

PAAS 452: Teaching and Learning Chinese as an Additional Language

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Note: This course will be taught in Chinese and counted towards the PAAS language requirement for first-language speakers of Chinese. If you are not sure whether this course would be a good fit for you, please contact the instructor.



Course description:

Are you a fluent speaker of Chinese interested in working with learners of Chinese to improve their proficiency in the target language? If so, then look no further—this course is right for you!

Throughout this course, we will demystify the processes of teaching and learning Chinese as an additional language, drawing on theories and research in the fields of linguistics, education, psychology and other relevant disciplines.

Below are some sample questions we will address in this course:

- ✓ Why do people choose to learn Chinese? How do heritage speakers (e.g., Canadian-born Chinese who speak some Chinese dialect at home) differ from non-heritage speakers in terms of their motivations?
- ✓ What aspects of the Chinese language are most challenging for learners (whose native language is English, in particular) and why? What are the best teaching strategies to help students tackle these challenges?
- ✓ How do we meaningfully assess learners' Chinese language proficiency in a classroom setting?
- ✓ Which aspects of Chinese culture should be covered in Chinese language classes?
- ✓ How can technology (including apps, e-gaming and social media) make Chinese teaching and learning more engaging and effective?

Proposed assignments (subject to change):

- Attendance & participation: 20%
- Written assignments: 20%
- Tutoring journals: 15%
- Class observation reports: 15%
- Review exam: 15%
- Group project: 15%