

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Course Syllabus

Cantonese for Chinese Background Learners (Level 1)

Non-Credit Bearing

Pre-/co-requisites: This course is open to UST students of Chinese background at beginners' level. Learners must be able to read Chinese.

Name of Course Coordinator: Crystal Chan

Email of Course Coordinator: lccrystal@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: Available by appointment only.

Course Description

This is a ten-week elementary Cantonese course for Chinese background students. It will equip learners with the Cantonese proficiency and the communication competence necessary for studying, working and living in Hong Kong. Learners will learn to extract key information from listening to Cantonese, and to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts. They will also be introduced to the phonological features of Cantonese. The thematic content of the course is designed to help them explore the multiple facets of the Hong Kong culture.

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	• Exchanging phone numbers and making phone calls
5	• Telling the time and date
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 • Recognizing frequently used Chinese characters and phrases

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;
5. understand differences in Cantonese and Putonghua vocabulary and expressions

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.