

LT5453: THE CANTONESE LANGUAGE: PRONUNCIATION, LEXICON AND GRAMMAR

Effective Term

Semester B 2024/25

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

The Cantonese Language: Pronunciation, Lexicon and Grammar

Subject Code

LT - Linguistics and Translation

Course Number

5453

Academic Unit

Linguistics and Translation (LT)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

Other Languages

Other Languages for Medium of Instruction

English supplemented with Cantonese

Medium of Assessment

Other Languages

Other Languages for Medium of Assessment

English supplemented with Chinese

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

CTL5414 Cantonese Linguistics/ CAH5414 Cantonese Linguistics

Part II Course Details**Abstract**

This course aims to help familiarize students with the phonological, morphological, syntactic structures of Cantonese in Hong Kong. Upon completing this course, students should have a thorough understanding of the pronunciation and phonology lexicology and grammar of Cantonese and be able to conduct linguistic analyses on their own.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Recognize the major components of Cantonese linguistic structures.		x		
2	Make use of various linguistic methods in the analysis of Cantonese data.		x	x	x
3	Explain the linguistic differences between Cantonese and Modern Standard Chinese.		x	x	x
4	Describe the historical and social development of Cantonese.		x	x	
5	Conduct linguistic analyses and communicate their findings clearly.		x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	1	Lecture - learning through teaching is mainly based on lectures. - Major components of Cantonese phonology, morphology and syntax are explained. - Various methods in the analysis of Cantonese data are explained - Special emphasis is placed on the linguistic differences between Cantonese and Modern Standard Chinese. - The historical and social development of Cantonese is explained.	1, 2, 3, 4	
2	2	Tutorial - a number of tutorial groups are formed. Each group is required to make one oral presentation closely related to what they have acquired in the lectures.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
3	3	Assignment - Students have to analyse a number of Cantonese linguistic features by using the methods explained in lectures and recognized in the tutorials.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
4	4	Quiz - a close-book quiz is held in the last lesson for assessing students' abilities to express what they have learnt in the lectures and tutorials.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Assignment	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	40	
2	Quiz	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	30	
3	Tutorial performance and presentation	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	30	

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

Assignment (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Demonstrate the ability to analyse a number of Cantonese linguistic features by using linguistic methods.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent ability to analyse a number of Cantonese linguistic features by using linguistic methods.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Demonstrate good ability to analyse a number of Cantonese linguistic features by using linguistic methods.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrate adequate ability to analyse a number of Cantonese linguistic features by using linguistic methods.

Marginal

(D) Demonstrate little ability to analyse a number of Cantonese linguistic features by using linguistic methods.

Failure

(F) Demonstrate virtually no ability to analyse any number of Cantonese linguistic features by using linguistic methods.

Assessment Task

Quiz (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Demonstrate understanding of the phonological, morphological, syntactic structures of Cantonese and ability to conduct linguistic analyses.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent understanding of the phonological, morphological, syntactic structures of Cantonese and ability to conduct linguistic analyses.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Demonstrate good understanding of the phonological, morphological, syntactic structures of Cantonese and ability to conduct linguistic analyses.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrate adequate understanding of the phonological, morphological, syntactic structures of Cantonese and ability to conduct linguistic analyses.

Marginal

(D) Show little understanding of the phonological, morphological, syntactic structures of Cantonese and ability to conduct linguistic analyses.

Failure

(F) Demonstrate virtually no understanding of the phonological, morphological, syntactic structures of Cantonese and ability to conduct linguistic analyses.

Assessment Task

Tutorial performance and presentation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Demonstrate through presentation and tutorial performance the ability to analyse and critically appreciate issues in Cantonese linguistics.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate through presentation and tutorial performance excellent ability to analyse and critically appreciate issues in Cantonese linguistics.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Demonstrate through presentation and tutorial performance good ability to analyse and critically appreciate issues in Cantonese linguistics.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrate through presentation and tutorial performance adequate ability to analyse and critically appreciate issues in Cantonese linguistics.

Marginal

(D) Demonstrate through presentation and tutorial performance little ability to analyse and critically appreciate issues in Cantonese linguistics.

Failure

(F) Demonstrate through presentation and tutorial performance virtually no ability to analyse and critically appreciate issues in Cantonese linguistics.

Assessment Task

Assignment (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Demonstrate the ability to analyse a number of Cantonese linguistic features by using linguistic methods.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B) Significant

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Assessment Task

Quiz (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Demonstrate understanding of the phonological, morphological, syntactic structures of Cantonese and ability to conduct linguistic analyses.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B) Significant

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Assessment Task

Tutorial performance and presentation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Demonstrate through presentation and tutorial performance the ability to analyse and critically appreciate issues in Cantonese linguistics.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B) Significant

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Jyutping Romanization, Cantonese phonology, morphology, Cantonese lexicology syntactic structures, aspects and particles, contrastive MSC and Cantonese studies, historical and social development.

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	鄧思穎 (2015) 《粵語語法講義》 香港：商務印書館。
2	Cheung, S. H. (2007) A Grammar of Cantonese as Spoken in Hong Kong, Hong Kong: Chinese University Press.
3	李新魁等 (1995) 《廣州方言研究》 廣州：廣東人民出版社。

Additional Readings

Title	
1	李新魁 (1994) 《廣東的方言》 廣州：廣東人民出版社。
2	Matthews S., V. Yip (2011) Cantonese: A Comprehensive Grammar, (2nd Ed.) London: Routledge.
3	Bauer, R. S. (1983) Cantonese Sociolinguistic Patterns: Correlating Social Characteristics of Speakers with Phonological Variables in Hong Kong Cantonese. Ann Arbor, Mich: UMI.

4	袁家驊 (2001) 《漢語方言概要》北京:語文出版社。
5	張洪年 (2021) 《香港粵語：二百年滄桑探索》 香港：香港中文大學出版社。