

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
UG Course Syllabus

[Chinese Characters for Non-Chinese Language Background Students II](#)

LANG1103

1 Credit

Pre-/co-requisites: N/A

Exclusions: LANG 1113, LANG 1117, LANG 1118, LANG 1122 -1127 (prior to 2022-23), LANG 1412, LANG 1413, LANG 1414, LANG 1415, LANG 1416, LANG 1421, LANG 1422, LANG 1423, LANG 1424, LANG 1425, LANG 1426, LANG 1513, LANG 1514, LANG 1515

Note: Students who would like to enroll in Chinese courses should refer to the [Guidelines for Chinese Course Selection](#) in advance, follow the procedure and complete [Course survey](#).

Name of Course Coordinator: Krista Du

Email of Course Coordinator: lckristadu@ust.hk

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 Description

LANG1103 is a one-credit, one semester free elective course offered to non-Chinese language background students who have completed less than 50 hours of Chinese instruction. It aims to equip them with Chinese reading and writing skills for daily and social purposes through a range of familiar topics. After successfully completing the course, students will have acquired a basic knowledge of simplified Chinese characters at HSK (Level 1), be able to identify information from simple passages, and write basic sentences to describe their daily lives. This course is a continuation of LANG1102 Chinese Characters for Non-Chinese Language Background Students I.

Course outlines:

Week	Topics
7 - 8	Chinese character review
	Contact numbers and address
	Time, date and daily activities
9 - 11	Making appointments
	Clothes, colors and prices
	Assessment preparation: Final review and consultation
	Assessment

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, students should be able to:

1. Recognize and write commonly used simplified Chinese characters.
2. Understand specific information from introductory and narrative texts related to daily and social contexts.
3. Compose grammatically correct sentences in standard written Chinese.
4. Use simple sentences to introduce basic information closely related to personal life and study.
5. Demonstrate awareness of Chinese culture and cultural diversity.

Assessment and Grading

This course adopts a **Pass/Fail** grading system to support a low-pressure and learner-centred environment. Students must complete all required tasks and demonstrate achievement of the course's Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) to pass.

Assessments:

Assessment Task	Contribution to Overall Course grade (%)	Due date
In-class test	50%	In class, approx. week 12
Written assignments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• character practice record for each unit (4 units in total, 20%)• handwritten writing assignment (20%)	40%	Spread through course
Online learning tasks and engagement	10%	Spread through course

* Specific due dates are posted on Canvas.

Mapping of Course ILOs to Main Assessment Tasks

Assessed Task	Mapped ILOs	Explanation
In-class test	ILO-1, ILO-2, ILO-3, ILO-4, ILO-5	This task assesses students' abilities to recognize and write commonly used simplified Chinese characters (ILO-1), understand specific information from introductory and narrative texts related to daily and social contexts (ILO-2), compose grammatically correct sentences in standard written Chinese (ILO-3), use simple sentences to introduce basic information closely related to personal life and study (ILO-4), and demonstrate awareness of Chinese culture and cultural diversity (ILO-5).
Written assignments	ILO-1, ILO-2, ILO-3, ILO-4, ILO-5	This task assesses students' abilities to recognize and write commonly used simplified Chinese characters (ILO-1), understand specific information from introductory and narrative texts related to daily and social contexts (ILO-2), compose

		grammatically correct sentences in standard written Chinese (ILO-3), use simple sentences to introduce basic information closely related to personal life and study (ILO-4), and demonstrate awareness of Chinese culture and cultural diversity (ILO-5).
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Grading Rubrics

This course uses a **Pass/Fail** grading system. To pass, students must demonstrate consistent engagement and satisfactory achievement of the course's Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) across all assessment components.

Final Grade Descriptors

Grades	Criteria
Pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Actively participate in class activities, including pair work and group work. ● Complete all required assignments and learning tasks appropriately. ● Attend and complete the in-class test with evidence of basic proficiency in recognizing, understanding, and writing Chinese characters and texts related to daily and social contexts.
Fail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Miss or fail to participate in key classroom activities or tasks. ● Fail to complete a significant portion of required assignments and learning tasks. ● Show limited or no progress in Chinese character recognition, understanding of texts, or writing proficiency. ● Fail to attend or participate meaningfully in the in-class test.

*In addition to the criteria above, students must achieve a minimum overall score of 50% to pass the course.

Course AI Policy

At HKUST, we embrace innovation and technology including Generative AI. Our approach is to rely firmly on pedagogical principles, with an ethical commitment to ensure fairness.

If students use AI tools in the course assessments, they must adhere to the principles of academic integrity and make a declaration at the end of each oral or written assessment. The declaration should include: 1) Was any AI tool used in this assessment? 2) What tool was used and how was it used?

Any misdeclaration will be regarded as a violation of academic integrity and result in serious consequences. See the section Academic Integrity below for details.

To know more about how to use the GenAI tools appropriately in language courses, students are required to complete a Canvas learning module developed by the Center for Language Education. The module can be found on the course Canvas site. Students should ensure that they have completed it before they come to class.

Communication and Feedback

Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be communicated via Canvas within ten working days of submission. Feedback on assignments will include strengths and areas for

improvement where relevant. Students who have further questions about the feedback including marks should consult the instructor within five working days after the feedback is received.

Resubmission Policy

Resubmissions are not accepted, except in exceptional circumstances.

Required Texts and Materials

This course will use *Discover China (Vol.1)* as textbook. Other 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.

Plagiarism

In CLE assignments, students should not copy from others nor submit the same work for multiple courses. Source materials must be explicitly acknowledged.

Assignments with evidence of plagiarism may score a zero and be followed up with your department's Dean. To demonstrate academic integrity and avoid plagiarism, you are expected to:

- paraphrase, summarize, reference and synthesize ideas from sources
- refrain from copying expressions and ideas directly from any source (e.g. from another student, or from a video, or from an article, etc.) without proper acknowledgement