UHM CHINESE FLAGSHIP SNAPSHOT BULLETIN

Taiwan Edition



Summer 2022 Issue 1

DEPARTING HAWAI'I

After a long wait for the visitor visa and entry permit, the 1st cohort of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) Chinese Language Flagship Center's (CLFC) Intensive Chinese Language Program hosted by the National Tsing Hua University (NTHU) began their

travels to Taiwan. Nine students, along with the UHM CLFC's Program Director and Academic Support, got ready to depart from the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (HNL) to meet four other students at the San Francisco International Airport (SFO).



Students and staff waiting to board their flight from HNL to SFO

LAYOVER AT SFO

During the long layover at SFO, students began writing Chinese self-introductions to share with their teachers at NTHU while waiting for the other four students to arrive.



Cara, Alysa, and Maysa working on their self-introductions (left to right)



Le Yi and Yi Lin typing on their tablets the self-introduction (left to right)



Group photo before boarding the long flight from SFO to Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport

ARRIVING IN TAOYUAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (TPE)

Our Summer 2022 cohort students successfully completed all the arrival procedures, from purchasing a Taiwanese SIM card, getting their documents reviewed by Taiwan's Ministry of Education, to receiving their rapid COVID-19 test kits for the 7+7 quarantine period, getting through customs, and doing the PCR spit test to board the organized quarantine bus to start the seven-day quarantine period.



The spacious quarantine room with a tub to soak in hot spring water and what it looks like right outside the hotel room door



Students waiting to be allowed to board the quarantine bus

CHECKING-IN TO QUARANTINE HOTEL

Everyone successfully checked-in to their quarantine hotel room at the SweetMe Hotspring Resort 水美 溫泉會館 and ate their very first meal in Taiwan late at night. Students rested on Saturday after the long flight and arrival process to be ready for the online opening orientation on Sunday in preparation for online classes the following Monday.



First late-dinner and breakfast in Taiwan

SUNDAY 6/12

OPENING CEREMONY

Following a full-day's rest, the Summer 2022 cohort attended the online opening ceremony conducted entirely in Chinese. During this opening ceremony, students were introduced to the different team members and teachers from the University of

Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) and the National Tsing Hua University (NTHU), with whom they would be interacting with over the course of the eight weeks in Taiwan.



Group photo of students and teachers at the online opening ceremony

The NTHU Senior Vice President, Dr. Shih-Chang Hsin delivered a pre-recorded welcome message to the UHM students and the teaching team. He assured the cohort that NTHU will fully support the program's academic and instructional needs. He looked forward to meeting the students in-person when the cohort would be moving to Hsinchu. The accompanying UHM CLFC Program Director, Dr. Song Jiang, expressed great gratitude to NTHU for hosting the UHM CLFC Intensive Chinese Language Summer Program, as well as assistance with all of the on-boarding process, especially with new entry requirements for foreign visitors. Dr. Song Jiang also stated that he believes the Summer 2022 cohort will take full advantage of this rare study abroad opportunity and strive for excellence and take the

necessary steps to achieve or get closer to the Flagship proficiency goal. Both Dr. Shih-Chang Hsin and Dr. Song Jiang wished students a great time in Taiwan and successful Chinese language studies!

Next students were introduced to the major instructional components of the intensive summer program which contains the morning language instructions, afternoon reading and listening drills, individual tutoring sessions, and the project-based language learning small group course. In addition to sharing the detailed schedule for each weekday, students were also given an opportunity to interact with their course instructors and classmates before officially meeting the following day.



Screenshot of CHN 204's first meeting

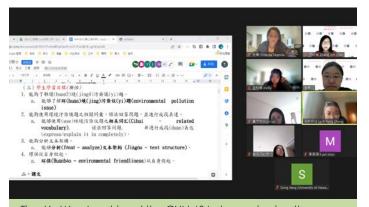


Screenshot of CHN 303's first meeting

WEEK 1 LOCALIZED CURRICULUM DURING THE 7-DAY QUARANTINE PERIOD

After the long trip from Hawai'i to Taipei, the cohort began their first week on June 13. Since the local policy requires all personnel entering the country to complete a 7-day quarantine, the instructional team decided to move everything online to fulfill the eight-week timeframe of the intensive program. The curriculum for Week 1 is collaboratively designed by the four lead instructors, Hsin-Tzu Jen Laoshi, Ting-Yu Wen Laoshi, Meng-Ting Lin Laoshi, and Yu-An Lee Laoshi. To adequately prepare the cohort for the on-site visit next week, we incorporated a diverse range of content to cover various aspects of Taiwan.

Specifically, the topics for the first week included Urban Landscape of Taipei, Night Market, Riders with Masks (Traffic-related Air Pollution), and Cross-Strait Relations. The rationale behind the design of this localized curriculum is to both raise the cohort's linguistic awareness of this environment and alleviate the potentially uncomfortable feelings caused by cultural shock. Fortunately, after being exposed to a sufficient amount of scaffolded and well-tailored linguistic materials, the cohort could cope with situations in different scenarios in Taiwan, such as ordering food, taking the Metro, and shopping confidently.



Ting-Yu Wen Laoshi and the CHN 404 class reviewing the cando statements for the topic Riders with Masks opening ceremony

During the 1st week, the students and their instructors met online every day via Zoom. Afforded by modern technology, we were able to bring different parts of this beautiful island to the classroom and connect the islands of Hawai'i with Taiwan. Despite the commonalities shared by both islands, Hawai'i and Taiwan do have a lot of differences. One intent of this localized curriculum, other than advancing language proficiency, is to smoothen the necessary transition of one culture to another that the cohort would be facing shortly after the quarantine period.

Therefore, the content of the 1st week often involved comparisons between Hawai'i and Taiwan in hopes of lightening students' sense of uncertainty towards this new environment.





Meng-Ting Lin Laoshi and the CHN 303 class doing information check on the text of Urban Landscape of Taipei



Yu-An Lee Laoshi and the CHN 204 class are practicing the target vocabulary of Urban Landscape of Taipei

Upon the end of the 1st week, the cohort was equipped with a sufficient understanding of Taiwan. We hope, through this localized curriculum, the unknown journey that lies ahead can be turned into incentives for exploring the language and culture of Taiwan in the following weeks. With this positive mentality, the cohort can confidently move on to the next stop of their summer in Taiwan.

WEEK 2 THEME-BASED CURRICULUM DURING THE 7-DAY SELF-ISOLATION PERIOD

In compliance with the local pandemic regulation, the 2nd week of the program are designed as a hybrid curriculum consisting of a combination of online language instruction in the morning and on-site visit for Project Based Language Learning (PBLL) in the afternoon. Each day, the course materials is exclusively aligned with the visiting site of the selected theme, including Taipei 101, National Palace Museum, Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall, Dadaocheng, and Yingge Old Street. The five themes are distributed to five weekdays

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The CHN 404 class shared their experiences of drinking Taiwan tea for the Dadaocheng topic

国立故宫博物院前身为西元1925年在北京紫禁城所建立的故宫博物院,1933年为了躲避日本的军事攻击,因此将故宫博物院文物南迁,至1948年文物到达南京,后来国共内战

,国民政府便将故宫博物馆的文物运往台湾。

The CHN 303 class familiarizing themselves with the history of the National Palace Museum



A part of the PBLL sheet for the Dadaocheng topic June 22 on-site visit

respectively. To enliven the cohort's experience at each touring site, the instructional team collected texts, introductory videos, podcasts, as authentic materials to consolidate their linguistic knowledge of the particular day-trip. In the morning, classes review the content relevant to the on-site visit, which incorporates lecturing, vocabulary practice, grammar instruction, and summative activity, to fully prepare the students for the PBLL project. After having lunch, the instructors and the cohort commute to the designated location to conduct the



A part of the PBLL sheet for the Dadaocheng topic June 22 on-site visit

theme-based PBLL project of that day. The theme-based curriculum adopted in the 2nd week, too, uses Zoom as the instructional medium. Differing from the previous week, we integrated on-site visit in combination of PBLL tasks into the curriculum. Similar to the 1st week, the materials in the morning cover vocabulary, grammar, and other linguistic knowledge necessary to the PBLL tasks in the afternoon. The PBLL tasks incorporate a diverse range of activity related to language learning in the wild, such as drag and drop, match picture to description, identify an object, and so forth. A part of the PBLL task sheet is shown above as a sample. After thoroughly exploring the prosperous city of Taipei, the cohort is now ready to take the real challenges of the extensive curriculum conducted at National Tsing Hua University in Hsinchu.



A part of the PBLL sheet for the Dadaocheng topic June 22 on-site visit

SUNDAY 6/19

BEITOU 北投

Beitou (比投) was our first excursion after quarantine. Located just north of Taipei City, Beitou is known for its beautiful mountains and hot spring attractions. My favorite place we went to was the Beitou Hot Spring Museum which holds the old Beitou Public Bathhouse, built under the Japanese Colonial Government in 1913. This bathhouse was the largest in Asia and could hold a maximum of 200 people at a time. Before coming to Taiwan, I had little extensive knowledge of Taiwan's history and Japanese influence, so Beitou was a great way to start learning new things. (Anna Backus)



Resting in the open area at the Beitou Public Bathhouse

MONDAY 6/20

HUASHAN 1914 CREATIVE PARK 華山 1914 SUN YAT-SEN MEMORIAL 國父紀念館 TAIPEI 101 BEITOU 台北 101

On Monday, we had the opportunity to go to the Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall and the Taipei 101 building. The Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall had a giant statue of Sun Yat-Sen himself, alongside the guards who stood on either side. The rest of the Hall consisted of different pieces of historical art. The Taipei 101 building is one of the tallest buildings in Taipei. We went to the 89th floor to get an amazing city view. My favorite part was seeing the city at the top of the building because it was a different perspective, and we got to see so much more of the city that way. (Noelani Lommasson)



Students showcasing their NTHU student ID cards before taking the public transport to the Beitou Museum

One of the best hot spring spots that could be found in Taiwan is in the Taipei district of Beitou, our first excursion experience after the first quarantine period. We visited many places such as the Beitou Hot Spring Museum, Thermal Valley, Beitou Museum, etc. All the places were close to each other, making the trip between each location shorter. Throughout the trip, my favorite part was the visit to the Beitou Hot Spring Museum. During our visit there, we learned about the history of hot spring bathing in Beitou, while viewing the Romanesque pool as well as the Japanese-style tatami post-bathing rest area. Overall, the experience of the tour and physically experiencing each location was a great way to learn about the culture in Taiwan. (Eva Chen)



Group photo in front of the Beitou Museum

Monday was the second day of our Taipei excursions and my favorite day out of the week. We first took the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) to the Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall, where we explored the area and interviewed a group of Taiwanese people for their thoughts about him. Then we walked through the city to Taipei 101, which was once the tallest skyscraper in the world. We were able to go all the way to the 89th floor to take pictures, and they also gave us a coupon for the gift shop! It was so amazing being able to see what felt like all of Taipei City. Afterward, some of us got boba from the "original" boba shop (boba drinks originated in Taiwan). (Monica Mau)



Monica, Anna, and Alysa taking a selfie in front of the Sun Yat-Sen statue in the memorial hall Photo Credit: Monica Mau



Group picture on the 89th floor of Taipei 101



Boba drink from the "original" shop Photo Credit: Monica Mau



Students watching the guard exchange ceremony at the National Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall

TUESDAY 6/21

NATIONAL TAIWAN MUSEUM 台灣博物院, CHIANG KAI-SHEK MEMORIAL HALL 中正紀念堂 YONG KANG STREET NIGHT MARKET 永康街

On Tuesday, we went to the National Chiang Kai-shek Hall, a large blue and white hall with 89 steps leading up to a bronze statue of Chiang Kai-shek. It was very interesting to witness the Handover Ceremony of the Guards at the hour, and the view from the top of the memorial hall looking towards Freedom Square was grand. My favorite part of the day was walking down Yong Kang Street and trying various delicacies like Taiwanese basil egg pancake and mango shaved ice. (Cara Tan)

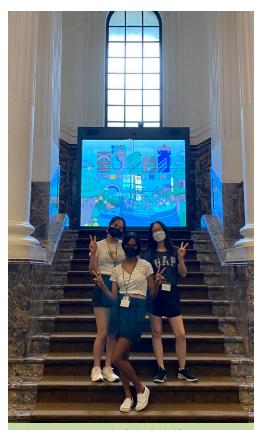


Noelani, Eva, Anna, and Cara taking a photo in front of the Liberty Square (Taipei) (left to right) Photo Credit: Cara Tan

The National Taiwan Museum was our first stop on June 21, Tuesday. As a biology student and as a Chinese Mandarin language learner, I had a wonderful experience looking through the museum exhibits and reading the exhibit descriptions in English and (doing my best to comprehend) in Chinese. One exhibit I remember distinctly was of hokutolite, a rare mineral only found in Taiwan and in certain parts of Japan. These minerals accumulated in natural hot springs. While the museum was incredibly fun, the Yong Kang Street was also enjoyable and was a hotspot for delicious foods, snacks, and a great place to shop. (Alysa Choy)



Michelle, Alysa, Maysa, Molly, Monica, and Cara trying Taiwanese shaved ice (Taipei) (left to right, front to back)



Alysa, Maysa, and Michelle taking a group photo in the main hall of the National Taiwan Museum (left to right) Photo Credit: Alysa Choy



Small group lunch before starting the day's exploration

1945

Yu-An Lee Laoshi introducing the history of Sin Hong Choon Trade to students

WEDNESDAY 6/22

BEIMEN 北門, DADAOCHENG 大稻埕 NINGXIA NIGHT MARKET 寧夏夜市

Firstly, on Wednesday, we went to the Dadaocheng area. We had the opportunity to learn about the history of some of the building structures and view their notable differences between past and modern influences. Following, within the Dadaocheng area, we were able to visit a Tea Museum and learn about how tea was made in the past. Lastly, we went to the Ningxia Night Market, where we were able to try new foods and buy small gifts for the people who supported me while on the trip. My favorite part was trying spicy grilled squid at the Ningxia Night Market because the food was delicious, and it is made differently than Hawai'i. (Maysa Segovia)



Group photo in Dadaocheng

The first place we visited on Wednesday was Dadaocheng, which used to be a large trading district. Now, it is known for its traditional architecture and history. We visited places such as a tea museum and a small temple, and learned about the history of Taiwan, and compared the past with our present day. After touring Dadaocheng, we went to the Ningxia Night Market. Here, there were many booths that had a large variety of things to eat, play with, and buy. I personally enjoyed the game booths, and I also ate delicious Korean hotdogs. (Michelle Lee)

THURDSAY 6/23

NATIONAL PALACE MUSEUM 故宮博物院 SHILIN NIGHT MARKET 十林夜市

On Thursday, we went to the National Palace Museum. The structure of the museum itself was really nice. On the inside, it had four floors which included calligraphy, tapestry, bronzeware, intricate jade pieces, interactive sections, and much more. One of the very well-known pieces is a carved Jadeite Bokchoi. That evening, we went to the Shilin night market. This market was fun to go to because of all the different stores and food we got to try. We spent several hours here. My favorite parts were viewing the tapestry and embroidery pieces at the museum, and I enjoyed trying the new food at the night market! (Noelani Lommasson)





Teachers and students waiting for the bus in front of the National Palace Museum to go to the Shilin Night Market



Students and teachers trying different xiaochi (snacks) together at the Ningxia Night Market



Group photo on the bus after getting lunch near the Shilin MTR Station

We visited the National Palace Museum on Thursday. The museum's architecture was similar to the Forbidden City, which I thought was really interesting. Inside the museum, there was a large variety of calligraphy, artworks, jewelry, and many other things that contributed to the history of Taiwan. My favorite piece was a large rain bowl symbolizing a treaty between two warring countries. After touring the museum, we went to Shilin Night Market, where there were many things to eat and buy. The night market had very affordable prices, and I was able to experience the local food culture there! (Michelle Lee)



Waiting to regroup after splitting into two groups to take the public transport to the Shilin Night Market

FRIDAY 6/24

YINGGE 鶯歌, XI MEN DING 西門町

On Friday, we went to Ying Ge and Xi Men Ding. Ying Ge was a thirty-minute train ride out of the main city of Taipei. There we went to a ceramic museum, which had handmade art made out of clay. They had different displays of artists from all over Taiwan. My favorite was the Creative Artist competition, there I got to see many sculptures that artists submitted. I really enjoyed looking at the imaginative minds of the Taiwanese; my favorite was of a half hippo man in a water tube. That night we also went to Xi Men Ding, a popular location for young Taiwanese people to hang out, eat, and shop. There we found many shops that ranged from cheap and expensive products. I found many cute outfits that were relatively cheap and would love to go back and look around more! (Le Yi Feng Zheng)

On Friday, we had the chance to go to the Ying Ge District and the Xi Men Ding Night Market. While at Ying Ge, we had the opportunity to dye a cloth with blue dye in a design of our own creation. This cloth was called "Lanran" and the process was similar to tie-dyeing. We also were able to experience the wheel, which involved shaping clay into a pottery piece. Lastly, we visited Xi Men Ding, a famous tourist spot with many cheap shops with all sorts of things, as well as interesting foods. My favorites were a sausage and sticky rice combination and a deep-fried squid snack. I also picked up a couple of cheap and cute outfits and definitely hope to go back someday! (Monica Mau)



Ceramics Museum



Group photo with everyone showcasing their Lanran final product



Kai, Noelani, Paul, and Anna taking a selfie at the Yingge Ceramics Museum Photo Credit: Paul Porter



Molly and Yu-An Lee Laoshi showing their clav coated hands

We arrived in Taiwan earlier this month and after completing the mandatory quarantine, we were able to start exploring the city. We did visit many famous tourist spots such as Taipei 101 (the tallest building in Taiwan and at one point the tallest building in the world), some famous memorials and parks, but the most memorable spot for me was a smaller town a little bit off the beaten path called Ying Ge. Unlike most of the spots we went to, Ying Ge was not directly accessible via the jieyun



Cara, Noelani, Monica, Alysa, Maysa, Molly, Le Yi, Yi Lin, Paul, and Kai designing their Lanran (left to right)



Monica, Alysa, Maysa, Cara, Noelani, Molly, Michelle, Yi Lin, and Le Yi starting to unwrap their Lanran (left to right)

(the underground subway system in Taipei), so we had to take the normal train to visit Ying Ge. Ying Ge has a history of traditional art and ceramic pottery going back more than 200 years. First we visited the Ying Ge Ceramics Museum where we got to explore not only the history of how ceramic art developed in Ying Ge, and saw some modern artwork by more recent living artists. This museum was remarkable to me due to the scientific and chemical process behind ceramics. Chinese and English may be very different languages, but they both recognize the exact same formulas and mechanical processes through natural science and mathematics. After visiting the ceramics museum, our teachers, Yu-An Lee Laoshi and Meng-Ting Lin Laoshi, took us to an ancient style tunnel called the Gu Zao Yao 古早窯. Gu Zao Yao was especially exciting for me due to my interest in ancient China and my passion for watching period dramas. Artifacts can be seen at a distance through a museum, but going through the Gu Zao Yao was really a hands-on experience since we were able to walk through an architecture that looks and has a similar feel to the ancient style tunnels, even though it is an old kiln for firing up ceremaics. Finally, we ended up taking an art class where we studied the process of dying fabric known as Lanran or also known as indigo dyeing. The traditional fabric dying process of Lanran uses some ornaments and ceramic pieces or even chopsticks bound to white fabric where it is then placed in a blue solution and soaked, then taken out after a period of time. (Paul Porter)



Maysa, Alysa, and Michelle taking a group photo before leaving the Fort of San Domingo (left to right)

Photo Credit: Maysa Segovia



Kai unwrappng his Lanran



Group photo in front of the repurposed Tamsui Shell Warehouse

SATURDAY 6/25

TAMSUI STREET 淡水老街 FORT OF SAN DOMINGO 紅毛城

Firstly, on Saturday, we went to Tamsui street using the MRT, which was a total of 18 stops from our hotel in Taipei City. At Tamsui street, we were able to learn about its history while having the opportunity to go around and buy delicious snacks. After having lunch in Tamsui street, we went to Fort of San Domingo and were able to step back in time to learn its purpose and how it was used. My favorite part at Tamsui street was buying local spicy beef soup dumplings because they were delicious and spicy! (Maysa Segovia)

Visiting both Tamsui Street and Fort of San Domingo are both significant parts of Taiwan. Tamsui Street is an excellent example of modern cultural practices, lifestyle, trending foods, and such. Additionally, Tamsui was at the end of one of the MRT (Mass Rapid Transit) lines (the MRT is akin to US metro stations). To me, visiting Tamsui felt like venturing to the end of a rainbow in search of something fun. On the other hand, the Fort of San Domingo represents a time in history when Taiwan and its people were involved in a war. Today, we know the importance of the Fort building. Both places were incredibly interesting, but my favorite part was walking through Tamsui Street, buying local food, and exploring how life is in this part of Taiwan. (Alysa Choy)





Starting the day of cultural excursions on a bright sunny day and ending the day with a sudden rain shower which a very typical sight in Taipei



Students and teachers lining up to load their luggage on the bus that would be taking them to NTHU

SUNDAY 6/26

MOVING FROM TAIPEI TO HSINCHU NTHU 從臺北到清大

Early Sunday morning students and teachers checked-out of the self-health management hotel to take the arranged tour bus to go to NTHU which only took about an hour.

Once everyone dropped off their luggage at their respective dorms, students and teachers reconvened at the one of the school cafeteria, 小吃部, to go on a campus tour guided by one of the NTHU team members, Minqi Chen Laoshi.

After ending the campus tour at the main entrance, we walked to the Poya 實雅 which is a Taiwanese chain store that offers personal beauty and daily merchandise products. There both students and teachers purchased some daily necessities like toiletries, cleaning supplies, hangers, and others. Here learned how the local teachers could use an app to save their receipts electronically, which would make it easier for them to check if they have a winning receipt for the local Taiwanese government's lottery. (Vivian)



Minqi Chen Laoshi is showing the students where they can reload their AC card for the air con and kitchen appliances



Students waiting in line to pay for their purchases at Poya





Photo Credit: Maysa Segovia

