

# Academic Bulletin for China: 2016-17 and 2017-18

## Introduction

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The Academic Bulletin is the CSU International Programs (IP) “catalog” and provides academic information about the program in China.

CSU IP participants must read this publication in conjunction with the two listed below.

- **Academic Planning, Crediting and Reporting.** This publication contains information on academic planning, how courses get credited to your degree, and the academic reporting process including when to expect your academic report at the end of your year abroad.
- **Academic Policies.** This publication contains academic policies which will be applied to all IP participants. Topics include but are not limited to CSU Registration, Enrollment Requirements, Minimum/Maximum Unit Load in a Semester, Attendance, Examinations, Assignment of Grades, Grading Symbols, Credit/No Credit Option and Course Withdrawals.

To access the above publications, go to the CSU IP website found [here](#) and click on the year that pertains to your year abroad. For general information about the China Program, refer to the CSU IP website under “Programs”.

## Academic Program

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CSU IP in China is affiliated with Peking University (PKU) in Beijing.

The academic year at PKU is divided into two semesters. Fall semester begins in early September and ends in mid-to-late January. Spring semester runs from mid-February to the end of June. The end date for fall and the start date for spring vary each year based on the winter break around the lunar Chinese New Year.

CSU IP students spend most of their time in the [School of Chinese as a Second Language](#) (known as “SCSL” or “Hanyuxueyuan”) located in its own new building near the south gate of the campus.

Effective Spring 2017, all students who study at SCSL must complete the online self-assessment. Details of the assessment are included in the admission packets before they arrive to PKU. After arriving at PKU, students meet with SCSL instructors according to their scheduled times to confirm language levels and courses. Then students are placed into broad categories of elementary (beginning), intermediate and advanced language levels, which are further divided into several sub-levels of classes based on the textbooks used in classes. Intermediate and advanced Chinese language students can select electives online, which usually start at the second week.

**Elementary Chinese students:** Students placed at this level take two required courses for a total of 20 units in a semester. Students receive 20 hours per week of intensive language instruction which emphasizes grammar, reading, speaking and listening. They are not allowed to take electives.

**Intermediate and advanced Chinese language students:** Intermediate students are required to take 14 hours of Chinese language courses per week, and advanced students are required to take 12 hours of Chinese language courses per week. Required courses include a reading and writing course, and a speaking course. To supplement their Chinese language courses, students may take special topic courses and electives where writing is emphasized. Special programs that require separate admission and fees are not available to CSU IP students. Students normally take 14 to 18 units each semester, and are cautioned from taking more units due to the heavy workload involved.

Advanced Chinese language students may be permitted to take regular university courses taught in Chinese, subject to approval from the department and the CSU IP Office. Students interested in taking regular university courses must demonstrate Chinese language proficiency by passing a Chinese Placement Test taken at the start of the semester.

Students in the CSU IP China Program may take up to 20 units without CSU IP approval. CSU IP cautions students from taking excessive units in a semester due to the heavy courseload involved. If a student wishes to take more than 20 units, CSU IP approval is necessary and students must complete the General Petition Form.

### Unit Conversion Guidelines

Below is the unit conversion that is used to convert PKU credits to CSU semester units.

PKU credits/hours	CSU units
10	10
8	8
6-7	6-7
5	5
4	4
2-3	2-3
1	1

To convert the value of CSU semester units into CSU quarter units, multiply the CSU semester units by 1.5.

### Academic Culture

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Many students find workload at PKU heavier than their home campuses. Instructors tend to be less interactive and require a lot of homework and memorization. Most professors teach part-time and do not have offices and office hours. They are accessible by email or in the hallway between classes. Grading primarily consists of attendance, homework, and exams. Students whose attendance falls below a certain percentage will not be credited with a grade in the course. There is usually no opportunity for make-up exams and assignments or extra credit work. Although students come from around the world, East and Southeast Asian students tend to be placed in higher level classes and European and American students in lower levels. It's common for students to form study groups and hire tutors. There are also language partnership opportunities that help enhance both learning and friendship between local and international students.

### Assessment and Grading

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Below is the grade conversion that is used to convert grades earned at PKU to the CSU.

PKU Grade	CSU Grade
90-100	A
85-89	A-
82-84	B+
78-81	B
75-77	B-
72-74	C+
68-71	C
64-67	C-
60-63	D
0-60	F

### Course Offerings: School of Chinese as a Second Language (SCSL)

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Note that not all courses listed below are offered each year and are subject to change.

#### Course Coding

0-99 lower division (elementary and intermediate)  
100-199 upper division (advanced and electives)

Students may take English taught courses if there is no time conflicts with SCSL courses.

Proximate CSU unit values are listed in semester units next to the course title in parenthesis. Note that CSU units are based on the credit values assigned by PKU for courses offered and are subject to change if PKU makes changes to PKU credit values.

## Chinese Language Courses

### CHIN 40 Beginning Chinese (10)

This language course, with a focus on written Chinese, is for students at the beginner level. Students learn pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of modern Chinese systematically. It focuses on the comprehensive training of students' listening, speaking, writing, and reading skills. Students learn about 500 new words and 50 grammar items. After this course, the students' language level should be equivalent to the HSK level 1.

### CHIN 41 Beginning Spoken Chinese (10)

This course is an introduction to spoken Chinese. The class focuses on training students' speaking and listening skills. Students practice creating, repeating, and responding to phrases, words, and sentences that are taught in class.

### CHIN 42 Lower Intermediate Written Chinese (8)

This language course is for students at the lower intermediate level. Students learn pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of modern Chinese systematically. It focuses on the comprehensive training of students' listening, speaking, writing, and reading skills. Students learn about 1000 new words and 133 grammar items. After this course, the students' language level should be equivalent to the HSK level 3.

### CHIN 44 Lower Intermediate Spoken Chinese (8)

This language course improves communication ability in spoken Chinese. There are about 15 students for each class. It builds speaking skills at the lower intermediate level, focusing on pronunciation and sentence patterns along with vocabulary building. The course covers the basic pronunciation and phonetics (pinyin) and of 500 words. Students give regular oral presentations and engage in oral drills under the guidance of the instructor. After this course, students can communicate with local Chinese people on the topics of daily life, can use some common words and sentences to express simple thoughts, or narrate the basic content of a story. The ratio of mistakes in syntax should be under 30%.

### CHIN 52 Intermediate Spoken Chinese (8)

This language course improves students' communication ability in spoken Chinese. There are about 15 students for each class. It builds speaking skills at the lower intermediate level, focusing on pronunciation and sentence patterns along with vocabulary building. Students learn and master the basic pronunciation and phonetics (pinyin) and learn about 1000 words. Students give regular oral presentations and engage in oral drills under the guidance of the instructor. After this course, students can communicate with local Chinese people on the topics of daily life, can use some common words and sentences to express simple thoughts or narrate the basic content of a story.

### CHIN 53 Intermediate Written Chinese (8)

This language course teaches pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of modern Chinese systematically. It focuses on the training of students' reading and writing skills in Chinese and consequently improves students' communication ability. There are 2 levels according to the textbooks and the vocabulary. In this level, students learn about 3000 new words and 249 grammar items. After this course, the students' language level should be equivalent to the HSK level 4.

### CHIN 101 Lower Advanced Written Chinese (8)

This is a compulsory language course. Students learn pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of modern Chinese systematically. It focuses on the training of students' reading and writing skills in Chinese and consequently improves students' communication ability.

### CHIN 102 Lower Advanced Chinese Conversation (6)

This course improves communication ability in spoken Chinese. There are about 15 students for each class. There are 3 levels according to the textbooks and the vocabulary. Students learn 2000 new words in this level. After the course, students should be able to express themselves in Chinese at a normal speed. The expression in Chinese should be quite clear, accurate, and appropriate. Students are able to join some discussions on the general topics and have general business negotiation in Chinese.

### CHIN 108 Intermediate Advanced Written Chinese (8)

This is a compulsory language course that covers pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of modern Chinese systematically. It focuses on the training of reading and writing skills in Chinese and consequently improves communication ability. There are 2 levels according to the textbooks and the vocabulary. The students learn about 5000 new words and 207 grammar items.

### CHIN 109 Intermediate Advanced Conversation (6)

This is a compulsory language course and the main goal is training students' communication ability in spoken Chinese. There are about 15 students for each class. There are 3 levels according to the textbooks and the vocabulary. Students learn 3000 new words in this level. After the course, students should be able to express themselves in Chinese at a normal speed. The expression in Chinese should be quite clear, accurate, and appropriate. Students are able to join some discussions on the general topics and have general business negotiation in Chinese.

### CHIN 110 Advanced Spoken Chinese I (6)

This course builds spoken skills on the foundation of the equivalent of two years of university-level Chinese study. Classes include lectures and discussions of texts with gradually increasing complexity of vocabulary, sentence structure, and textual material. Students learn nine lessons which include ordering food in a restaurant, Internet, and cars, to improve their language skills for dealing with various social settings. A quiz is given at each class with two homework assignments per week throughout the semester. Students give two presentations on a topic of their own choice in Chinese (8-10 minutes long).

### CHIN 115 Advanced Written Chinese I (8)

This course builds reading and writing skills on the foundation of the equivalent of two years of university-level Chinese language study. It is designed for students who are progressing from intermediate to advanced level. New vocabulary is introduced in the textbook, but the sum of new words is not over 5000. The course consists of 14 units; each unit includes a text, new vocabulary, notes, grammar, and exercises based on the text. The topics read and discussed in class are taken from ordinary life in both China and the West, including family structure, private rights, relations between husband and wife, and physical fitness.

**CHIN 111 Advanced Spoken Chinese II (6)**

This course is for international students with intermediate Chinese skills who would like to further their understanding of Chinese society. The course covers scenarios that reflect Chinese daily life and native oral language. Classes involve lectures and discussion of texts with vocabulary, sentence structure, textual material of gradually increasing complexity. In addition to the textbook, the course covers idioms, proverbs, and slang.

**CHIN 116 Advanced Written Chinese II (6)**

This is a compulsory language course. Students learn pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar of modern Chinese systematically. It focuses on the training of students' reading and writing skills in Chinese and consequently improves students' communication ability. There are three levels for according to the textbooks and teaching pace. In level one, the students learn about 10000 new words and over 500 grammar items. After this course, the students' language level should be equivalent to the HSK level 5.

**CHIN 117 Advanced Written Chinese III (6)**

This is a compulsory language course. Students learn pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of modern Chinese systematically. It focuses on the training of students' reading and writing in Chinese and consequently improves students' communication ability. There are three levels according to the textbooks and teaching pace. There are three levels according to the textbooks and teaching pace. After this course, the students' language level should be equivalent to the HSK level 6.

**CHIN 113 Advanced Spoken Chinese III (6)**

This class emphasizes achieving a near-native level of proficiency in spoken Chinese. It is designed for students who have achieved a level of speaking beyond that of Chinese 111AB (or the equivalent of two or more years of university-level Chinese study) and who are preparing to enter regular university course work in Chinese. Classes consist of lectures and the discussion of texts while studying new vocabulary, sentence structures, and textual material of gradually increasing complexity. Students prepare daily for participation in class discussions and complete written and oral homework assignments and compositions.

**CHIN 119 Advanced Written Chinese IV (6)**

This course continues Advanced Written Chinese III at a higher level. It continues the focus on building Chinese vocabulary by reading extracts of works by Chinese authors. It includes grammar lessons, Chinese phrases and proverbs, sentence structures, teacher explanations, and student practice.

**CHIN 123 Advanced Spoken Chinese IV (6)**

This language course improves communication ability in spoken Chinese. There are about 15 students for each class. After this level of courses, the students have good paragraph expression ability, are able to communicate with local people in Chinese fluently about general topics on social life, and express their thoughts and feelings in Chinese systematically and completely. It requires students to speak Chinese in standard pronunciation and tones and to use words correctly. The students learn how to use complicated vocabulary and sentences patterns. The main goal of the course is strengthen students' ability in using Chinese language and appropriate expressions.

**Elective Courses**

Courses below are elective courses, and subject to change each semester.

**CHIN 43 Lower Intermediate Listening (4)**

This course is conducted in tandem with CHIN 42, Lower Intermediate Written Chinese, and focuses on building listening comprehension for students at the lower intermediate level. It uses tapes, dictation, multiple choice exercises, and other pedagogic methods to increase the students' ability to understand spoken Chinese. Students improve their listening ability through learning and repeating pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar.

**CHIN 149 Chinese Characters (4)**

This course is a practical study of Chinese characters focuses on the history and evolution of Chinese characters, their origins, forms, and development, and their use in current written Chinese, together with the different uses of similar characters in different contexts.

**CHIN 153 Intermediate Pronunciation (2)**

The purpose of this course is to correct pronunciation mistakes and train students in proper pronunciation; to help students understand pronunciation methods and practice; to enable students to form the correct pronunciation habit; and to standardize pronunciation. The main content includes the survey, analysis, and correction of pronunciation, reading aloud, and speaking aloud. Based on the teaching material, students practice, discuss, and watch films and TV shows in groups.

**CHIN 107 Chinese through Audio-Visual-Oral (4)**

This course helps students to understand the Chinese people's daily life and Chinese culture through audio-visual-oral exercises. At the same time, it aims to comprehensively improve Chinese proficiency, especially in intercultural communication competence. The materials are from the popular comedy series "Home with Kids". There are 4 units including 24 lessons, each with video content of around 3-4 minutes. Each lesson is composed of 6 sections: warm up questions, text, glossary, grammatical points, cultural points, and practice exercises. The teaching method is a combination of classroom training and review with DVD, highlighting the characteristics of audio-visual-oral training, and focusing on helping students to improve their comprehension in intercultural communication competence. Assessment: midterm test and final.

**CHIN 142 Intermediate Writing (4)**

The goal of this course is to help students to practice Chinese characters, enlarge vocabulary, learn grammar, and improve writing capabilities. Teaching content includes texts, new vocabulary and grammar, and practical writing in different forms (excuse letter, notice, poster, letters in Chinese, illustration and depiction). The teacher guides students in learning texts, vocabulary, and grammar; writing exercises (constructing sentences with specified vocabulary, writing paragraphs, and group discussions) are assigned. Compositions with different themes (400-500 Chinese characters) are required and teacher gives review and analysis.

**CHIN 148 Intermediate Chinese Characters (4)**

This course teaches the history of Chinese characters, the use of radicals, methods of guessing characters, and other intricacies of Chinese character writing. The course teaches more than 804 Chinese characters, including certain patterns in Chinese characters such as common sounds, meanings behind certain radicals, and how to

guess at unknown characters through the use of tools taught in class.

#### **CHIN 141 Intermediate Grammar (4)**

This class reviews basic Chinese grammatical patterns and introduces complex patterns. There are intensive lectures on Chinese grammar coordinated with the textbook and in-class exercises and practice designed by the professor.

#### **CHIN 172A Intermediate Business Chinese (4)**

This course teaches Chinese language relevant to business and communication; to enable students to engage in simple business and trade activities such as visiting a company, inquiring and bargaining on prices, ordering goods, and processing insurance claims. The texts are about common business activities connected with international trade. Each course comprises two dialogs and one short text. The course uses a combination of the teacher's lectures and student's practice with a focus on oral expression capabilities.

#### **CHIN 172B Advanced Business Chinese (4)**

This course develops skills in listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing of Chinese for business activities, and deepens understanding of the economic life, society, and culture of China in relation to business. Teaching content includes company organizational structure; investment; recruiting and applying for a job; team work; product introduction; marketing; profit; advertising; customer service and trade negotiating. Emphasis is placed on teaching materials with complementary materials related to other business activities. The course includes discussion, simulated business dialogue, simulated business writing and other forms. Simulated business Chinese test reading, spoken Chinese language and writing examinations are offered to enhance students' use of Chinese language in daily life.

#### **CHIN 122 Translation: English-Chinese (4)**

This course concentrates on translating English into Chinese. Through translation practice, it systematically introduces translation skills, and the differences and similarities between English and Chinese through the translation of various sentence structures and patterns, phrases, passive and active voice in order to promote students' ability and accuracy in written Chinese expression. The course materials cover culture, communication, society, education, exercise, health, history, business, the environment, international relations, and entertainment. The course also enables students to gain a more comprehensive understanding of Chinese culture and society.

#### **CHIN 120 Intermediate Listening Chinese (2)**

This course improves language skills and listening abilities with exercises in Chinese language. Main teaching content uses the advantages of multimedia presentation to study linguistic concepts and principles, and also trains students in intermediate level language skills. Textbooks, films, TV programs and songs are used in the class to improve students' listening skills.

#### **CHIN 126 Advanced Newspaper Chinese (4)**

This course provides a great deal of reading materials in Chinese language; enables students to learn about Chinese economy, culture, law, and education; master Chinese newspaper reading skills; and expand Chinese knowledge and vocabulary. News themes-based lectures on different topics are given by the instructors. The instructors introduce the background knowledge of the

news, vocabulary, and common structures and the students do exercises of reading comprehension.

#### **CHIN 141 Modern Function Words (4)**

This course helps students master the use of main Chinese function words, grammar, and expressions. The course focuses on practical use of function words and little on theory. Main content: summarize usage of function words in four parts - adverbs (for example - also, again, as well as, too), preposition (make, by, about), conjunction (since, even, not only) and auxiliary words (Le, Zhe, Guo), and make it systematic. Through numerous exercises with the usage of function words in class and after class, with the teacher's explanations and comparisons, the students learn to use the main function words well.

#### **CHIN 143 Classical Chinese (4)**

This course studies frequent vocabulary, grammar and general cultural knowledge of classical Chinese; basic competency in reading classical Chinese literatures; and to further improve their ability in the application of written modern Chinese. Teaching content includes mainly classical Chinese analects with the special learning of frequent vocabulary, sentence patterns, and general cultural knowledge on classical Chinese as supplements. Teacher's lecture in combination with students' reading, practice and discussion are the main teaching methods in the class.

#### **CHIN 147 Advanced Chinese Writing (4)**

This course improves students' writing ability by reading and analyzing model essays in the following areas: practical writing (receipts, letters), descriptive and illustrative writing, argumentative writing, and narrative writing. It focuses on related vocabulary and grammar to improve the students' ability to correct sentence errors in written Chinese. Students expand their vocabulary, gain a better grasp of Chinese grammar and formal diction, and gain the ability to form a more logical structure for each type of composition.

#### **CHIN 151 Special Topics on Chinese History and Culture (4)**

This course introduces the deep influences of Chinese history on Chinese culture, language, and the daily life of Chinese people. Through this course, students gain knowledge about Chinese culture while improving their level of language proficiency. The course is divided into 14 units, each one covering a period of history, from pre-history to the modern era.

#### **CHIN 164 Chinese through Films (4)**

Through watching Chinese films, the students can learn more about Chinese society and Chinese culture; learn the development and current situation of Chinese film industry; learn and use more advanced words and expressions; and improve listening comprehension and expression capability in Chinese. Students watch 6-7 contemporary Chinese films, mainly made and filmed in mainland China. The students are instructed by the teacher to read the materials, learn background information, new words, new sentence structure, and classical expressions in films. Discussions on social issues related to the films are led by the instructor.

#### **CHIN 133 Chinese Culture (2)**

There are 14 lectures with topics on different Chinese culture. Various teachers from the PKU School of Chinese as a Second Language give one lecture each. It aims to enable students to learn the history, culture, and current

situation of China from various angles, and improve their Chinese language.

**CHIN 155 Chinese History (4)**

This class is an introduction to Chinese history, taught with the understanding that it has greatly influenced the Chinese language and lifestyle. The course provides a deep background of historical knowledge, but also an understanding of the culture and traditions of China. At the same time, the course introduces a large amount of historical idioms and allusions for further understanding of course content. Through study and analysis, the course provides understanding of Chinese history, China's

current state of affairs, and the core components of Chinese culture and tradition. This class is separated into several sections with twelve main topics of discussion: The Stage of Chinese History; The Dawn of Civilization; The Xia, Shang, and Xi Dynasties; The Spring and Autumn Period and the Warring States; Confucianism and Daoism; The Qin and Han Dynasties; The Three Kingdoms, Two Jins and the Northern and Southern Dynasties; Buddhism in China; The Sui and Tang Dynasties; The North and South Song; The Yuan, Ming, and Qing Dynasties; and From The Opium War until the May Fourth Movement.

## **Course Offerings: Regular University Courses**

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Students will find undergraduate course offerings (in Mandarin) on the PKU website at <http://dean.pku.edu.cn/pkudean/course/kcb.php?ll=1>. Some departments and schools offer a few courses in English. Offerings and availability vary widely from semester to semester, and many courses do not appear on the department webpage listings. Departments post printouts showing current courses at the beginning of each semester. This information will be sent to everyone through study center before semester starts and hard copies will be provided by study center during on-site orientation.

For questions about the university, courses and registration, contact Ms. Zou (Molly) Jing at [eap.zoujing@gmail.com](mailto:eap.zoujing@gmail.com).