

**The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**  
**Course Syllabus**

**Cantonese for English Background Learners (Level 1)**

Non-Credit Bearing

Pre-/co-requisites: Nil. This course is open to UST students and staff of non-Chinese speaking background at beginners' level.

**Name of Course Leader:** Crystal Chan

**Email of Course Leader:** [lccrystal@ust.hk](mailto:lccrystal@ust.hk)

**Office Hours:** Available by appointment only. Students should contact their section instructor directly with any questions.

**Course Description**

This is a ten-week level one Cantonese course for English background students and staff. With a focus on speaking and listening skills, the course aims at building learners' proficiency and confidence in using Cantonese for daily communication as well as a fast integration into the local culture. Through a communicative and functional approach, and the use of interactive activities and online learning, the course will help learners to acquire vocabulary and basic structures for use in real-life situations.

Course outlines:

Week	Course Topics
1	• Greeting and getting to know each other
2	• Talking about self and others
3	• Asking for and giving personal information
4	• Telling the time and date
5	• Making appointments
6	• Ordering food and drinks
7	• Going places
8	• Talking about likes, dislikes, interests and hobbies
9	• Asking for prices and bargaining
10	• Basic knowledge of Cantonese Phonology

Methods of instruction: interactive tutorials support active learning through group discussion, collaborative activities, peer learning, input, practice and feedback.

**Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)**

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

1. converse in Cantonese in everyday situations.
2. use a range of Cantonese vocabulary appropriately.
3. learn about elements of Hong Kong culture.
4. acquire knowledge of the Cantonese phonological and tonal systems.

**Required Texts and Materials**

Course materials and additional resources are provided via Canvas.

## **Academic Integrity**

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