

Division of Humanities

Course code:	HUMA 6000A
Course title:	Topics in Modern Chinese Grammar [C][PU]
Course offered:	Fall 2018
Instructor:	Dr. Hideki Nishimura
Office hour:	Thursday 4-5pm @room 3334 (Lift 3)

This course examines the grammar of modern Chinese, particularly spoken Chinese, from functional, cognitive, and cross-linguistic comparative perspectives, aiming to help students understand how grammar evolves from and is shaped by language use. Discussions will center on the analysis of a series of interrelated phenomena frequent in spontaneous speech, such as duplication/iteration and post-posing of sentence constituents as well as truncation of sentences, through which students will be guided to learn how to discover grammatical regularities in spoken Chinese.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Understand basic concepts, theories, and methodologies pertaining to the analysis of spoken Chinese grammar
2. Understand fundamental characteristics of modern Chinese grammar
3. Comprehend the significance of language use in the emergence of modern Chinese grammar
4. Be able to adequately analyze data from spoken Chinese
5. Be able to critically evaluate different views and treatments to relevant issues in Chinese grammar
6. Enhance the skills of presenting one's arguments coherently and effectively

Course Outline:

Lesson	Date	Topic
1	09/06	Introduction: The study of grammar of spoken Chinese and its methodology [導論: 「口語現象」研究的範圍及其分析方法]
2	09/13	Explorations of repetition (1): Repetition in reality and its cognitive representation [「重複」句探討 (1): 現實中的「重複」及其認知表徵]
3	09/20	Explorations of repetition (2): Repetition in language – Its conventionalization and development [「重複」句探討 (2): 語言中的「重複」- 兼談固定化及其演變過程] (Introduction to student-led seminar) <i>1st round: research topic introduction</i>

4	09/27	The generative mechanism of sentence-final elements: How the analysis of Asian languages contributes to general linguistics (1) [句末成分的生成機制 - 亞洲語言的分析對語言學的貢獻] (1) <i>2nd round: research topic introduction</i>
5	10/04	The generative mechanism of sentence-final elements: How the analysis of Asian languages contributes to general linguistics (2) [句末成分的生成機制 - 亞洲語言的分析對語言學的貢獻] (2) <i>3rd round: research topic introduction</i>
6	10/11	The generative mechanism of sentence-final elements: How the analysis of Asian languages contributes to general linguistics (2) [句末成分的生成機制 - 亞洲語言的分析對語言學的貢獻] (2) <i>Student-led seminar 1</i>
7	10/18	The mechanism and meaning of post-posed elements (1): A comparative perspective [「後置」的機制與意義 (1):跨語言視角的探討] <i>Student-led seminar 2</i>
8	10/25	The mechanism and meaning of post-posed elements (2): Modern Chinese [「後置」的機制與意義 (2):以現代漢語為例] <i>Student-led seminar 3</i>
9	11/01	“Truncated sentences”: Are they really “truncated”? - The development of sentence-final elements [「半截句」探討:真是「半截」嗎?— 句末成分的演變] <i>Student-led seminar 4</i>
10	11/08	Analyzing “truncated sentences” in the framework of insubordination [在「從屬句主句用法」框架內探討「半截句」] <i>Student-led seminar 5</i>
11	11/15	A unified framework covering two distinct paths of grammaticalization [可涵蓋兩條語法化路徑的分析框架] <i>Student-led seminar 6</i>
12	11/22	Conclusion: From pragmatics to syntax – Emergence of grammar [總結:從「語用」到「語法」 - 語法產生的機制] <i>Student-led seminar 7</i>
13	11/29	Project presentation day

Planned Assessment Tasks:

- Research topic introduction: 10%
- In-class student-led seminar: 30%;
- Mini-research project: 60%
 - Presentation 20%
 - Written report 40%

Readings:

1. Bybee, Joan. *Language Change*. Cambridge University Press, 2015.
2. Chao, Y.-R. *A Grammar of Spoken Chinese*. University of California Press, 1968. 呂叔湘譯 (節譯本) 《漢語口語語法》，商務印書館，1979。 / 丁邦新譯 (全譯本) 《中國話的文法》，香港中文大學出版社，2002 年增訂本。
3. Li, C. & S. Thompson. *Mandarin Chinese - A Functional Reference Grammar*. University of California Press, 1981.
4. Barlow, M and S. Kemmer eds. 2000. *Usage-Based Models of Language*. CSLI Publications, 2000.
5. 西村英希. 《現代漢語複用結構研究》，神戶市外國語大學博士論文，2016。
6. 張旺熹. 《漢語口語成分的話語分析研究》，北京語言大學出版社，2012。
7. 陸儉明. 「漢語口語句法裡的易位現象」，《中國語文》1980 年第 1 期。
8. 孟琮. 「口語裡的一種重複:兼談易位」，《中國語文》1982 年第 3 期。
9. 史有為. 《呼喚柔性:漢語語法探異》，海南出版社，1992 年。