"Evolving Classrooms – Adapting Methods of Mandarin Teaching to Keep Pace with Changing Contexts"

IOE, UCL's Faculty of Education & Society, Confucius Institute for Schools

2025 Annual Chinese Teaching Conference: Call for Proposals

22nd Annual Chinese Teaching Conference: Saturday 11th October 2025

Submission deadline: ==**5pm, Monday 19th May 2025**==

We invite workshop proposals for this year's conference (guidance overleaf).

This year's theme reflects the growing need for flexibility in pedagogical approaches, as educators navigate digital advancements and diverse learning environments. From integrating AI-driven language tools to fostering immersive cultural experiences, Chinese teaching is no longer confined to traditional classroom settings. Teachers are increasingly incorporating blended learning, interactive digital platforms, and task-based activities to engage students more effectively and address different learning needs.

Workshop themes (guide only)

- **Inclusive Mandarin Teaching**

  Developing 'Stretch and Challenge' activities
  Managing behaviour effectively in mixed ability classrooms
  How can we inspire less motivated students to love learning Mandarin?
  How can we use Chinese heritage students in the classroom?

  Effective use of AI
  - How to use AI to save us time planning lessons
  - User-friendly AI platforms for Mandarin teachers; where to start
  - How much technology should be used in the classroom?; finding the balance
  - Developing technology routines to use with students
  - Bringing Mandarin teachers closer through technology and collaboration
  - Limitations and constraints of using technology for teaching

- **Research informed practice**
  - What kind of research can inform our practice? How do we get started?
  - Teachers as research practitioners; how does this work in practice?
  - Collaborative research across schools; identifying trends
  - Summative versus formative assessment; which works best?

- **Teaching styles**
  - Quiet calm lessons versus noisy active lessons? Same result?
  - Teaching beyond the exam syllabus; creating links for using language more widely
  - How do we teach all four skills in every lesson? Is it necessary?
  - Creating activities to give you, the teacher, time to breathe during the lesson

Guidance for workshop proposals

Please submit all proposals using the following link:

https://forms.office.com/e/Ki83jugPGB

Proposals should be brief (100- 250 words) and include the following:
- A working title
- The subject matter
- Clear learning outcome(s) for participants
- The format of the session
- Your full name

(Please note: free entry to the conference on the day of presentation will only be granted to ONE presenter per workshop. Any other presenters will have to purchase a ticket. We do not encourage workshop proposals with more than two presenters)

Workshop sessions are provisionally scheduled for **50 minutes** and should include sufficient time for questions and answers.

The selection panel will favour workshop proposals that:

- Offer practical hands-on advice from teaching professionals and for teaching professionals
- Emphasise new ideas, innovative approaches and fresh perspectives
- Support the conference topic areas (as listed above)
- Refer to examples from experience (and research where available): what works and what does not
- Encourage audience participation. *NB: If your workshop is predominantly a research-based presentation, please indicate this, so that we can make it clear to conference guests.*

We would like to encourage anyone with an idea to submit a proposal and warmly welcome submissions from all stages and backgrounds. It does not need to fall within the topic areas listed above.

Please note: proposals to advertise commercial products or services will not be considered for the main conference sessions. Any commercial organisation wishing to submit a proposal will be asked to name a school/ teacher as the main presenter, and the workshop must be based on classroom teaching/ school-based experience.

Exhibition packages will be available.

We look forward to receiving your proposals by ***5pm, Monday 19th May 2025***

If you have any questions, please email us at: chinesenetworks@ucl.ac.uk