

Syllabus

2026 Spring Chinese Calligraphy Course

Instructor Carle Shi

The University of Texas at Dallas School of Arts and Humanities

800 West Campbell Road Richardson, TX 75080

Class Section Arts 3341.001 Class

/Course Number 82250 / 014379

Class Time Tuesday 10:00 am - 12:45 pm January 20, 2026 – May 5, 2026,

Class Location ATC 4.904

Instructor Contact Info

Email: cxs174230@utdallas.edu

Location: Office hours: First Tuesday of each month from 2-3 pm, or by appointment

Course Description Chinese Calligraphy (3 Credits)

Calligraphy is an essential part of China. In the realm of calligraphy, the study of ancient Calligraphers is a crucial part of one's education. This course introduces five basic script styles used in modern times. Students will learn foundation principles for each of the five styles, learning calligraphy by studying and copying the works of ancient masters, develop duplicating skills, and acquire enhanced expertise for one or two of the five scripts chosen by each student. The class goal is for every student to write, or paint completed artworks of Chinese Calligraphy at the end of the semester. Students will choose Chinese characters to express their emotions and conceptions using the selected script styles. Students will learn to excel in writing calligraphy, and learn the meaning of Chinese characters, regardless of calligraphy experience. Students will be guided through a step-by-step learning method by the instructor to achieve the class goals. Students will become familiar with using the "Qi" (life force) and "Spirit" while learning and practicing calligraphy to reach a higher level of accomplishment.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Create an example of calligraphy showing the basic three techniques of calligraphy: amount of ink; speed; and pressure of the brush.
- Write characters that display correct structure and balance.
- Copy each of the five calligraphy script styles to illustrate works of ancient masters.
- Advance their ability to write one or two of the five calligraphy script styles (chosen by each student).
- Demonstrate experience and competency in at least one script style of calligraphy, choosing Chinese characters to express self-emotions and conceptions using the selected script style. (Students will pay special attention to using the “life force” and “spirit” while learning and practicing calligraphy)

Suggested Course Materials

Ink
Inkstone
Bamboo Brush
Practice rice paper
Tablecloth

Course Calendar

Date/Week Assignment

Week 1, Jan 20 - Introduction to the five script styles of Calligraphy, syllabus review, and discussion of required materials. Pick up a Chinese name for each student.

Week 2, Jan 27, Study -Style Kai Shu (Regular Script)
(Students will study the structure of 12 characters and three techniques of calligraphy: the amount of ink; speed; and pressure of the brush).

Week 3, Feb 3, Study - Style, Xing Shu (Running Script)

Week 4, Feb 10, Study - Style , Li Shu (Clerical script)

Week 5, Feb 17, Study - Style Zhuan Shu (Seal Script)

Week 6, Feb 24, Study -Style Cao Shu (Cursive Script)

Week 7, Mar 3, Study on line exchange Chinese calligraphy of five script, creative an own poetry. Systematic review to prepare the mid-term exam

Week 8, Mar 10, * Test 1 - Midterm exam 10:00am- 12:45pm (Mar 10, 2026)

Week 9 , Mar 17 No class (Mar 16-22 Spring Break)

Week 10, Mar 24, Choose 1or 2 script style and practicing your poetry

Week 11, Mar 31, Continue practicing larger size characters

Week 12, Apr 7, Continue practicing your poetry your poetry

Week 13, Apr 14, Continue practicing

Week 14 Apr 21, Continue practicing

Week 15 , Apr 28, - Final project* Final project , 10:00am- 12:45pm

Week 16, May 5, Final project* Final project , 10:00am- 12:45pm

(schedule will be short notified if has changes)

* Required Tests

Week 8, Mar 10, * Test 1 Midterm exam 10:00am- 12:45pm (Character's structure, basic techniques, and five scripts style of Calligraphy on rice paper)

Week 16, May 5, * Test 2 Final Exam 10:00am- 12:45pm (Completed artworks of calligraphy create your style and text expression)

Course Requirements

90%-100% = A 70% -

89% =B

60% - 69% = C

Below 50% = D

Below 40% =F

Test 1, Midterm exam 40%

Test 2 , Final Exam and Participate Exhibition 50%

90% Studio work and attendance 10%

Class Attendance

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected regardless of modality. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some

courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes. These attendance requirements will be used as part of grading (see Class Participation below for grading information).

In-person participation records may be used to assist the University or local public health authorities in performing COVID-19 occurrence monitoring. Please note – in-person attendance requires consistently adhering to University requirements, including wearing a face covering and other public safety requirements related to COVID-19, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Makeup Policy

Each student will have two chances to make up his or her missing works about 30 mins after class on Tuesday. The student will not be able to make up more than two classes or works. The syllabus is subject to change Please pay attention to in class and learning announcements.

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student Access Ability has

approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student Access Ability accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Note: if the instructor records any part of the course, then the instructor will need to use the following syllabus statement:

The instructor may record meetings of this course. Any recordings will be available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student Access Ability has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student Access Ability accommodation. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Use of Email

It is the policy and practice of The University of Texas at Dallas to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. However, a written notification from the Office of Student Access Ability (OSA) is required. If you are eligible to receive accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss with me and allow one week's advance notice. Students who have questions about receiving accommodations, or those who have, or think they may have, a disability (mobility, sensory, health, psychological, learning, etc.) are invited to contact OSA for a confidential discussion. OSA is located in the Student Services Building, SSB 3.200. They can be reached by phone at 972-883-2098, or by email at studentaccess@utdallas.edu.

Technical Support

If you experience any problems with your UT Dallas account, you may email assist@utdallas.edu or call the UT Dallas Computer help Desk at 972.883.2911 Please review the web page that describes University Policy: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabuspolicies>

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to UT Dallas Syllabus Policies webpage for these policies. The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.