

Putonghua

The New Asia--Yale-in-China Chinese Language Center (CLC) provides language training in Putonghua and Cantonese. It offers two types of credit-bearing programmes: one is Putonghua courses for local students and Cantonese courses for non-local students; the other is designed primarily for international students who either come to CUHK as exchange students or apply to CLC directly. The main purposes for all courses, including intensive summer courses, are to improve the language proficiency of students and their communicative ability in using Putonghua and Cantonese. Courses are divided into: 1) Putonghua for local students; 2) Putonghua for international students; 3) Cantonese for non-local students; and 4) Cantonese for international students.

Course List

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Course Description

PTH 1001

Putonghua I

1 U; 2 Lect.; Both terms

This course is for undergraduate students who are beginners in Putonghua, with emphasis on oral and aural proficiency. Students will improve their Putonghua pronunciation and communicative skills in Putonghua through well designed tasks and familiarization with Pinyin. (Not for Chinese Language and Literature Majors and students who have taken PTH 221 1, 3003 or 3103.)

PTH 1003

Elementary Putonghua I

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

This elementary course lays a foundation of further studies focusing on the Chinese language, with emphasis on oral skills and aural comprehension. Students will be exposed to over 400 basic Putonghua terms based on approximately 100 Chinese characters. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 1103

Elementary Putonghua II

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

This course is a continuation of PTH 1003.

PTH 1106

Elementary Putonghua I

6 U; 6 Lect.; Both terms

This elementary course lays a foundation of further studies focusing on the Chinese language, with emphasis on oral skills and aural comprehension. Students will be exposed to over 400 basic Putonghua terms based on approximately 200 Chinese characters. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 1109

Elementary Putonghua I

9 U; 9 Lect.; Both terms

This elementary course lays a foundation of further studies focusing on the Chinese language, with emphasis on oral skills and aural comprehension. Students will be exposed to over 600 basic Putonghua terms based on approximately 300 Chinese characters. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 1206

Elementary Putonghua II

6 U; 6 Lect.; Both terms

This course is a continuation of PTH 1106, with emphasis on oral skills and aural comprehension. Students will be exposed to 400 additional basic Putonghua terms. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 1209

Elementary Putonghua II

9 U; 6 Lect.; Both terms

This course is a continuation of PTH 1109, with emphasis on oral skills and aural comprehension. Students will be exposed to 500 additional basic Putonghua terms. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 2001

Putonghua II

1 U; 2 Lect.; Both terms

Consolidation of the materials presented in PTH 1001 or 1210, with emphasis on certain unique features of Putonghua, such as the neutral tone and retroflex endings. Students will improve their communicative skills in Putonghua through pair works, role-plays and discussions. Prerequisite: PTH 1001, 1210 or equivalent*. (Not for Chinese Language and Literature Majors and students who have taken PTH 2211, 3003 or 3103.)

PTH 2003

Intermediate Putonghua I

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An intermediate course for students who have completed PTH 1103 or with equivalent competence in Putonghua, with emphasis on oral skills and listening comprehension. Students will be exposed to more elementary and intermediate terms and expressions in Putonghua based on approximately 50 additional Chinese characters. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 2103

Intermediate Putonghua II

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

This course is a continuation of PTH 2003.

PTH 2106

Intermediate Putonghua I

6 U; 6 Lect.; Both terms

An intermediate course for students who have completed PTH 1206 or with equivalent competence in Putonghua, with emphasis on oral skills and listening comprehension. Students will be exposed to more elementary and intermediate terms and expressions in Putonghua based on approximately 100 additional Chinese characters. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 2109

Intermediate Putonghua I

9 U; 9 Lect.; Both terms

An intermediate course for students who have completed PTH 1209 or with equivalent competence in Putonghua, emphasizing oral skills and listening comprehension, with more exposure to basic structural points. Students will be exposed to more elementary and intermediate terms and expressions in Putonghua based on approximately 200 additional Chinese characters. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 2206

Intermediate Putonghua II

6 U; 6 Lect.; Both terms

This course is a continuation of PTH 2106, with emphasis on oral skills and aural comprehension. Students will be exposed to more elementary and intermediate terms and expressions in Putonghua based on approximately 100 additional Chinese characters. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 2209

Intermediate Putonghua II

9 U; 9 Lect.; Both terms

This course is a continuation of PTH 2109, with emphasis on oral skills and aural comprehension. Students will be exposed to more elementary and intermediate terms and expressions in Putonghua based on approximately 150 additional Chinese characters. Coursework will include some written exercises to help consolidate speaking ability.

PTH 3001

Putonghua III

1 U; 2 Lect.; Both terms

A continuation of PTH 2001, with emphasis on increased fluency and expressive conversation based on campus life and daily situations. Lexical differences between Putonghua and Cantonese will be pointed out. Prerequisite: PTH 1220, 2001, 2212, 2213, 3101, 3201, 3203, 3301, 3303, 3403 or equivalent*. (Not for Chinese Language and Literature Majors, and students who have taken PTH 1110, 2211, 3003 or 3103.)

PTH 3003

Putonghua for Chinese Majors

3 U; 5 Lect.; 1st term

This course emphasizes oral and aural proficiency. It will thoroughly familiarize students with Pinyin and the phonetic structure of Putonghua, as well as with terminology used in literary analysis. (For Chinese Language and Literature Majors in their first year of attendance only.)

PTH 3101

Putonghua in Business I

1 U; 2 Lect.; Both terms

An intermediate Putonghua course designed to enhance students' language skills in Putonghua through discussions on selected topics of business and trade. A wide range of business-related terminology will be introduced. Prerequisite: PTH 1110, 1220, 2001, 2210, 2211, 2213, 2220, 3001, 3003, 3103, 3301, 3403, 4001, 4101 or equivalent*.

PTH 3103

Summer Intensive Putonghua

3 U; Summer term; 65 hours (fee-based summer intensive language course)

This course covers the material of PTH 1001, 2001 and 3001 but with greater concentration, aims to achieve more effective results. Students completing this course will be qualified to select PTH 3101, 3201, 3203, 3301, 3303, 3403, 4001 or 4101. Application information will be announced in early April. (This course is for beginners only and not for students who have taken any PTH course(s), except PCE 1001. If it is taken by negligence, only the units of PTH 3103 will be counted towards the requirements for graduation.)

PTH 3201

Putonghua in Business II

1 U; 2 Lect.; Both terms

An intermediate Putonghua course designed to enhance students' language skills in Putonghua through discussions on selected topics of business and trade. A wide range of business-related terminology will be introduced. Prerequisite: PTH 1110, 1220, 2001, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2220, 3001, 3003, 3101, 3103, 3301, 3303, 3403, 4001, 4101 or equivalent*.

PTH 3203

Topical Putonghua: Business and Trade

3U; Summer term; 65 hours (fee-based summer intensive language course)

An intermediate Putonghua course designed to improve both the communicative ability of students and their knowledge in sectors related to their major or personal interests. Through intensive training, students are expected to be able to express themselves in Putonghua with topics related to business and trade. Prerequisite: PTH 1110, 1220, 2001, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2220, 3001, 3003, 3103, 3301, 3303, 3403 or equivalent*.

PTH 3301

Putonghua in Current Affairs

1 U; 2 Lect; Both terms

An intermediate Putonghua course designed to improve students' language skills in Putonghua through discussions and presentations based on current affairs. Prerequisite: PTH 1110, 1220, 2001, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2220, 3001, 3003, 3101, 3103, 3201, 3203, 3303, 3403, 4001, 4101 or equivalent*.

PTH 3303

Topical Putonghua: Current Affairs

3 U; Summer term; 65 hours (fee-based summer intensive language course)

An intermediate Putonghua course designed to improve both the communicative ability of students and their knowledge in sectors related to their major or personal interests. Through intensive training, students are expected to be able to express themselves in Putonghua with topics related to current affairs. Prerequisite: PTH 1110, 1220, 2001, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2220, 3001, 3003, 3101, 3103, 3201, 3203, 3301, 3403, 4001, 4101 or equivalent*.

PTH 3403

Topical Putonghua: Tourism and Hotel Management

3 U; Summer term; 65 hours (fee-based summer intensive language course)

An intermediate Putonghua course designed to improve both the communicative ability of students and their knowledge in sectors related to their major or personal interests. Through intensive training, students are expected to be able to express themselves in Putonghua with topics related to travel, entertainment and hotel management. Prerequisite: PTH 1110, 1220, 2001, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2220, 3001, 3003, 3101, 3103, 3201, 3203, 3301, 3303, 4001, 4101 or equivalent*.

PTH 4001

Putonghua IV

1U; 2 Lect; Both terms

An advanced level Putonghua course with emphasis on argumentative strategies. This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to improve their language skills in Putonghua through selected topics in which they are interested. Prerequisite: PTH 1110, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 3001, 3003, 3101, 3103, 3201, 3203, 3301, 3303, 3403, 4101 or equivalent*.

PTH 4101

Putonghua in Law and Politics

1U; 2 Lect.; Both terms

Emphasis same as PTH 4001, with the addition of terms and usage relevant to law and politics. Prerequisite: PTH 1110, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2220, 3001, 3003, 3101, 3103, 3201, 3203, 3301, 3303, 3403, 4001 or equivalent*.

PTH 4433

Selected Reading and Discussion: Short Stories

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An advanced Putonghua course designed to improve students' language skills, as well as to increase their understanding of Chinese culture and society through selected readings from short stories in Chinese.

PTH 4643

Special Topics in Discussion

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An advanced Putonghua course designed to improve students' language skills with emphasis on argumentative strategies through selected topics in which they are interested.

PTH 4653

Advanced Speaking and Writing I

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An advanced Putonghua course designed to improve students' speaking proficiency through writing practices. Topics can be referred to PTH 4643.

PTH 4663

Advanced Business Putonghua

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An advanced Putonghua course designed to improve students' communication skills in the area of business and commerce. The basic format, style and specialized vocabulary used in business and commercial documents will be introduced. Oral communicative skills will be further trained.

PTH 4713

Advanced Reading and Discussion (A)

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An advanced Putonghua course designed for students who want to improve their language ability and vocabulary through interpretation of current issues in the media. Coursework will include discussion and presentation based on selected readings from Chinese newspapers, TV programmes and news broadcasts.

PTH 4723

Advanced Reading and Discussion (B)

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An advanced Putonghua course parallel to PTH 4713, but with selections from Chinese magazines and journals.

PTH 4743

Special Topics in Speech

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An advanced Putonghua course designed for students who want to improve their language skills in making formal speeches on various social occasions.

PTH 4753

Advanced Speaking and Writing II

3 U; 3 Lect.; Both terms

An advanced Putonghua course designed for students who want to consolidate their language skills in formal speech through writing practice. The basic format, style and technique of Chinese composition will be introduced.

Study Scheme

- * Students who wish to take a course without prerequisite must take a placement test.
“For detail information, please refer to the Chinese version.