

National Tsing Hua University
 中高級選讀英文_新聞英文 Journalistic English
 Fall 2019



Course Information

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|---|------------------|-------------------|
| Course Number | LANG 2000 _____ | Credits | 2 | Classroom | 請查閱校務資訊系統的課程資訊後填入 |
| Class Hours | <input type="checkbox"/> Monday <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1:20P.M. – 3:10P.M. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:30P.M. – 5:20P.M. <input type="checkbox"/> _____ P.M. – _____ P.M. | | | | |
| Course Type | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EGP (English for general purposes) <input type="checkbox"/> EAP (English for academic purposes) <input type="checkbox"/> EOP (English for occupational purposes) | | | | |
| Language Level | <input type="checkbox"/> B1 (中級) <input type="checkbox"/> B1-B2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B2 (中高級) <input type="checkbox"/> B2+ <input type="checkbox"/> C1 | | | | |
| Core Ability | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> comprehension/reception <input type="checkbox"/> communication/interaction <input type="checkbox"/> production | | | | |
| 可選課學生身分別 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 頂標生 <input type="checkbox"/> 前標生 <input type="checkbox"/> 中級生 <input type="checkbox"/> 初級生 | | | | |
| Prerequisites | 本校必修英語課程 | | | | |



Instructor & Contact Information

| Name | Email | Office & Tel | Office Hour |
|------|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 劉文貞 | wenchenl2013@gmail.com | 綜二 210 | Friday 1:30-3:30 pm |



Course Aims / Description

1. Primary aim

This course is designed to equip students with abilities to read English newspapers, to understand radio and TV news broadcasts and to express personal opinions on news and current issues in English. The teaching aims at stimulating students' interest, enriching their vocabulary in journalistic English and building up their background knowledge relating to different news topics in politics, social issues, finance, technology, medicine, environment, humanities, arts, leisure and sports, etc. through extensive exposure to reading news articles or listening to news broadcasts. When successfully completing the course, students will be able to:

- i. understand the structure and characteristics of news writing
- ii. extend and consolidate their vocabulary and reading ability in different fields
- iii. comprehend news broadcasts on the radio or on TV
- iv. appreciate the satires, humor and metaphors used in news reports
- v. be more familiar with the historical or cultural background information of current affairs
- vi. develop critical thinking ability, discuss with others and express their own opinions on current issues

2. Subsidiary aim

Students will develop habits of reading, listening to, or watch news reports on a regular basis.

3. Corresponding CEFR Can-do statements

- Can-do statement #1 can understand most radio documentaries delivered in standard language and can identify the speaker's mood, tone etc.
- Can-do statement #2 can use a variety of strategies to achieve comprehension, including listening for main points; checking comprehension by using contextual clues.
- Can-do statement #3 can rapidly grasp the content and the significance of news, articles and reports on topics connected with my interests or my job, and decide if a closer reading is worthwhile.
- Can-do statement #4 can read reviews dealing with the content and criticism of cultural topics (films, theatre, books, concerts) and summarise the main points.
- Can-do statement #5 can generally correct slips and errors if I become aware of them or if they have led to misunderstandings.
- Can-do statement #6 have sufficient vocabulary to express myself on matters connected to my field and on most general topics.



University Student Core Competency Indicators 英文核心能力指標

| No. | Core Competency Indicators | % |
|-----|---|----|
| 1. | 英語溝通與表達能力 (ability to communicate and express oneself in English) | 20 |
| 2. | 深度分析與組織思考的能力 (ability to think critically and organize ideas logically in English) | 25 |
| 3. | 英語學習策略與技巧 (knowledge of English learning strategies and techniques) | 20 |
| 4. | 對英語與多元文化的國際視野 (global views of English and multicultural diversity) | 25 |
| 5. | 善用英語學習資源，培養獨立學習英語的習慣與能力 (ability to use existing English learning resources and development of independent self-learning habit) | 10 |



Teaching materials and References

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Textbook(s) | <u>自編教材</u> <u>News articles from The New York Times, The Washington Post, The China Post, Taipei Times, etc.</u> <u>News broadcasts from CNN, BBC, FOX News, ICRT and FTV English edition, etc.</u> CEFR Scale <input type="checkbox"/> B1 <input type="checkbox"/> B1-B2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B2 <input type="checkbox"/> B2+ <input type="checkbox"/> C1 |
|-------------|---|





Grading Scheme (建議至少包含 4 項評量項目，其中包含出席與期末評量)

| No. Grading | % |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Attendance and participation | 10 |
| 2. Final Exam | 25 |
| 出缺席 (10%-20%) 與期末評量 (20%-30%) 為必要項目。 | |
| 3. News Article Presentation | 15 |
| 4. Quizzes | 15 |
| 5. Midterm Exam | 25 |
| 6. Assignments | 10 |



Class Participation/ Attendance

Students are expected to attend each class punctually and actively participate in pair, group and class discussions. When not being able to come to class, students have to inform the teacher in advance and provide valid proof **within two weeks**. Students' attendance, punctuality, and class participation will be recorded for evaluation.

Attendance Policy

- starting point: 5 (起始點: 5 分)
- lateness: -2 (遲到: 2 分)
- absence: -5 (缺席: 5 分)
- dozing off: -1 (打瞌睡: 1 分)

The starting point is 5. Each late arrival will cost you 2 points, and absence, 5 points. The accumulation does not stop at 0 or 10 points but has an upper limit when the score reaches 15. In other words, a negative attendance score will be carried over to influence your semester grade, but a strong positive attendance score will give you 5 extra points to your semester grade.

(出席成績從 5 分開始計算：每次遲到扣 2 分，缺席扣 5 分，打瞌睡扣 1 分。分數累積上限是 15 分，沒有下限。換言之，出席成績是負分時，會併入學期成績計算：若達 15 分，則學期成績有 5 分的額外加分。)

All these seemingly complicated and trivial attendance and class participation score calculations are to encourage you to speak more English and participate more in class. The more you are involved in each class, the more harvest you'll reap from this course.

Quizzes

Three quizzes, as scheduled in the course outline, will test students on the vocabulary and the content of the news articles presented by fellow students in class. Before students' news presentations, pop quizzes may be held and will account for 1/4 of the 15 percent.

News Article Presentation

Each student has to sign up for a news section (i.e. international news, national news, or opinion, etc.) to present a news article in class. The presented article has to be printed out, copied and distributed to the class **one week before the presentation day**. The presenter has to meet with the teacher **twice as early as two weeks ahead** to report on his progress. (Please see Appendices I and II.)

Midterm and Final Exams

The midterm and final exams will test students on vocabulary, news conventions and comprehension of news articles and news broadcasts.

Teaching Activities

X Lectures 口頭講授 X Pair/Group discussion 配對／分組討論 X Assignments 作業
 X Student presentations 學生報告 X Quizzes 小考 □ Projects 專題

Classroom Languages

English 80 %
 Mandarin 20 %

Course Outline:

| Week | News Sections | Key Issues | News Conventions Reading/Listening Strategies | Class Activities | Assignments |
|------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1 | | ➤ Why English News? | Overview of the Newspaper | Introduction /Syllabus /Diagnostic Test | |
| 2 | International News | ➤ 2020 US Presidential Election | Understanding Headlines Headline Vocabulary | Lecture/ Group Work | Converting sentences into headlines & vice versa |
| 3 | International News | ➤ The Denuclearization of North Korea | The Inverted Pyramid The Lead | Lecture/Group Work | Preparing the latest International news (to share in week 4) |
| 4 | International News | ➤ The Middle East Conflicts | Accuracy, Brevity & Clarity How to | Lecture/ Group Work/ News Sharing/ Watching News | Preparing the latest International news (to share |

| | | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|---|---|--|
| | | | Understand News Broadcasts | Clilps | in week 5) |
| 5 | International News | ➤ Migrant Crisis | News Agencies | Lecture/ Group Work/ News Sharing | Preparing the latest International news (to share in week 6) |
| 6 | International News | ➤ Resurgence of Anti-Semitism in Europe | Word Choice & Journalese | Lecture/ Discussion/ News Sharing/ News Presentation | Preparing the latest national news (to share in week 7) |
| 7 | National News | ➤ Taiwan's New Southbound Policy | ICRT News On the Hour & EZ News | Lecture/ Discussion/ News Sharing/ Listening to News Broadcasts | Preparing the latest national news (to share it in week 8) |
| 8 | National News | ➤ The Han Kuo-Yu Phenomenon | FTV English Edition | Lecture/ Discussion/ News Sharing/ News Presentation/ Watching News Clips | |
| 9 | Midterm Exam | | | | |
| 10 | Opinion | | News or Opinion (Objective vs Subjective) Political Slant Editorial Satire & Humor in News Reports | Lecture/ Group Work/ Analysis | Analyzing an Op-Ed Article |
| 11 | Opinion | | Letter to the Editor A Picture is Worth a | Lecture/ Group Work/ Analysis /News Presentation | Analyzing a Political Cartoon |

| | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| | | | Thousand Words: Political Cartoon | | |
| 12 | Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ US-China Trade War ➤ FED Rate Hikes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of Biz Articles | Lecture/ Group Work/ Watching News Clips | Preparing the latest biz news story to share in week 13 |
| 13 | Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brexit: Deal or No Deal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recession, Bonds, Stocks, Bull & Bear? (Common Business Terminology in the News) | Lecture/ Group Work/ News Presentation | |
| 14 | Health, Science & Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gene Editing for 'Designer Babies'? ➤ Social Media and Privacy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abbreviations & Clippings | Lecture/ Discussion/ Group Work/ Watching News Clips | |
| 15 | Health, Science & Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Disinformation ➤ Ethics Challenges for AI ➤ Global Warming and Extreme Weather | | Lecture/ Discussion/ Group Work/ News Presentation | |
| 16 | Arts & Leisure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dance ➤ Music ➤ Theater ➤ Book & Movie Reviews | | Lecture/ Discussion/ Watching News Clips | |
| 17 | Sports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tennis Grand Slam ➤ NFL American Super Bowl ➤ NBA Basketball ➤ FIFA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Terminology Sports Idioms & Metaphors | Lecture/ Group Work/ Watching News Clips | |
| 18 | Final Exam | | | | |

Appendix I

News Article Presentation

Each student has to sign up for a news section (i.e. international news, national news, or opinion, etc.) to present a news article in class. The presented article has to be printed out, copied and distributed to the class **one week before the presentation day**. The presenter has to meet with the teacher **twice as early as two weeks ahead** to report on his progress. The evaluation begins at the first meeting, so please read the following guidelines carefully.

I. Before the First Meeting

- a) Choose an article that belongs to the news section you've signed up for and email it to me.
- b) How to choose an article

Please choose your news article from the following sources:

- i. newspapers: two English newspapers published in Taiwan (The China Post, Taipei Times), newspapers circulated in the U.S. (ex: The New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Post, USA Today, etc.), newspapers circulated in the UK (ex: The Times, The Mirror, etc.) and the International New York Times.
- ii. news agencies: AP, Reuters, CNA, etc.
 - If you have other preferences, please come to discuss your choices with me.
- c) The article you choose should be posted after the first day of this semester, Sep _10th __.
 - Since you are taking this course, make it a habit to browse through English newspapers or watch the news regularly—I wanted to say 'every day.'
- d) Remember to choose an article from the section you have signed up for.
- e) When you email me the article, please give me the link to the webpage instead of an attachment.
- f) Don't wait until the last minute to email me.
- g) After we finalize the article, please don't change your mind but stick to the one you have chosen.

II. The First Meeting

- a) The first meeting is a short one and it is during the break of our class two weeks before your presentation day.
- b) By the first meeting, if you haven't finalized your article to present, do bring the hard copy of the article you've picked (with its web link printed) to meet with me that day.
- c) Please come to make an appointment with me for the second meeting.

III. One Week Before Your Presentation

- a) Please make copies of the article and distribute them to the class one week before your presentation.
- b) When making the original copy, please just click on the 'print' button on the webpage, and

the format you get is exactly the one you should have, which includes the date, and the names of the newspaper, news agency, or journalist. DO NOT COPY IT TO 'WORD' AND MAKE ANY CHANGE TO ITS LAYOUT, INCLUDING NUMBERING THE PARAGRAPHS OR HIGHLIGHTING THE VOCAB WORDS. I hope your classmates can read truly authentic news articles.

c) Before you distribute the copies, let me take a look at them. Thanks.

IV. The Second Meeting

a) Write **subtitles** on the hard copy of your article: Group the paragraphs and give each group of paragraphs a subtitle.

b) **Please bring a hard copy of your article and vocabulary list.**

c) The vocabulary list is different from 'word sharing.' There should be around 15 or more vocabulary words on the list, depending on the length and difficulty level of the article you chose.

d) Vocabulary List

i. For the presentation, you have to make a vocabulary list of the words you don't know from this article. Each entry on the vocabulary list should include the word, its part of speech, (i.e. noun, verb, or adjective, etc.) the English definition used in the article and an example sentence.

ii. Please number your vocabulary words.

iii. If you can't find a word's example sentence from dictionaries, you can use the sentence from your article. **Please do not make your own sentence.**

iv. When making the vocabulary list, use the following two dictionaries to look up definitions and example sentences:

1. **Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English**

(on-line version: <http://www.ldoceonline.com/dictionary/epidemic>)

2. **TheFreeDictionary**

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/innumerable>

■ **Note: Please consult 'Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English' first. The definitions I give you in class are mostly from this dictionary because its definitions are easier to be understood and memorized.** If you cannot find a suitable definition in Longman, then try the second option, TheFreeDictionary.

e) Number all the paragraphs in your article, group them, and give each group of paragraphs an English subtitle.

f) During the meeting, take notes of some necessary revisions.

g) **Have your summary, word sharing, and response to the article ready. Print them out.**

h) Ask questions if you have any about the article. (You'll regret it if you don't do so...)

i) Be on time for the meeting.

V. After the Second Meeting

- a) Please make the necessary revisions to your vocabulary list, summary or word sharing, if there are any.
- b) Don't email me the revised vocab list. I'll leave the responsibility to you of the revision and proof-reading work. But if you have trouble finding a suitable definition for a word, you are welcome to ask.
- c) Please rehearse your speech.

VI. On the Presentation Day

a) Content of the Presentation

The content of the presentation should include:

- 1) News summary: summarize the news story
(A tip for summarizing a news article is to list some key words first. Then, organize the key words/main ideas with your own logic and with your own words.)
- 2) Vocabulary word sharing: choose 2 to 3 new words you have learned from the article and explain why the words have left a deep impression on you. You may also share a sentence that you find interesting in the article if time permits.
- 3) Your response to the news story: Tell the audience your thoughts after reading the article.

b) Time Limit

The time limit for the individual presentation is 7 minutes. The suggested time allocation is as follows:

- news summary: 3 minutes
- vocabulary words/ interesting sentences: 2 minutes
- personal response to the news story: 2 minutes
- questions from your classmates: 1minute
- questions from the teacher: 1 minute

Once the time is up, the speaker has to stop immediately whether s/he finishes the presentation or not.

c) Written Report

1. Please type a written report of your presentation, which includes the article summary, word sharing, and your reaction to the article, and give it to the teacher before your presentation on the presentation day.

d) Moodle

After your presentation, please post your article link and vocabulary list on Moodle so that your classmates still have access to them if they miss classes.

Appendix II

Rubric for News Article Presentation

| Category | Description | Point Value |
|--|---|-------------|
| Volume, Articulation, & Pronunciation | Speaks loudly and clearly/ articulates his/her words/ uses correct pronunciation | 20 |
| Preparation | Has met with the teacher twice on time/ prepares the news article, a detailed vocabulary list, summary and personal response when meeting with the teacher/ group paragraphs and give subtitles/ ready to discuss with the teacher in the second meeting/ ready to discuss with the teacher in the second meeting/ answers questions from both the students and the teacher confidently and correctly during the presentation/ distributes the copies of the article and vocabulary list on time/ hands in the written report on time | 20 |
| Delivery | No long pauses/ well-organized/ adopts a proper speed, intonation, and suitable pauses/ has enough eye contact/ doesn't read notes/ has good time control | 20 |
| Content | Summary: includes the key points Word sharing: explain the reason for choosing the words Response: meaningful reflection | 20 |
| Vocabulary List & Written Report | Vocabulary list: includes all important new words/ chooses correct meanings used in the article/ few errors/ a complete list Written report: typed/ few grammatical errors ● Both revised according to the second meeting | 20 |
| Total | | 100 |