

**The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**  
**Course Syllabus**

**Cantonese for English Background Learners (Level 1)**

Non-Credit Bearing

Pre-/co-requisites: Nil. This course is open to UST students of non-Chinese speaking background at beginners' level.

**Name of Course Coordinator:** Crystal Chan

**Email of Course Coordinator:** [lccrystal@ust.hk](mailto:lccrystal@ust.hk)

If you have any questions, your first point of contact should be your section instructor. Please find the email address on Canvas.

**Office Hours of Course Coordinator:** Available by appointment only.

**Course Description**

This is a ten-week level one Cantonese course for English background students. With a focus on speaking and listening skills, the course aims at building learners' proficiency and confidence in using Cantonese for daily communication as well as a fast integration into the local culture. Through a communicative and functional approach, and the use of interactive activities and online learning, the course will help learners to acquire vocabulary and basic structures for use in real-life situations.

Course outlines:

| Week | Course Topics  |
|------|--|
| 1    | • Greeting and getting to know each other              |
| 2    | • Talking about self and others                        |
| 3    | • Asking for and giving personal information           |
| 4    | • Telling the time and date                            |
| 5    | • Making appointments                                  |
| 6    | • Ordering food and drinks                             |
| 7    | • Going places   |
| 8    | • Talking about likes, dislikes, interests and hobbies |
| 9    | • Asking for prices and bargaining                     |
| 10   | • Basic knowledge of Cantonese Phonology               |

Methods of instruction: interactive tutorials support active learning through group discussion, collaborative activities, peer learning, input, practice and feedback.

**Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)**

By the end of this course, learners should be able to:

1. converse in Cantonese in everyday situations.
2. use a range of Cantonese vocabulary appropriately.
3. learn about elements of Hong Kong culture.
4. acquire knowledge of the Cantonese phonological and tonal systems.

**Required Texts and Materials**

Course materials and additional resources are provided via Canvas.

## **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to adhere to the university's academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST's Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to [Academic Integrity | HKUST – Academic Registry](#) for the University's definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.

## **Plagiarism**

In CLE assignments, students should not copy from others nor submit the same work for multiple courses. Source materials must be explicitly acknowledged.

Assignments with evidence of plagiarism may score a zero and be followed up with your department's Dean. To demonstrate academic integrity and avoid plagiarism, you are expected to:

- paraphrase, summarize, reference and synthesize ideas from sources
- refrain from copying expressions and ideas directly from any source (e.g. from another student, or from a video, or from an article, etc.) without proper acknowledgement