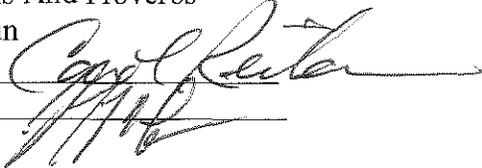


City College of San Francisco
Course Outline of Record

I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A. Date	January 2015
B. Department	Foreign Languages
C. Course Number	CHIN 36
D. Course Title	Chinese Idioms And Proverbs
E. Course Outline Preparer	Doris Sze Chun
F. Department Chairperson	Carol Reitan 
G. Dean	Jeffrey Lamb 

II. COURSE SPECIFICS

A. Hours	Lecture – 3 (52.5 total)
B. Units	3
C. Prerequisites	Completion of CHIN 14A or CHIN 14B or CHIN 14C OR CHIN 31A or CHIN 31B, or demonstration of equivalent language skills
Corequisites	None
Advisories	Recommended for students who have oral fluency in at least one Chinese regional language including Mandarin and an intermediate high reading and writing comprehension in Chinese
D. Course Justification	This course provides a capstone Chinese grammar and its relationship to Chinese culture for heritage learners.
E. Field Trips	No
F. Method of Grading	Letter, Pass/No Pass
G. Repeatability	0

III. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

An in depth study of Chinese idioms and proverbs, which are closely linked with Chinese mythology, history, literature, philosophy and moral teaching. They are still commonly used in vernacular Chinese writing and in the spoken language today. The course is designed for heritage learners.

IV. MAJOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

- Use the commonly used Chinese idioms (成語 *chéngyǔ*) and proverbs (諺語 *yànyǔ*) in speech and writing.
- Discuss, with examples, various topics related to traditional Chinese culture, values, teachings, and moral lessons embedded in the Chinese idioms and proverbs.
- Compare and contrast contemporary and traditional social values conveyed through Chinese idioms, proverbs, and common sayings.
- Compare and contrast, with examples, Chinese proverbs and common sayings and Western idioms and common sayings.

- E. Research the mythology, story or historical fact from which some of the Chinese idioms and proverbs were derived.

V. CONTENT

A. Commonly used Chinese idioms (成語 *chéngyǔ*) in speech and writing:

1. 精衛填海 *Jīng wèi tián hǎi* – Jingwei filling the sea
2. 狐假虎威 *Hújiǎhǔwēi* – The fox stole the tiger's power
3. 黔驢技窮 *Qiánlújìqióng* – The donkey from Qian ran out its tricks
4. 老馬識途 *Lǎo mǎshítú* – An old horse knows the way home
5. 坐井觀天 *Zuòjǐngguāntiān* – Looking at the sky from the well
6. 塞翁失馬 *Sàiwēngshīmǎ* – The old man of the frontier lost his horse
7. 亡羊補牢 *Wángyángbǔláo* – Mending the sheepfold after missing a sheep
8. 畫龍點睛 *Huàlóngdiǎnjīng* – Dotting the eyes of a painted dragon
9. 一鳴驚人 *Yīmíngjīngrén* – Shocking the world with one loud cry
10. 一箭雙雕 *Yījiànshuāngdiāo* – One arrow two birds
11. 兩敗俱傷 *Liǎngbàijùshāng* – Both sides lose
12. 守株待兔 *Shǒuzhūdàitù* – Waiting for a rabbit by a tree
13. 畫蛇添足 *Huàshétiānzú* – Adding legs to a snake
14. 囫圇吞棗 *Húluntūnzǎo* – Swallowing a whole date
15. 刻舟求劍 *Kèzhōuqiújiàn* – Mark the Boat for the sword lost in the river
16. 此地無銀 *Cǐdìwúyín* – Here no silver is buried
17. 濫竽充數 *Lànyúchōngshù* – The man who pretended to be a musician
18. 胸有成竹 *Xiōngyǒuchéngzhú* – Knowing one's bamboos by heart
19. 熟能生巧 *Shúnéngshēngqiǎo* – Practice makes perfect
20. 望梅止渴 *Wàngméizhǐkě* – Satisfying one's thirst by imagining plums
21. 名落孫山 *Míngluòsūnshān* – One's name just below Sun Shan's
22. 一字千金 *Yīzìqiānjīn* – One word worth a thousand pieces of gold
23. 入木三分 *Rùmùsānfēn* – Three tenths of inch into the wood
24. 千金買鄰 *Qiānjīnmǎilín* – A good neighbor is priceless
25. 半途而廢 *Bàntú'érfèi* – Leaving something half finished
26. 臨渴掘井 *Línkějuéjǐng* – Digging a well only when thirsty
27. 紙上談兵 *Zhǐshàngtánbīng* – Talking about military strategies on paper
28. 毛遂自薦 *Máosuìzìjiàn* – Mao Sui recommended himself
29. 四面楚歌 *Sìmiànchǔgē* – Songs of Chu from all sides
30. 八仙過海 *Bāxiānguòhǎi* – Eight immortals crossing the sea
31. 愚公移山 *Yúgōngyíshān* – The Old man moved a mountain
32. 舉一反三 *Jǔyīfǎnsān* – learn one and get three
33. 破釜沉舟 *Pòfǔchénzhōu* – Break the woks, sink the boats
34. 東施效顰 *Dōngshīxiàopín* – Dong Shi imitates her sister's frown
35. 兔死狗烹 *Tùsǐgǒupēng* – Cooking the hounds once the hare are caught
36. 班門弄斧 *Bānménnòngfǔ* – Flaunting one's proficiency
37. 負荊請罪 *Fùjīngqǐngzuì* – Carrying a rod to ask for punishment

38. 螳螂捕蟬 *Tánghángbǔchán* – The mantis seizes the cicada
39. 門可羅雀 *Ménkěluóquè* – Catching sparrows near a doorstep
40. 覆水難收 *Fùshuǐnánshōu* – Spilt water cannot be gathered
41. 煮豆燃萁 *Zhǔdòuránqí* – Building a fire of beanstalks for boiling beans
42. 樂不思蜀 *Lèbùsīshǔ* – Too happy to think of Shu
43. 勢如破竹 *Shìrúpòzhú* – Like a knife splitting bamboo
44. 洛陽紙貴 *Luòyángzhǐguì* – Paper in Lo-yang becomes expensive
45. 枕戈待旦 *Zhěngēdàidàn* – Resting upon one's spear and wait for daybreak
46. 杯弓蛇影 *Bēigōngshéyǐng* – Mistaking a bow's reflection for a snake
47. 草木皆兵 *Cǎomùjiēbīng* – Every bush as an enemy soldier
48. 破鏡重圓 *Pòjìngchóngyuán* – Broken mirror reassembled

B. Chinese proverbs and common sayings may include:

1. 廣交友，無深交 *guǎngjiāo yǒu, wúshēnjiāo* – A friend to everybody is a friend to nobody
2. 活到老，學到老 *huó dào lǎo, xué dào lǎo* – Live to the old age, learn to the old age
3. 一寸光陰一寸金，寸金難買寸光陰 *yícùn guāngyīn yícùnjīn, cùnjīn nán mǎi cùn guāngyīn* – Time is money, and it is difficult for one to use money to get time.
4. 失敗是成功之母 *Shībài shì chénggōng zhī mǔ* – Failure is mother of success.
5. 嚴師出高徒 *Yán shī chū gāo tú* – Good pupils are to be brought up by strict teachers.
6. 十年樹木，百年樹人 *Shí nián shù mù, bǎi nián shù rén* – It takes ten years to grow trees but a hundred years to rear people.
7. 只要功夫深，鐵杵磨成針 *Zhǐ yào gōng fū shēn, tiě chǔ mó chéng zhēn* – If you work hard enough at it, you can grind even an iron rod down to a needle.

C. Topics related to traditional Chinese culture, values, teachings, and moral lessons imbedded in the Chinese idioms and proverbs

1. Teachers and learning
2. Family and kinship
3. Patience and perseverance
4. Humility and contentment
5. Correct speech and behavior
6. Morality
7. Money and value
8. Age, aging and mortality
9. Conformity – for the benefit of the group
10. Friends and friendship
11. Fate
12. Animal metaphors

D. Traditional social values conveyed through Chinese idioms, proverbs, and common sayings with that of contemporary society affected by the changing economy and technology:

1. Teachers and learning
 2. Family and kinship
 3. Correct speech and behavior
 4. Morality
 5. Money and value
 6. Age, aging and mortality
- E. Chinese proverbs and common sayings compared to Western idioms and common sayings
1. 小洞不補，大洞吃苦 *xiǎo dòng bù bǔ, dà dòng chī kǔ* - small hole not mended in time will become a big hole much more difficult to mend. (Destroy the seed of evil, or it will grow up to your ruin.)
 2. 人算不如天算 *Rén suàn bùrú tiān suàn* - Man's schemes are inferior to those made by heaven. (Man proposes and God disposes.)
 3. 死馬當活馬醫 *Sǐ mǎ dāng huó mǎ yī* - Try to save the dead horse as if it is still alive. (Do the impossible, for it may truly be possible.)
 4. 三個和尚沒水喝 *Sān gè héshàng méi shuǐ hē* - Three monks have no water to drink. (Too many cooks spoil the broth.)
 5. 師傅領進門，修行在個人 *Shī fu lǐng jìn mén, xiū xíng zài gè rén* - Teachers open the door. You enter by yourself. (You can lead the horse to the water, but you can't make it drink.)
 6. 授人以魚不如授之以漁 *Shòu rén yǐ yú bùrú shòu zhī yǐ yú* - Teach a man to take a fish is not equal to teach a man how to fish. Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.
 7. 水能載舟，亦能覆舟 *Shuǐ néng zài zhōu, yì néng fù zhōu* - Not only can water float a boat, it can sink it also. (A double-edged sword.)
 8. 天高皇帝遠 *Tiān gāo huángdì yuǎn* - The sky is big and the emperor is far away. (When the cat is away, the mice will play.)
 9. 有錢能使鬼推磨 *Yǒu qián néng shǐ guǐ tuī mò* - If you have money you can make the devil push your grind stone. (Money opens all gates.)
 10. 身正不怕影子斜 *Shēn zhèng bú pà yǐng zi xié* - When the body is straight, the shadow would not be crooked. (A straight foot is not afraid of a crooked shoe.)
 11. 水滴石穿，繩鋸木斷 *Shuǐ dī shí chuān, shéng jù mù duàn* - Dripping water pierces a stone; a saw made of rope cuts through wood. (Patience and persistence can break through anything, no matter how great the difficulty.)
 12. 入鄉隨俗 *Rù xiāng suí sú* - When visiting a new place, follow the custom of the place. (When you are in Rome, do as the Romans do.)
 13. 吃得苦中苦，方為人上人 *Chī dé kǔ zhōng kǔ, fāng wéi rén shàng rén* - Only when one experienced the extreme challenges, he can rise above others. (No pains, no gains.)

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

A. Assignments

1. In-class Assignments
 - a. Discuss the use of Chinese idioms and proverbs in speech and writing
 - b. Individual or small group presentations on the mythology, history, or

- story associated with Chinese idioms and proverbs
 - c. Discuss the significance, teaching, or moral lessons conveyed through the Chinese idioms and proverbs
 - d. Compare and contrast the traditional social values conveyed through Chinese idioms and proverbs with that of contemporary society
 - e. Compare and contrast, by giving examples, Chinese idioms and proverbs, with similar phrases known in the West
 - f. Question and answer exercises
 - g. Group discussions
 - 2. Out-of-class Assignments
 - a. Reading assignments with questions and answers
 - b. Write sentences or paragraphs using given Chinese idioms and proverbs
 - c. Research the mythology, story or historical fact from which some of the Chinese idioms and proverbs were derived – to be shared in class and prepared in a written report.
 - d. Final written report in Chinese on topics such as choose one Chinese idiom and one Chinese proverb that are not discussed in class. Research the mythology, story or historical fact from which some of the Chinese idioms and proverbs were derived. Discuss the elements of Chinese culture in the content. Compare and contrast the cultural significance in the Chinese idiom and proverb with that of the West
- B. Evaluation
 - 1. Consistent and active classroom participation, including class preparation and readiness
 - 2. Completion of written and oral assignments on time
 - 3. Written tests: Tests for the understanding and correct usage of Chinese idioms and proverbs. The tests may include questions and answers in Chinese, making sentences, and translations
 - 4. Oral presentations: Present the research findings - mythology, story or historical fact from which some of the Chinese idioms and proverbs were derived. Discuss the elements of culture in the content
 - 5. Final written report
- C. Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials
 - 1. Hongchen Wang and Dana Risley, *Cherished Chinese Proverbs: A Bilingual Retelling of Ancient Tales*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014
 - 2. Qin Xue Herzberg and Larry Herzberg, *Chinese Proverbs and Popular Sayings*. Berkeley, Stone Bridge Press, 2012
 - 3. Supplemental materials provided by instructor, such as poems, short stories, and cultural information
 - 4. Library databases such as EBSCO

VII. Title 5 CLASSIFICATION

CREDIT/DEGREE APPLICABLE (meets all standards of Title 5. Section 55002(a))