

UHM CHINESE FLAGSHIP SNAPSHOT BULLETIN



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP
Creating Global Professionals



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PROMOTION

College Fair

October 18, 2022

The UHM Chinese Flagship Coordinator Orion Young, the GA Hsin-Tzu Jen, and a Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn along with their Korean Flagship counterparts tabled at the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) College Fair at the Hawaii Convention Center in Downtown Honolulu. There were two sessions in total – a morning session from 8:30-11:30am and an evening session from 5:00-8:00pm. The first session saw high school students from all over Oahu arriving via school bus as a field trip. The second session saw mainly parents accompanying their

teenage children. NACAC College Fairs are held nationwide and are free and open to the public, allowing students to interact with admission representatives from a wide range of postsecondary institutions. The Honolulu leg hosted dozens of local universities as well as close to a hundred national and international universities. Over a hundred students received brochures and then used their phone apps to be scanned by Flagship, twenty of whom expressed interest specifically in Chinese Flagship. The coordinator sent out information about the program electronically the following day. (Orion)



CLFC Coordinator Orion Young (right 1) and Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn (right 2) at the NACAC College Fair



Student ambassador Molly Wolyn at the NACAC College Fair

Director's Site Visit to Taiwan Capstone

December 5 - 7, 2022

The UHM CLFC Director Prof Song Jiang and other directors from Flagship sending institutions visited the Taiwan Capstone program in person. Prof Jiang observed classes, spoke with students, program staff, and instructors, then toured the dorms on-campus as well as the apartment of one of the students living off-campus, and finally visited several internship providers, including the National Palace Museum, NYCU, Next Voice, and the Shung Ye Museum of Formosan Aborigines. (Orion)



Prof Jiang with UHM Capstone students Lauren, Stella, Man Ian, and Jinny posing in front of the UH Seal in the hallway of the Taiwan Capstone host university NYCU in Taipei



Prof Song Jiang with UHM Capstone students Lauren O'Connell, Stella Jones, Man Ian Woo, and Jinny Wang at the world famous Din Tai Feng Restaurant in Taipei



Jinny Wang (foreground) and Man Ian Woo (right) with their classmates and instructor during language class

Join us for the UHM Summer Intensive in Taiwan 2023

We are pleased to announce that we will have the 2nd UHM-NTHU Chinese Flagship intensive summer program in 2023. Scan the QR code or click [here](#) to view the video taken from Summer 2022. Flagship scholarships available.



Tentative Program Date: 6/12-8/4/2023

3 weeks in Taipei 5 weeks in Hsinchu

Partner Institution: National Tsing Hua University (NTHU)

Program Details:

- 2.5hr Classroom Instruction
- 1hr Small Group Discussions
- 1hr Reading & Listening Drills
- 0.5hr One-on-One Tutoring
- Weekly Chinese Table
- Weekly Language & Culture Practicum
- 4-6 Saturday Excursions

ACTIVITIES

Chinese Corner

October 24, 2022: Tea Time

In the fourth Chinese Corner of Fall 2022, Yu-An Lee Laoshi introduced to us the history of Taiwan tea history and some unique kinds of tea developed in Taiwan. In this session, the participants tried three kinds of tea: 東方美人茶 (Oriental Beauty Oolong Tea), 文山包種茶 (Wenshan Pochong Tea), and 奇種烏龍茶 (Chichong Oolong Tea). To add some excitement to the event, Lee Laoshi specifically organized a blind taste test for the participants. With tips given in the presentation, everyone was able to distinguish different kinds of tea by their color, smell, and unique taste. (Hsin-Tzu)



Yu-An Lee Laoshi introducing the history of tea industry in Taiwan



Hsin-Tzu Jen Laoshi making different kinds of tea for the participants



Meng-Ting Lin Laoshi presenting to the students about the singer Cyndi Wang 王心凌

November 21, 2022: Chinese Karaoke

The Chinese Flagship center held their final Chinese corner of the Fall 2022 semester. The topic of the event was karaoke, presented by Meng-Ting Lin Laoshi. Around eight students attended the last Chinese corner and learned common words used when you go to karaoke in China. In addition, they got to learn how to sing a well-known song called Love You 愛你 by Cyndi Wang. After Lin Laoshi's presentation, the students got to try out the office karaoke machine and choose popular Chinese songs that they knew how to sing, including 那些年, 北京歡迎你, 學貓叫, 熱愛105Cde你, etc. (Orion)

End of Semester Gathering

December 8, 2022

CLFC organized its last activity for the semester of Fall 2022, the end of semester gathering. In the event, Flagship students and staff enjoyed light refreshments and talked about their gains throughout the semester. The gathering was also joined by Chinese Section instructor Jing Wu Laoshi and lecturer Yueshi Ouyang Laoshi. Associate Director, Prof Julie Jiang Li, also invited students to contribute ideas about which potential activities can be carried out next semester. The 90-minute warm gathering was concluded with Prof Jiang's encouragement to everyone to work towards their future goal in the Chinese Language Flagship Program. (Hsin-Tzu)



CLFC staff and students at the end of semester gathering

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Experience Regarding Pre-Capstone Preparation

Sydney Hirayama

Preparing for capstone was a journey. During summer break, I worked on my application materials which included a video, essay, and resume in English and Chinese. When school started, I began to prepare for the language assessment. I took a few practice tests, and I felt ready. When it was time for the actual test, I completely bombed it. I did not manage my time well, and I just randomly answered the last 10 questions. I felt very doubtful of my score. After waiting for almost a month, I found out that I did not pass. I was extremely disappointed but more irritated at myself for getting so close. I also felt as if I spent nearly all of my college years preparing for capstone, only to be let down by a score on a test.

But, I was lucky to have a second chance. So, I fueled my anger into determination. I devoted an hour every day to practicing reading and listening, while also having great tutors to help me. I listened to podcasts during my commute to school, watched Chinese YouTubers, and tried to only speak Mandarin at home. Over the weekend, I watched Chinese news segments regarding politics and the economy. I was also stumped by a lot of the simplified characters on the test, having only used traditional characters all my life, so that was a challenge. I switched my keyboard settings, read all my class material in simplified, and borrowed books in simplified. Basically, I did everything that I could to be immersed in Chinese.

The second time around, I felt more confident during the reading section and was able to manage my time better. When I got my test score back, I was so relieved that I passed. All the hard work paid off, and a great weight was lifted off my shoulders. This capstone is very important to me, not only because my mother is from Taiwan, but also because I have a lot of fond memories there and wish to make more. Although I am a bit nervous about taking on such a rigorous program, I know that it will challenge me in the best way possible.

Lastly, I am thankful to the Chinese Flagship for helping me along the way and challenging me to achieve greater goals.



ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Design of CHN 411 Advanced Mandarin Conversation

Developed by Prof Haidan Wang and different from general language courses, CHN 411 Advanced Mandarin Conversation really put emphasis on students' development of oral proficiency. As per the syllabus, this course has an Oral Communication Focus, and provides students the opportunity to develop their skills of conversing in Mandarin at the Advanced Level on the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) proficiency scale, or 2 to 2+ on the ACTFL/ILR (Interagency Language Roundtable) scale.

Throughout the course, students will receive training in the use of appropriate social protocols and communicative practices for a variety of living and working settings with people speaking Mandarin. The goals of this course are to provide instructions that enable students to narrate, describe, compare, and contrast in paragraph-length discourse that is coherent, complex, and engaging, as well as socially and culturally appropriate in Mandarin.

The overall learning objectives of CHN 411 are as follows:

1. be able to comprehend the spoken Chinese and satisfy routine social demands and limited work requirement.
2. develop speaking strategies and be able to converse with command of appropriate vocabulary and complex linguistic structures.
3. become familiar with the format of ACTFL (/ILR) Oral Proficiency Interview (OPIs), and able to participate in most formal and informal interactions with cohesive discourse to a certain extent.
4. be able to verbally perform at Advanced or emerging Superior level with fluency and accuracy, mostly in paragraph length.
5. be able to give and understand complicated, detailed, and extensive directions and make nonroutine changes in such situations as travel and accommodation arrangements. (Hsin-Tzu)

CHN 411 Student Feedback

"I liked brainstorming how to answer topics for the advanced/macro discussion. Talking with my classmates really helped me develop better structure for answering questions. This course helped me in speaking more fluently and elaborately." (Sydney Hirayama)

"I for sure noticed small steps of improvement. For example, I have become more confident and willing to partake in discussions. In addition, I am better at organizing my thoughts in Chinese, especially when talking about advanced and abstract topics. One of the my most significant improvements from this course is my confidence." (Kiana Kelsey)

"I think the argumentative section was the most important element. My ability to think critically in Chinese has increased exponentially. Interestingly enough, it was for a period my least favorite part of the class- likely because I found it so challenging. In the end it proved the most useful, and I will focus on refining these skills in the near future." (Michael Mullaney)

"The course will help those who want to improve their OPI scores because it goes over certain topics that the OPI covers. The class also had varying levels of Chinese speakers so we got to converse with everyone as well. Instead of just lectures, we got to interact with our classmates for group work." (Molly Wolyn)

"What helped me improve the most was participating in class, doing the homework, and getting help and advice from my classmates and teachers. The description portion was also really important in helping me improve my vocabulary and grammar." (Megan Ibara)

"I achieved my goal to improve my Chinese listening, speaking, and everyday vocabulary in CHN 411. Now I can describe different objects and processes and to hold conversations about regular topic. Since taking this class, I have become better at using Chinese in conversation with native speakers." (Monica Mau)

"I liked the activity of describing people and rooms, it was helpful in learning from the teachers and the classmates. I also enjoyed understanding how to talk abstractly. This class specifically helped in mainly speaking to a higher degree and using advanced words." (Maysa Segovia)

"This class helped me improve my speech on common topics. Other Chinese classes tend to focus more on reading comprehension, vocabulary, listening, and are usually only about the unit. This class also taught me about the structure of delivering answers and how to make responses sound dynamic." (Cara Tan)

"I liked meeting with the teachers from Taiwan the most. They provided useful feedback and it was good practice discussing advanced topics. I had a lot of practice expounding upon my ideas where I could express my thoughts verbally." (Leila Worman)

