

## The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou)

### Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** Elementary Listening and Speaking of Putonghua

**Course Code:** UCUG1070

**No. of Credits:** 3

**Any pre-/co-requisites:** No

**Exclusions:** UCUG 1071-1074, UCUG 1077

**Name of Course Coordinator:** HAO Tun

**Email of Course Coordinator:** [tunhao@hkust-gz.edu.cn](mailto:tunhao@hkust-gz.edu.cn)

If you have any questions, your first point of contact should be your section instructor. Please find the email address on Canvas.

**Office Hours of Course Coordinator:** Available by appointment only.

#### Course Eligibility

According to the HKUST(GZ) undergraduate Common Core framework, all undergraduates must complete three credits of Chinese communication courses. Chinese communication courses are divided into two categories based on students' language backgrounds.

- UCUG1070–1074 are designed for second language learners. These courses target students with no or limited background in Chinese, including those who do not speak Putonghua (Mandarin) or any Chinese dialect (e.g., Cantonese, Hakka, Min, etc.).
- UCUG1077 is intended for native or near-native Chinese speakers. This includes students who grew up speaking Chinese at home, attended schools where Chinese was the medium of instruction, or took public Chinese language exams (e.g., Gaokao Chinese, HKDSE Chinese, or other standardized tests).

#### Course Description

The course is designed for students who have learned Chinese for 0–75 tuition hours. It aims to equip students with foundational listening and speaking skills for daily and social purposes through a range of learning activities, while introducing basic reading and writing of characters. After successfully completing the course, students will have developed fundamental communicative skills of Putonghua necessary for daily communication.

#### Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

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

1. Understand simple Chinese sentences and everyday conversations
2. Use simple Chinese words and expressions to participate in simple conversations closely related to personal and social contexts for daily interactions
3. Pronounce words clearly and accurately
4. Master 150 commonly used words and basic grammar patterns and demonstrate this in everyday conversations
5. Understand some elements of Chinese culture

### Course Outlines

- Exchanging basic greetings
- Asking about nationality
- Asking for a name
- Asking about language study
- Talking about family members
- Asking about price
- Assessment 1: Presentation
- Asking for location
- Asking about dates
- Talking about daily plans
- Asking about availability
- Assessment 2: In-class test

### Assessments:

Assessment Task	Contribution to Overall Course grade (%)	Due date
In-class participation and attendance	20%	Spread through course
Presentation	20%	Approx. week 7*
In-class test	60%	Approx. week 13*

\*Specific due dates are posted on Canvas.

### Mapping of Course ILOs to Assessment Tasks

Assessed Task	Mapped ILOs	Explanation
In-class participation and attendance	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5	This task assesses students' ability to understand simple Chinese sentences and conversations (ILO 1), use simple words and expressions in daily interactions (ILO 2), pronounce words clearly and accurately (ILO 3), demonstrate mastery of commonly used words and basic grammar patterns during classroom activities (ILO 4), and engage with fundamental elements of Chinese culture (ILO 5).
Presentation	ILO1, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5	This task assesses students' ability to understand and utilize simple Chinese

		sentences in a structured format (ILO 1), pronounce words clearly and accurately with appropriate intonation (ILO 3), demonstrate mastery of commonly used words and basic grammar patterns through oral delivery (ILO 4), and integrate or reflect on specific elements of Chinese culture (ILO 5).
In-class test	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5	This task assesses students' ability to comprehend simple Chinese sentences and everyday conversations (ILO 1), apply simple words and expressions in simulated social contexts (ILO 2), demonstrate accurate and clear pronunciation in oral components (ILO 3), exhibit a comprehensive mastery of commonly used words and basic grammar patterns (ILO 4), and identify key elements of Chinese culture (ILO 5).

### Grading Rubrics

Detailed rubrics for assignments will be provided on the Canvas. Students can refer to the rubrics to find out how their work will be assessed.

### Final Grade Descriptors:

Grades	Short Description	Elaboration on subject grading description
A	Excellent Performance	The student demonstrates exceptional mastery of foundational Chinese. They can effortlessly understand simple sentences and everyday conversations at a natural pace (ILO 1). They are highly proficient in using simple words and expressions to participate in daily and social interactions, showing excellent communicative flexibility in personal contexts (ILO 2). Pronunciation is highly accurate and clear, with very few tones or initials needing correction (ILO 3). The student has fully mastered the words and basic grammar patterns, applying them accurately in various contexts (ILO 4). Furthermore, they show a deep and insightful understanding of the introduced elements of Chinese culture (ILO 5).
B	Good Performance	The student demonstrates strong proficiency in the course requirements. They can understand most simple conversations and sentences with minimal repetition (ILO 1). They effectively use simple words and expressions to engage in daily interactions, though there may be minor hesitations in social contexts (ILO 2). Pronunciation is clear and intelligible, with only occasional errors that do not impede communication (ILO 3). The student has a solid grasp of the words and basic grammar patterns (ILO 4). They can

		correctly identify and explain the key elements of Chinese culture discussed in class (ILO 5).
C	Satisfactory Performance	The student demonstrates adequate performance and meets the basic requirements of the course. They can understand simple sentences when spoken clearly and slowly (ILO 1). They are able to participate in basic daily interactions, though their range of expressions is limited and they may rely on familiar patterns (ILO 2). Pronunciation is mostly accurate, though some tone errors are noticeable (ILO 3). The student has largely mastered the words, but occasional grammatical inaccuracies occur during spontaneous speech (ILO 4). They show a general awareness of Chinese culture and can describe basic cultural elements (ILO 5).
D	Marginal Pass	The student demonstrates limited command of the learning outcomes. They struggle to understand simple Chinese sentences without significant repetition or simplification (ILO 1). Their ability to participate in daily conversations is fragmented, often limited to basic greetings or isolated words (ILO 2). Pronunciation and intonation errors are frequent, which may occasionally make it difficult for listeners to understand (ILO 3). Mastery of the words and basic grammar patterns is incomplete, leading to significant errors (ILO 4). Their understanding of Chinese culture is superficial or restricted to a few isolated facts (ILO 5).
F	Fail	The student fails to meet the minimum requirements of the course. They are unable to understand simple everyday conversations or sentences (ILO 1) and cannot use basic expressions to conduct simple interactions (ILO 2). Pronunciation is frequently inaccurate, making communication very difficult (ILO 3). There is insufficient evidence of mastering the required words or basic grammar (ILO 4). The student shows little to no understanding of Chinese culture (ILO 5).

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the university's academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST(GZ)'s Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to Regulations for Academic Integrity and Student Conduct for the University's definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.

### Course AI Policy

When employing GenAI as a novel learning tool and resource, students are expected to adhere to the standards outlined in the [HKUST\(GZ\) Undergraduate Student Handbook](#) and the *Pillar of Language Education Academic Integrity Handbook* to ensure academic integrity. The following uses are permitted only if declared in writing and within task-approved boundaries:

- **Brainstorming ideas** – Using AI to generate potential topics or arguments for inspiration; final content must be the student's own.

- **Practising conversation** – Using AI chatbots to rehearse dialogues or simulate roleplay; AI responses may not be copied verbatim into assessed work.
- **Grammar and spell checks (declared)** – Using tools to correct surface-level language errors. Substantive rewriting without attribution is not permitted.
- **Short-phrase translations** – Translating words or short phrases; translating large sections or entire works requires approval.
- Any other AI use must be checked with the course instructor. Unapproved or undeclared use may be considered misconduct.

### **Late Submission and Extension Policy**

Late submission will incur a penalty of 5% of the total mark per calendar day, up to a maximum of 7 days. After 7 days, a mark of 0 will be recorded unless an approved extension is in place.

For extensions of up to 3 days, students should submit relevant evidence and seek approval from the Course Instructor in advance where possible. For extensions longer than 3 days, approval from the Pillar Assessment Coordinator is required. In exceptional circumstances, students may be directed to the University's formal procedures.

### **Required Texts and Materials**

- 1) 荣继华 编著 (2011) 《发展汉语初级综合 (I) 》，北京：北京语言大学出版社。  
<https://discover.hkust-gz.edu.cn/bib/9955008207626>
- 2) Pleco Chinese Dictionary IOS: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/pleco-chinese-dictionary/id341922306>;  
Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pleco.chinesesystem&hl=en&pli=1>
- 3) HSK 1 Vocabulary List <https://www.chinesetest.cn/HSK/1>