



Professional Enrichment Course

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Office of Medical Education

PEC Registrar – Denise Downs ddowns@pitt.edu 412-648-8749

Advanced Medical Chinese

Enrollment Period:	Late Spring/ Summer 2023
Course Dates:	June 15, 22, 29, July 6 (Thursday), 5:30PM-7:30PM in person Scaife Hall; July 11 (Tuesday) 7:30PM-9:30PM online for virtual exchange with doctors in China. Five sessions total.
Student Max:	12
Class Year:	MS-1, MS-2
Course Director:	Yi Xu (xuyi@pitt.edu)
Student Administrators:	Kanako Mori Mori.Kanako@medstudent.pitt.edu ; Lee-Kai Sun Sun.LeeKai@medstudent.pitt.edu
Location:	Scaife Hall – Room 502, 503
Registration:	Contact Denise Downs ddowns@pitt.edu to enroll
Course Description:	<p>The course will effectively improve students' proficiencies in using Chinese in medical clinical settings. While students taking the course should have some existing background with basic conversational Chinese, the course will accommodate students with varying proficiencies.</p> <p>Through this course, students will: (1) acquire a set of practical vocabularies and patterns frequently used in the medical profession such as describing common medical conditions, asking and answering questions about medication and medical histories; (2) develop conversation skills in interviewing patients in Chinese, including understanding patients' chief complaints and explaining course of actions including screening and needed procedures; (3) be able to carry out other conversations related to patient experiences, assisting and caring for patients, and offering health-related counselling as medical professionals; (4) develop strategic and pragmatic competence as well as cross-cultural awareness in Chinese in medical and hospital settings to avoid misunderstandings when communicating with Chinese-speaking patients.</p>
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To improve language skills in conversational Chinese in medical settings, especially in developing abilities to understand and be understood in common interactions with Chinese-speaking patients in their medical professions• To acquire a set of essential medical vocabulary and language patterns in Chinese that enable them to communicate on common topics in a hospital or clinical setting.

Pre-Requisites:	Students should have basic Chinese conversation skills, including being able to ask and answer simple questions on daily life topics and being able to read some Chinese (in simplified or traditional characters, and/or with the facilitation of phonetic transcriptions). Students should contact the course director for a pre-course language proficiency assessment after initial registration, so that their linguistic readiness to participate in the course can be evaluated.
Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in all 5 sessions; • Complete preview and review tasks to prepare for each session. While no written homework will be assigned, preparation is important for students' success in the course and students should expect to spend 1-2 hours before each session for such preparation; • Participate in a 20-minute conversation in Chinese with the instructor for proficiency assessment before the start of the course. Please contact the course director/instructor xuyi@pitt.edu.
Texts:	Handouts of clinical conversation scripts and vocabulary in Chinese; <i>(Optional textbook: Mandarin for Medical Students: Mastering Clinical Conversation)</i>

Agenda and Format:

The first two sessions will cover the foundational materials and provide students with the language tools (vocabulary and patterns) needed to carry out conversations between patients and professionals in a medical/hospital setting. Sample material in these sessions include conversations about medication, physical exams, and post-operative checks. Aside from practicing conversations with the instructor and classmates, we will use audio-visual materials. In the third and fourth sessions, we will develop language competence in conversations involving a variety of common clinical cases. In the second half of those sessions (session 3 and session 4), Chinese-native speaker volunteers will be invited to the class and act as standardized patients to converse with the students, so that students can gain skills in communicating with Chinese-speaking patients. In session 5, students will meet medical doctors in Chinese hospitals remotely and practice professional conversations. These conversations will be conducted in a combination of Chinese and English and will center around themes such as doctor-patient relationships, patient expectations, and clinical interview practices across cultures.

Some sample case topics include:

1. Child with fever
2. Chest pain
3. Adult with upper respiratory infection
4. Pre-natal care
5. Flu-like symptoms

Course Director:

Course director Dr. Yi Xu is an experienced Chinese as a foreign language educator and specializes in second language acquisition and teaching. She is the academic coordinator of the Chinese Language Program at the University and oversees the curricula of all Pitt Chinese language courses. Among her experience of working with diverse student populations, she had experience developing and teaching "Medical English" courses to medical practitioners in China.