

# Transilvania University of Braşov, Romania

## Study program: Chinese Language and Literature – Romanian Language and Literature

### Syllabus for ERASMUS + students

Faculty of Letters

Study period: 3 years (bachelor)

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Year

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of Credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Contemporary Chinese Language I		Chinese	4	2	2	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** Covering six semesters in three years, the Contemporary Chinese Language course is meant to offer students an in-depth approach to the historical development and modern studies of Chinese language. During their first year, keeping pace with the introductory lessons of the Practical Reader, the students will get to learn the history of Chinese writing and language standardisation process, the evolution of the tonal system as well as an overall presentation of basic word and phrase structure.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of Credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Chinese Civilization I		Chinese	3	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The course is based on lectures on both the history of Chinese civilization and on ethnographic elements on the daily culture of the Chinese people at home and abroad (such as Traditional Chinese Medicine, Qigong, martial arts, gastronomy, etc.).

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Chinese Language Practice I		Chinese	3	-	4	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** Pronunciation in Chinese. Syllables and tones. Combining syllables in words, combining tones. Word order in Chinese. The interrogative sentence. The sentence with the verb *shi*. Interrogative pronouns. The verbal predicate and the alternative affirmative-negative interrogative form. The numeral. Time and place structures. Double object verbs. The dative object. The modal verbs.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Contemporary Chinese Language II		Chinese	5	2	2	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** Covering six semesters in three years, the Contemporary Chinese Language course is meant to offer students an in-depth approach to the historical development and modern studies of Chinese language. During their first year, keeping pace with the introductory lessons of the Practical Reader, the students will get to learn the history of Chinese writing and language standardisation process, the evolution of the tonal system as well as an overall presentation of basic word and phrase structure.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Chinese Civilization II		Chinese	4	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The course is based on lectures on both the history of Chinese civilization and on ethnographic elements on the daily culture of the Chinese people at home and abroad (such as Traditional Chinese Medicine, Qigong, martial arts, gastronomy, etc).

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Chinese Language Practice II		Chinese	4	-	4	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The degree complement. The sentence with the *ba* preposition. The *jiu* and *cai* adverbs. The *de* degree structure. The comparative. The emphatic construction *shi ... de*. The progressive aspect. The perfected aspect. The concessive clause. The passive sentence. The result complement.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O1C: The image of China at Romanian travellers		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The course takes advantage of the relatively early establishing of cultural and political relationships between China and Romania, starting with Nicolae Milescu's diplomatic mission, and continuing with visits of writers, journalists and other types of Romanian travellers to China, during Communism and the post-Communist epoch.

To the extent there are written texts – and there are plenty of them – the course will analyse the image of the Chinese, of Chinese culture, briefly, the representations Romanians made about China, as well as the confrontation of the image obtained by study, and the real one, obtained through the travel.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	Project
Elective Course in Chinese O1C: Chinese Mythology		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The *Chinese Mythology* elective course aims to present to the students from the Chinese Language and Literature - Romanian / English / French / German Language and Literature Study Program an introduction to the vast mythology of China, which includes, along with the legend of the creation of the world, the heroes (Huangdi, the archer Yi etc.), mythological animals (the dragon, the tiger, the phoenix, the Qilin unicorn, the Fu lion, the Nian monster etc.), ancient Taoist and Buddhist deities.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Contemporary Chinese Language III		Chinese	8	4	2	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The second year provides a deeper research into the language structure, this time with the focus on the morphological and syntactic items such as verbs, adjectives, numerals and measure words to special phrases and their relationships, together with their modern and contemporary use. Students will acquire skills allowing them to teach entry level Chinese. The course is concentrated on theoretical explanations illustrated with numerous examples taken from different kinds of texts and examples from literature to online communication.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Chinese Literature and Culture I		Chinese	6	4	2	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** *The Chinese Literature* course, with a duration of four semesters, covers the second and third year of study and begins with the Classics and the presentation of the life and thought of Masters such as Confucius, Laozi, Mengzi and Xunzi. The students will, thus, be able to begin the study of the Chinese thought which

enables them to better understand China throughout its history up until the present times. The first stage in researching and analysing Chinese written texts will provide examples of literature as art or as historical and even scientific documents.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Chinese Language Practice III		Chinese	7	-	6	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The adverb. The *yibian ... yibian* construction. The result complements (2) and the sentence with *ba*. The *de* structural particle. The *you ... you* structure. The pivotal sentence. The *zhiyao ... jiu* structure. The reduplication. The sentence without subject. The adverb. The *yibian ... yibian* construction.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O2C: Chinese Art		Chinese	3	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The *Chinese Art (An Introduction)* elective course aims to offer the students from the Chinese Language and Literature - Romanian / English / French / German Language and Literature Study Program, a glimpse of some of the main artistic fields where Chinese people excelled throughout its millenary history and even nowadays: visual arts (calligraphy, ink painting), martial arts, performing arts (dance, Beijing Opera), the art of tea (Cha Dao), and some Chinese architectural elements. The information presented during the theoretical course is continued with practical activities during the seminar.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O2C: The Chinese in Romania		Chinese	3	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The course is being addressed to students interested in the Chinese community in Romania and also on both economic and cultural exchanges between Romania and China, from an ethnographical point of view.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O3C: Daoism: texts, concepts and legends		Chinese	3	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The course is a workshop on classical Daoist and pre-Daoist texts (Yijing, Daodejing, Zhuangzi) with a focus on fundamental concepts such as Dao, yin-yang, qi, etc., as well as on Daoist parables and myths, also in connection with the contemporary world and the trade related with Chinese cosmology: Qigong, martial arts, Chinese medicine.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O3C: Classical Chinese Texts		Chinese	3	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The course represents a practical approach to classical Chinese texts (mythology, political and war strategy, parables, aphorisms, Tang-era poetry) and includes grammatical analyses, translations and interpretations.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Contemporary Chinese Language IV		Chinese	8	4	2	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The second year provides a deeper research into the language structure, this time with the focus on the morphological and syntactic items such as verbs, adjectives, numerals and measure words to special phrases and their relationships, together with their modern and contemporary use. Students will acquire skills allowing them to teach entry level Chinese. The course is concentrated on theoretical explanations illustrated with numerous examples taken from different kinds of texts and examples from literature to online communication.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Chinese Literature and Culture II		Chinese	6	4	2	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** *The Chinese Literature* course, with a duration of four semesters, covers the second and third year of study and begins with the Classics and the presentation of the life and thought of Masters such as Confucius, Laozi, Mengzi and Xunzi. The students will, thus, be able to begin the study of the Chinese thought which enables them to better understand China throughout its history up until the present times. The first stage in researching and analysing Chinese written texts will provide examples of literature as art or as historical and even scientific documents.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Chinese Language Practice IV		Chinese	7	-	6	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The fraction, the percentage. The *yi... ye/doubu* structure. The extensive use of the *qilai* structure and of the direction elements developed. The *zai* and *you* adverbs. Double negation. Reduplication of verbs and adverbs. The complex sentence (1).

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O4C: Classical Chinese Literature in Romanian Translation		Chinese	3	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The course places itself at the crossroad of comparative literature, cultural studies, and literary translation studies. During the lectures and in the class-work, there will be discussed a series of issues connected with various aspects of literary translation theories, with their practical impact on the translated texts, as well as the possibility of translating cultural differences, or problems connected to the circulation of the works and their possible influence, and the situation of the classical literary canon, when caught at the contact point of two cultures.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O4C: Translation Issues of Contemporary Chinese Literature		Chinese	3	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** Translating literary works by contemporary Chinese writers is generally considered a much easier task than translating the works of classical writers. However, the prose of contemporary Chinese writers is most often sprinkled with fragments of classic texts, poems, slogans or other historical and literary references, but also elements specific to certain areas or ethnicities that require the translator to have a very wide cultural coverage. In this sense, the course proposes to students a series of texts that the Romanian translator is faced with nowadays for analysis and interpretation, we will also inventory the range of solutions for solving some difficult situations that

arise in translation, while considering the possibility of inviting some well-known translators to a series of discussions with students about their experience.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O5C: Confucianism in the Sino-Japanese-Korean Space		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The first part of the course offers a presentation of the fundamental elements of the Confucian tradition as they emerged in the Chinese space between the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC. and 12<sup>th</sup> century AD. Then we will trace the adoption and adaptation of Confucian concepts in Korea and Japan in conjunction with Buddhism. In the second part of the course, we will focus on the Confucian elements existing in contemporary society in the Sino-Japanese-Korean space and their forms of manifestation, both within family relationships, within corporate culture and also in popular culture.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O5C: Daoism: history, community and practice		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The course contains a series of lectures on the history of Daoism from school of thought to religion, on the development of Daoist communities and their relationship with the political power, as well as on Daoist practices, such Alchemy (Neidan).

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Contemporary Chinese Language V		Chinese	4	2	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The third year takes the study to the level of phrase structure patterns, semantic and vocabulary analysis and communication strategies and aims at helping the students conduct their own research, by introducing them to the specialised literatures and encouraging them to construct their own point of view. This course is also useful in accompanying students who also take their first steps in reading Chinese literature and to acquire the necessary skills in translation as well as to gather the vocabulary needed in order to communicate their scientific reviews concerning theoretical problems in Chinese linguistics.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Chinese Literature III		Chinese	4	2	-	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The second stage, which constitutes the topics approached during the third year, concentrates on the history of modern and contemporary literature which are an integral part of the Chinese cultural and even political development. Writers and social activists such as Lu Xun, Mao Dun, Lao She, Hu Shi, Chen Duxiu as well as Mo Yan, Yan Lianke and so on, both in original or contemporary translations, will be studied in detail with the involvement of the students in analysing the literary trends and the role of literature in shaping the Chinese thought.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Chinese Language Practice V		Chinese	4	-	4	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The complex sentence (2). The double interrogation. Modal particles. Prepositional phrases. Vocabulary exercises. Journalistic text translations.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O6C: Social Media in Contemporary China		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** In contemporary China, despite the massive reliance on the Internet in everyday life, information is subject to increasingly strict censorship. In the case of social networks, following the precedent set by the "Arab Spring" (2010), the expression and circulation of opinion is intensively supervised by an increasingly complex apparatus, generating very interesting reactions among users. These reactions will be discussed and analysed together with the students, looking primarily at how the Chinese language can be distorted in order to evade censorship but also the standard formulas used in state propaganda.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O6C: Confucianism and common cultural identity in the Sino-Japanese-Korean space		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** Introduction to Neo-Confucianism: diachronic perspective from Song China to Joseon Korea. Constitution of Chinese Confucian Orthodoxy canon – the thinkers' works Zhou Dun I, Cheng Hao, Cheng Yi. Zhu Xi Scholar and Confucian synthesis from Song. Taking over the Neo-Confucian paradigm in Joseon Korea in the works of Yi Hwang and Yi I scholars. Echoes of Confucianism in Japan: Fujiwara Seika, Hayashi Razan, Yamazaki Ansai.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O7C: Translation and Cultural Dialogue		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** This elective course introduces students to key theoretical aspects of translation, essential for developing practical skills as cultural mediators. It explores how translation functions as an encounter with alterity—particularly the Orient and Chinese civilization. Topics include modern translation theories, differing conceptual frameworks in Chinese and Western cultures, the Chinese exegetical tradition, the Chinese conceptual/scriptural model and its influence across East Asia, as well as major aspects of how Chinese civilization has been received in the West.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O7C: The Circulation of Concepts in Chinese Culture		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** This elective course examines how ideas circulate between distinct cultural spaces such as the West and the Chinese world. After introducing key theoretical frameworks—hermeneutics, translation theory, and Begriffsgeschichte—the course compares Chinese and Western modes of conceptualization. It analyzes how fundamental Western and other non-Chinese concepts entered and were adapted within Chinese culture, and how key Daoist concepts, in turn, were received in the West.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Contemporary Chinese Language VI		Chinese	4	2	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The growth of Chinese presence on international market causes the good command of Chinese language to become a sought competence among employees. Wider cultural relationships formed with China as well as interest in tourism are connected with growing demand for people with good knowledge of Chinese. Acquired competences will allow graduates to become employed at Chinese companies operating on European market as well as at Romanian and European companies working with Chinese partners.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Chinese Literature IV		Chinese	4	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** In both years, students will have to follow the latest interviews and studies published within the most important specialised journals and to be able to select and integrate the most relevant information. The bibliography for this course is subject to continuous update but is also grounded on monumental studies such as those authored by Anne Cheng, Kirk Denton, Lau & Goldblatt, Peng Yuan-chi and so on.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Chinese Language Practice VI		Chinese	2	-	4	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** The complex sentence (4). Connectors. Vocabulary exercises. Retroversion. Composition. Journalistic text translations.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O8C: Translation of Fundamental Texts		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** This elective course is intended for students in their final semester of study, and the knowledge of grammar and vocabulary acquired up to this point will allow them to deepen their knowledge of classical Chinese and advanced translation skills by working on texts from ancient China, in particular fundamental Daoist and Confucian texts. The course is also useful for students who choose a topic related to this type of literature for their bachelor's thesis.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O8C: The History and Practice of Translation in China		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** This elective course provides an overview of the history of translating major foreign texts into Chinese. It begins with foundational theories of translation and hermeneutics, emphasizing cultural encounters between East and West. The course then traces key stages in China's translation history, focusing on the foundational texts of Buddhism (sutra translations), Christianity (Nestorian texts, Jesuit missions, Bible translation), and Islam (Confucian Muslim writings). It also examines the translation of core Chinese texts into Western languages, particularly Daoist works such as the Laozi, Zhuangzi, and Liezi, and the concepts Dao and qi.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O9C: Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language: Comparative Methods		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** Teaching Chinese involves an all-round approach, given that writing, character recognition and pronunciation must be studied simultaneously. Most existing textbooks come from China, being compiled based on the vast experience of teaching foreign students, but based on methods perfected in the English-speaking world. The first stage of the course aims to study the various methods used in the compilation of these textbooks. On the other hand, the pace of development of a wide range of applications and online courses, also enhanced by the evolution of artificial intelligence, makes this study of experimental methods of teaching and learning Chinese acquire new values from one day to the next. For this reason, the research related to this course takes into account both the methods used by Chinese trainers, at the level of textbooks and courses that can be studied both through the book offer of the Confucius Institute or based on online resources, as well as the increasingly numerous applications that respond to the growing number of Chinese language enthusiasts. In addition, third-year students can correlate the study of Chinese language didactics with the pedagogical module they follow within the undergraduate study program.

Course title	Code	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course in Chinese O9C: Contemporary Chinese Literature in Translation		Chinese	2	1	1	-	-

**Course description (Syllabus):** Since the 1980s, Chinese literature has emerged from a dark period, characterized by Maoist rigors but especially by isolation, seeking to take its place in the world literary dialogue. This is how Chinese avant-garde writers have become aware of the universal value of their own literature and of their role as ambassadors of Chinese culture. In Romania, in recent decades, the works of these writers have been translated in large numbers, directly from the Chinese language, by sinologists involved in Romanian-Chinese cultural mediation. Each translation has come with its own challenges, and each translator has come with his own approach. This course aims to discuss exactly these elements, namely to confront the original Chinese text with the way in which the translators made their linguistic choices and, possibly, to find techniques and ways to overcome the linguistic challenges, offering students some directions for a possible career as a literary translator. Being aimed at third-year students, the optional course contributes with new perspectives to the study of literary works that are part of the bibliography related to the mandatory course Chinese Literature IV.