARD COURSE 1 - TEXTBOOK Vol. 1 Ed. Beijing University Press - Inglese/cinese
- HSK STANDARD COURSE 1 - WORKBOOK Vol.1 Ed. Beijing University Press - Inglese/cinese