



Intermediate Vietnamese (ASIANLANG 407 & 408)

Institution Name: University of Wisconsin–Madison

Credits: This is an eight-credit language course.

Course Designations and Attributes: The program will cover First and Second-semester language courses.

Course Description:

Students in this course will continue to develop their knowledge of Vietnamese culture and people through idioms, proverbs, and stories. Some basic aspects of culture, geography, history, and religion will also be introduced. Students' knowledge of Vietnamese linguistics and grammar will be further strengthened. In addition, students will practice writing structured paragraphs and essays.

Throughout the course, a communicative approach methodology is employed to ensure that students develop a high level of linguistic and communicative competence. Vietnamese is the language of instruction, and questions or concerns requiring English will be addressed after class or during the instructor's office hours.

Requisites: This course is designed for students at the intermediate level who have completed beginning-level Vietnamese or have an equivalent level of proficiency.

Meeting Time and Location: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (CDT) via [REDACTED].

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Session 1	8:30-9:30	8:30-9:30	8:30-9:30	8:30-9:30	8:30-9:30
Break 1	9:30-9:45	9:30-9:45	9:30-9:45	9:30-9:45	9:30-9:45
Session 2	9:45-10:45	9:45-10:45	9:45-10:45	9:45-10:45	9:45-10:45
Break 2	10:45-11:15	10:45-11:15	10:45-11:15	10:45-11:15	Language table?
Session 3	11:15-12:15	11:15-12:15	11:15-12:15	11:15-12:15	
Break 3	12:15-12:30	12:15-12:30	12:15-12:30	12:15-12:30	
Session 4	12:30-1:30	12:30-1:30	12:30-1:30	12:30-1:30	

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (CDT) via [REDACTED].

Instructional Modality: Online

Instructor Contact Info:

Instructor: Diep Le

Email: [REDACTED]

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

Interpersonal communication

- Engage in spontaneous conversations and discussions across multiple time frames (past, present, future) on familiar and some concrete topics related to Vietnamese culture and daily life.
- Exchange information, opinions, and personal experiences using connected sentences that may develop into paragraph-length discourse.
- Ask and respond to a variety of questions to sustain conversations, including follow-up and clarification questions.
- Express and support preferences, opinions, and emotions, and provide advice on familiar and researched topics.
- Navigate common social situations (e.g., invitations, cultural events, family interactions) using culturally appropriate language and register.

Presentational communication (speaking and writing)

- Present information on familiar and some researched topics related to Vietnamese culture (e.g., traditions, customs, stories), using organized, paragraph-length discourse.
- Narrate and describe events and experiences across multiple time frames with increasing control of time markers and cohesive devices.
- Write structured paragraphs and short essays with clear organization (introduction, supporting details, conclusion).
- Explain cultural practices, idioms, and proverbs, and express personal viewpoints supported by reasons and examples.
- Deliver short oral presentations with appropriate vocabulary, pronunciation, and cultural awareness.

Interpretive communication (listening and reading)

- Understand the main ideas and supporting details of spoken and written texts on familiar and some concrete topics.
- Interpret paragraph-length texts such as short stories, cultural readings, and informational materials related to Vietnamese society and traditions.
- Follow the main ideas and sequence of events in conversations, narratives, and presentations.
- Infer the meaning of unfamiliar words and expressions using context, including idioms and proverbs.
- Demonstrate understanding by summarizing, answering questions, and discussing key ideas from texts.

Proficiency Target

Develop Vietnamese language proficiency at the Intermediate High level in accordance with the ACTFL-OPG [guidelines for Vietnamese](#).

How Credit Hours are Met by the Course

The credit standard for each of the 4-credit courses is met by requiring at least **180 total hours of student engagement** with course learning activities, consistent with the UW–Madison standard of **at least 45 hours of learning activities per credit**. These learning activities include scheduled instructor-student meeting times as well as asynchronous reading, writing, listening, speaking, preparation, homework, projects, studying, and other course-related activities. **Required co-curricular programming** will take place on Fridays, which includes lectures, language practice, cultural sessions, and other structured activities designed to support and extend course learning.

Regular and Substantive Student-Instructor Interaction

This course meets the regular and substantive student-instructor interaction requirement by engaging students in teaching, learning, and assessment through direct instruction, providing feedback on student work, providing information about course content, and facilitating discussion of course content on a weekly basis. Regular and substantive student-instructor interaction, as defined by the US Department of Education (Within 34 C.F.R. §600.2), is always a requirement of UW-Madison for-credit learning activities.

Required Textbook, Software, and Other Course Materials

- A hard copy of *Let's Practice Vietnamese – A Text for Intermediate Courses* (1st edition, by Lê Phạm Thuý Kim) is required and can be purchased from this [link](#).
- Learning tools for “A Text for Intermediate Courses”.
- [Listening Activities](#).
- Tablet, computer, or laptop with Vietnamese typing software (Telex, VNI, VN standard) installed.
- Supplementary materials provided by the instructor will be posted on Canvas.
- Quizlet will be used for Pre-Class vocabulary preparation and review.

Homework and Other Assignments

Assignments must be submitted on Canvas by 9:59 pm (CDT) on their respective due dates.

Handwritten or typed submissions are acceptable, but only Word, PDF, or JPG files are accepted. The grade for pre-assignments (5%) and post-assignments (15%) will be reduced for missing or late submissions (0.5-point deduction for each day of delay), and assignments submitted more than one week late will not be graded.

Course Schedule/Calendar

- **Quizzes:** There are 6 quizzes in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 7th weeks. Each quiz lasts 40-50 minutes and covers material taught up to the date of the quiz.
- **Final Exam:** There are 2 final exams in the 4th and 8th weeks. Each exam includes a written test and a 20-30 minute oral interview in OPI format with the teacher.
- **Task-based project and discussions:** Students are assigned to complete two task-based projects and four discussions. Students are encouraged to choose their own project topic; otherwise, the

instructor will assign one. The projects must be submitted three days before, so that the instructor can provide comments before the presentation dates on July 8th & August 5th.

Required co-curricular Friday programming is as follows:

Friday, June 19	11:00 am	Global Professionals Panel Sessions
Friday, June 26	11:00 am	Language Practice Tables
Friday, July 3	TBD	WISLI Research Symposium
Friday, July 10	8:30 am	Final Exams
Friday, July 17	–	Asynchronous Review/Study Day
Friday, July 24	11:00 am	Language Practice Tables
Friday, July 31	11:00 am	Intercultural Learning Session
Friday, August 7	8:30 am	Final Exams

Grading

• Linguistic performance in class	10 %
• Homework assignments	20%
Pre-class assignments: 5%	
Post-class assignments: 15%	
• Quizzes	20 %
• Task-based project (student-selected materials and presentation)	15 %
• Discussion and self-assessment on Canvas forum	15 %
• Final exam	20 %
Oral: 10%	
Written: 10%	
Total	100 %

Final grades are calculated based on a conversion chart as follows

- A: 92 – 100
- AB: 87 – 91
- B: 82 – 86
- BC: 77 – 81
- C: 72 – 76
- D: 62 – 71
- F: < 62

WISLI Program Policies

Attendance Policy

Students may miss one class per semester without penalty; a second absence may result in a full-grade deduction; three or more absences may lead to an additional grade reduction or automatic failure.

The grade for linguistic performance in class (10%) will be reduced for those who do not fully

participate in class activities or skip them. Performance will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Points Awarded	Criteria
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5	Well-prepared, fully engaged, and participated in all tasks and activities.
4	Well-prepared, fully engaged, and participated in all tasks and activities, but arrived late (5-10 minutes).
3	Relatively passive, late (11-15 minutes), not exceeding 3 times per quarter.
2	Present but passive or late (16-20 minutes).
1	Significantly late for more than 20 minutes or considerably disturbs the class dynamic.
0	Absent.

Tardiness Policy

Tardiness is defined as arriving more than 5 minutes late to the start of class as well as the time immediately following scheduled breaks. **Excessive tardiness** is arriving more than 10 minutes late to class. Tardiness in excess of 30 minutes will be considered a half- or full-day absence. In instances of repeated tardiness:

- **Three instances of tardiness** will result in a warning. A fourth instance of tardiness will require a meeting with an Academic Director.
- **Three instances of excessive tardiness** (arriving more than 10 minutes late but less than 30) will be counted as a half-day absence.
- **Repeated tardiness in excess of 30 minutes** will be subject to the WISLI absence policy.
- **Continued tardiness or excessive tardiness** may result in further penalty or dismissal.

WISLI understands that unforeseen circumstances can occur. Please notify the course instructor of any tardiness or absences as soon as possible.

WISLI Technology Policy

There are many helpful online tools available to language learners, and these tools should be used responsibly and in alignment with UW-Madison expectations of academic integrity and guidelines on generative artificial intelligence. Do not use translation software or AI tools unless instructed to use these tools for assignments or projects. In these instances, these tools are to be used only in the manner permitted by the instructor. Ask for clarification if you have any questions about what is allowed.

UW-Madison Academic Policies and Statements

- Academic Calendar and Religious Observances
- Academic Integrity
- Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
- Course Evaluations
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Student Health, Well-Being & Basic Needs
- Privacy of Student Records and the Use of Audio Recorded Lectures
- Remote Proctoring with Honorlock (if applicable)
- Students' Rules, Rights and Responsibilities
- Teaching & Learning Data Transparency

COURSE SCHEDULE

(Subject to change)

CONTENT	OBJECTIVES (After completing this chapter, students will learn and be able to:)
WEEK 1 (June 15 – June 19)	
Chapter 1: Making Acquaintances	- Introduce themselves and get acquainted with others. - Discuss weather, seasons, and appropriate clothing choices. - Describe people's personalities and characteristics.
Chapter 2: Finding Accommodation	- Search for and rent housing online. - Find and communicate with potential roommates or housemates. - Discuss housing needs and living arrangements.
QUIZ 1	
WEEK 2 (June 22 – June 26)	
Chapter 3: Household Chores and Daily Errands	- Find necessary information online. - Interact in various everyday situations to complete errands and tasks. - Discuss household responsibilities and routines.
Chapter 4: Eating Dining	- Discuss eating habits and dining preferences. - Describe different types of restaurants and eateries. - Order food and interact appropriately in dining situations.
QUIZ 2	
WEEK 3 (June 29 – July 3)	
Chapter 5: Healthcare	- Discuss common illnesses and their symptoms. - Purchase over-the-counter medications. - Describe dental and other health-related problems.

Chapter 6: Recreation and Entertainment	- Express opinions about sports, games, hobbies, and leisure activities. - Discuss personal interests and preferences.
QUIZ 3	
WEEK 4 (July 6 – July 10)	
Chapter 7: Transportation	- Use and navigate local transportation systems. - Make reservations and purchase tickets. - Obtain travel-related information online.
Review – Presentation – Final Exam 1	
WEEK 5 (July 13 – July 17)	
Chapter 8: Education and Careers	- Compare the education systems of Vietnam and the US. - Conduct job searches and participate in job interviews. - Discuss educational backgrounds and career goals.
Chapter 9: Mass Media	- Discuss favorite television programs and online content. - Evaluate the impact of social media on society. - Share opinions about different forms of media.
QUIZ 4	
WEEK 6 (July 20 – July 24)	
Chapter 10: Vietnamese Festivals and Holidays	- Become familiar with Vietnamese festivals, holidays, traditions and customs. - Extend greetings and holiday wishes appropriately in Vietnamese.
Chapter 11: Family, Weddings, and Funerals	- Talk about immediate and extended family members. - Describe Vietnamese wedding customs and traditions. - Describe Vietnamese funeral rites and traditions.
QUIZ 5	
WEEK 7 (July 27 – July 31)	
Chapter 12: The Country of Vietnam	- Discuss the geography and ethnic diversity of Vietnam. - Describe favorite flowers, trees, animals, and birds.
Chapter 13: Vietnamese History	- Become familiar with the legend about the origin of the Vietnamese people. - Recognize the historical influence of China and France on Vietnamese culture. - Discuss important national heroes and historical figures
QUIZ 6	
WEEK 8 (August 3 – August 7)	
Chapter 14: Spiritual Life, Arts, and Traditional Theater	- Become familiar with the major religions practiced in Vietnam. - Discuss selected aspects of Vietnamese arts, crafts, and traditional theaters. - Describe the role of religion and the arts in Vietnamese society and culture.
Review – Presentation – Final Exam 2	