Course Description and Objectives

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: LIHL 114 is designed for heritage speakers of Vietnamese who wish to strengthen their speaking, reading, and writing skills in Vietnamese. The term *heritage speaker* is used within the foreign-language teaching field to refer to a person who was exposed to a language and perhaps speaks it to some degree but is now mostly dominant in English. Knowledge of reading and writing is not required. This course can be repeated three times for credit. This is a content-based course. The topics change each quarter; therefore, you will learn new materials each time up to three times.

LIHL 114 is designed to teach reading, writing, listening and speaking to heritage students of Vietnamese who have never been taught the alphabet as well as improving students' command of the Vietnamese language. Material is presented in the context of cultural, social and literary topics.

LEVEL OF THE CLASS: In order to offer a curriculum optimal for the students enrolled, the language level of the course could vary from quarter to quarter based on the language skills of the people in the class. For instance, the more advanced heritage speakers of Vietnamese, the focus will be placed on learning formal and written forms rather than spoken or colloquial forms of the language. The entry level heritage students, the emphasis will be placed more on reading and speaking skills. However, the cultural content of the class is the same for all proficiency levels.

Students who are considered native speakers of Vietnamese are not accepted in this class; these classes are designed for heritage speakers and are not intended to serve as easy A courses for native speakers under any circumstances.

Misrepresentation of proficiency on the placement exam constitutes academic dishonesty and may result in referral to the office of Academic Integrity.
Methodology

This course is thematically organized and uses the communicative approach. Both cultural topics and readings have been carefully selected to suit the needs and interests of the Vietnamese heritage college student and follow ACTFL guidelines. The stimulating cultural themes are conductive to a student-centered classroom. The cultural reading of each chapter focuses on the topic of the chapter and is accompanied by several discussion questions and other activities practicing linguistic aspects. Students are engaged in cross-cultural comparisons and analysis, they express opinions, summarize, describe in detail, compare and synthesize texts and narrate events throughout the program.

Grammar is integrated and contextualized throughout each chapter, and grammar topics specifically target the needs of the heritage student. Most basic concepts from the introductory language sequence are reviewed. New grammar concepts are introduced to students through discovery method and then practiced in context.

Four or five recurring modules in each lesson plan consist of the following components: 1) general conversation questions about the general theme of the chapter as warm-up, 2) a text preceded by pre-reading activities that prepare the learner for the text and the associated learning tasks, 3) a list of associated vocabulary, 4) grammar analyzed and discovered then practiced in context, 5) followed by a set of post-activities to help comprehend the text, learn cultural, lexical aspects and practice grammar points, 6) a set of contextualized, communicative-oriented listening, speaking and writing activities will give ample opportunity to practice the new material in classroom, focusing on form as well as students’ own creative potential. Each class includes several partner and group activities, reading, writing exercises, and collaborative projects.

Course Materials

Required: Course materials available on Canvas. Additional hand-outs may be provided.

Optional:


Online resources:

A Bilingual Dictionary

- It is strongly recommended that you have a copy of the English-Vietnamese or Vietnamese English dictionary. Some online apps or websites may work. E.g.,

A Vietnamese keyboard
- You need to be able to type Vietnamese with all diacritics for your online submissions. You can either install Unikey for Windows (https://www.unikey.org/en) or activate Telex in your Mac.

Resources for reading
- Let’s Read: https://reader.letsreadasia.org
- Storyweaver: http://storyweaver.org.in

Grading:
Active participation in small groups and in class discussion: 15%
Execution of the written work and reading assignments 15%
Quizzes: 10%
Written Midterm: 15%
Oral Test 1: 10%
Culture project: 5%
Oral Test 2: 15%
Final: Written 15%

Daily homework will be assigned, and late homework may be accepted under certain circumstances. If you know in advance that you will have to miss a class, please make appropriate arrangements with the instructor in advance. If you must miss class unexpectedly because of illness or another emergency, please notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Class Participation is an essential foundation for learning a language. Students are expected to come to class prepared and willing to participate in all classroom activities. Attendance will be taken regularly and students who are not present at the beginning of the class hour will be considered absent.

Absences A maximum of 2 unexcused absences are allowed without effecting your grade. If you need to take more time off, please talk to the instructor to make arrangements to keep up with the class and get your absences excused.

Your course grade is determined by several categories (tests, homework, etc.) that are listed in the “Grading” section below. Attendance is not one of these categories. If you attend a reasonable number of class meetings, any absences will have no effect on your course grade.
You may miss up to one week of class with no questions asked. Beyond that, your final grade will be reduced by 2 percentage points for each absence, as summarized here:

0-2 absences = 0 effect on grade
3 absences = -2 in percentage points
4 absences = -4 in percentage points
-2 (in percentage points) for each additional absence

**Oral Tests**  An individual 10-minute conversation with your instructor which may be recorded. Sign up in week 10 for an appointment during finals week. The final cannot be taken earlier. Your instructor will judge the conversation final for comprehension, content, vocabulary, fluency, grammar, and pronunciation. Note: Your Conversation final may take place on Zoom or a testing platform (computerized). If it takes place via Zoom, your camera must be on and we must be able to see your face (check the lighting beforehand). External resources (e.g., notes, word lists, etc.) are not allowed, whether on your desk or on your screen.

**Culture report:** Everyone is required to do a culture project. You can choose to do an in-class presentation or a family member interview. Topic can be chosen from but not limited to the following: Cinema, music, art, literature, fashion, sports, history, cities, famous people, and tourist sites. If you choose to present in class, please confirm topic, and date with the instructor prior to working on your project.

OR

You could attend a cultural event virtually conducted in Vietnamese, such as a festival, poetry night, movie night at the Vietnamese cultural center, music concert etc. and write a one-to-two-page report, double spaced on it in English or Vietnamese. Proof of attendance is required. You can take a picture at the event and write a brief description of the event on Canvas.

**Availability outside the Classroom**
I will hold regular office hours to answer any questions you might have. If you cannot make it to the regularly scheduled office hours, please contact me to set up an appointment (emails are best or approach me after class). If you encounter difficulty with course material, please ask questions and see me for help.
Statement of Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD Policy on Academic Integrity published in the UCSD General Catalog. However, group projects and collaboration on homework are allowed and encouraged.

All the writing in your reports and essays must be your own work. You may not copy sentences or paragraphs from books, web pages, other students or any other source. If you quote anything written by anyone else, you must indicate very clearly that it is a quotation, and provide a full citation.

Cheating on exams will not be tolerated, and any student who engages in suspicious conduct will be confronted and subjected to the disciplinary process. Those who are caught cheating will receive a failing grade on the assignment or the exam and/or in the entire course.

Tentative schedule:

Topic: Family & Relatives

Week 1  Danny là gia đình tôi/This is my family
          WB: Exercises #2, 4, 8, 9 10
          Read: Grammar Notes on the use of Của & Possessive Pronouns & Personal Pronouns
          Writing assignment: Describe your family

Week 2:  Hệ này, nhà mình về thăm ông bà nội hả má?/ Are we going back to visit our grandparents this summer?
          WB: Exercises #1-7
          Quizzes: vocab and reading about family

Topic: ‘Đi chợ’ & Family Routines

Week 3:  Cái này giá bao nhiêu? How much does it cost?
          WB: Exercises #2-7
          Writing assignment: Describe a Vietnamese ‘chợ’ (market)

Week 4:  Chợ nổi/ Floating markets
          HW: Extensive reading & viewing
          Writing assignment: Write a postcard/letter
          Quizzes: vocab and reading about ‘chợ’

Week 5: Review #1, midterm exam, and Oral test 1 (can be via Canvas and TaoTesting)
**Topic: Family Health and Wellness**

Week 6  
Anh bị làm sao? *Are you sick?*  
WB: Exercises #1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7  
Writing assignment: Write an email to your doctor

Week 7  
Đi khám bệnh / *Seeing a doctor*  
WB: Exercises #1-12  
Quizzes: vocab and reading about health and family care

---

**Topic: Holidays & Festivals**

Week 8  
Đêm trung thu / *Mid-Autumn Festival*  
WB: Exercises #1-12  
Writing assignment: Describe an event (birthday, family reunion…)

Week 9  
Kỳ nghỉ gia đình / *Family Vacations*  
Quizzes: vocab and reading about holidays and festivals

---

Week 10: Review #2, Culture presentation and report

---

**Tentative testing schedule:**

Quizzes: Every Thursday starting week 2  
Midterm: Tuesday Oct 25  
Oral Test 1: Thursday Oct 27  
Cultural Presentations: Nov 29  
Cultural Event report: Dec 1  
Written Final: Tuesday Dec 6  
Oral Test 2: Dec 5-9

**NO MAKE-UP FINAL**