



CHIN 3021: Chinese Society and Culture I
Fall 2026

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence

Instructor

Hongchen Wu, Ph.D.

Email: hongchen.wu@gatech.edu

Course Description and Objectives

This in-person, intermediate-advanced course is for students who have taken two or three years of Chinese language to enhance their language proficiency and cultural awareness in contemporary China. Students will develop their Chinese language skills in interpersonal, interpretive, intercultural, and presentational communications.

Students will expand their cultural proficiency and analytical skills by discussing a series of topics in contemporary Chinese society, including public signs, standard speech and writing, industry, Chinese idioms, marriage, job market, diplomacy and the college entrance examination.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to 1) understand and produce connected discourse on a variety of topics beyond the immediacy of the situation; 2) analyze these topics from their historical, cultural, and social backgrounds; 3) participate in discussions of the above topics; 4) read the correlated texts and write short essays about these topics; 5) translate English/Chinese in fairly formal language.

Grading

A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: below 59

[In-class oral presentations 10% + reflection essays on others' presentations 10%](#)

[Preview quizzes 10%](#)

[In-class Quizzes 10%](#)

[Review quizzes 20%](#)

[Tests 15%](#)

[Final Skit Performance/Presentation/Movie Project 10% \(your presentation 5% + presentation comments to others presentation 5%\)](#)

[Final Exam 15%](#)

[Extra Credit \(up to 5%\) through Conversation Practicum](#)

Policies and Links

- [Georgia Tech Honor Code](#)
 - Cheating, plagiarism, and all forms of academic dishonesty are expressly forbidden in this class, and by the university's Honor Code
 - The first instance of cheating on quizzes, tests, or exams will lead to an automatic zero for the assignment; the second cheating will immediately earn you a failing grade for the entire course. I will also pursue [further disciplinary actions](#) according to Georgia Tech's policies and procedures.
- [Georgia Tech's student-faculty expectations](#)

- We all have a right to be treated with respect and professionalism, and a responsibility to treat others the way we want to be treated.
- [Resources and for student success](#), and [resources for student mental health](#)
 - Don't struggle alone with school; there are resources to help you!
- [Office of Disability Services](#)
 - Students with disabilities are very welcome in this class. Please contact ODS to make the class more accessible for you.
- More student resources can be found at <https://gatech.instructure.com/courses/245818>

Special Note

- Your academic career is important, but your safety and health are always the priority.
- In the face of a world full of uncertainty and challenges, we all need to remain calm, clear-headed, safe, and well. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always reach me or the teaching assistant by email. If your questions or concerns can be better-addressed face-to-face, you are always welcome to meet with me virtually or in person during office hours or make an appointment for a different time.
- Stay safe and take good care of yourself and each other.

