



# Using Telecollaborative Modules in Chinese Mixed (Heritage-L2) Courses

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A US Department of Education Title VI Language Resource Center

# CENTER FOR INTEGRATED LANGUAGE COMMUNITIES



- National Language Resource Center
- Hosted at The Graduate Center, CUNY
- Heritage Telecollaboration Project

[www.cilc.gc.cuny.edu](http://www.cilc.gc.cuny.edu)

# DEFINITIONS

## Telecollaboration

The application of **online communication tools** to bring together **classes of language learners** in **geographically distant locations** to develop their **foreign language skills** and **intercultural competence** through collaborative **tasks and project work** (O' Dowd, 2011).

## Heritage Language Learner

A language student who is **raised in a home where a non-English language is spoken**, who speaks or at least **understands the language**, and who is to **some degree bilingual** in that language and in English (Valdés, 2000).

# QUESTIONS

- How can instructors create effective modules for working with international partners?
- How successful are such modules in advancing proficiency and intercultural competence in mixed heritage/L2 classes?

# FALL 2016 PARTNERSHIP



Hunter College, CUNY

Intermediate Chinese I

49 students from two sections

3 hours a week, twice weekly



Inner Mongolia Normal University  
Hohhot, China

New Horizon College English I

44 students

Hybrid course

# PROJECT: WHY

## Goals

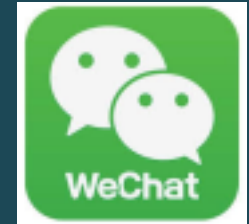
- to engage students in cross-cultural discussions and reflections with peers in China.
- to explore, analyze and construct, individually as well as collaboratively, students' understanding and knowledge on selected topics of Chinese and American culture.

# PROJECT: WHAT

Topics were selected through a comparison of topics covered in the textbooks used in the two courses.



# PROJECT: HOW



Students will use the mobile communication tool **WeChat** to interact and engage in intercultural discussions with partners.



Two sections:  
25 students in 13 groups  
24 students in 12 groups



44 students  
19 groups 2 students,  
6 groups 1 student



# PROJECT: HOW TELECOLLABORATIVE TASK-BASED APPROACH

Intercultural reflections;  
analysis of language  
use; create final  
reports, presentations;  
teachers' observations;  
students' feedback



Activate background knowledge; explore new vocabulary and language structure; introduce readings and resources; preliminary classroom discussions; come up with questions for partners; give instructions; anticipate problems; group formation.

Communication and discussion of topics and subtopics with partners using technology.

Guth, S. & Helm, F. (2012). Developing multiliteracies in ELT through telecollaboration. *ELT Journal*. 66(1), 42-51

O'Dowd, R. & Waire, P. (2009). Critical issues in telecollaborative task design. *Computer-Assisted Language Learning*. 22(2), 173-188.

# PRE TASKS

- Articles/Videos
- English/Chinese
- Websites

- *Which of the main points analyzed in the text were you most surprised by or interested to learn about?*
- *What information did you know already, if any, and how did you learn about it?*
- *Was there anything you would like to explore further or find out more about? Why?*

Rubric: Response indicates **meaningful connection of readings to your viewpoints, interests, prior knowledge and/or own experiences.**

豆瓣小组 精选 文化 行摄 娱乐 时尚 生活 科技

## 震惊了！中美大学生生活方式的24点差异对比

来自 德灰 2015-06-29 13:30:38

1. 年龄限制(Ages)

在美国，13岁女孩子化妆，16岁拿驾照，18岁结婚，21岁才能喝酒，性行为无限制(针对现状来说)。大多数女孩子一般在13岁就开始化妆了，很多人都评论：美国女人怎么那么早就老了呀，而且年龄还保密，皮肤那么差跟化妆有关吧！16岁就能考驾照？这种可能在中国只能是比较富一层的孩子才能享受到的吧，恰恰相反，在美国的高中生时，学校统一有Drivers Education驾照课，注重理论和实操教学，而且只要考试都及格就能在9个月拿到驾照，18岁驾照是很正常的啦，21岁才能喝酒，当然向我那些美国同学介绍中国很多地区对喝酒年龄的限制之后，他们都羡慕，哇，我也好想回中国去！

2. 多元化课程(Classes)

在我们学校里，我除了语文，数，理，化生科之外，还有上烹饪课，驾驶课，体育课，选修课。有人说，什么？体育课？幼儿园？其实美国课本上也有跟中国古代很相似的神话呢，不过主要是古希腊宙斯讲的。现在回想起来，是不是感觉中国的传统式教育好点呢？

# TASKS

- Chat with your partners using **WeChat (at least) 10 messages** from you solely **in Chinese** Mandarin.)
- **Select 2 new phrases/words in Chinese** that you have learned from your partners, and update your Blackboard Blog dictionary page.
- Complete **a journal entry** on Blackboard **in English** using references and examples from the exchange. (min 150 words)



# POST TASK:

## WRITTEN REPORT AND ORAL PRESENTATION

**IN CHINESE: at least 350 characters, typed in 12 pt font and 1.5 spacing (Print out)**

- Discuss one fact/product/event/practice of Chinese culture that you have learned from your partners or readings that you were not familiar with, and that particularly interested you or surprised you. Then gather and examine more information about the topic, and present your findings. (You can ask your partners, family, friends, or search for information online). What did you find out?
- Discuss (at least) 3 differences and 1 similarity that particularly interested you. Explain.
- Explain 2 new Chinese words or sentences learned from your partners. Cite the exchange and explain further samples of usage.

**IN ENGLISH: at least 200 words (Post to Blackboard Blogs)**

- From the chat transcripts, extract and explain two conversations where you and your partner disagreed on a point of view. Explain how, in your opinion, your cultural systems influence your divergent points of view.
- Did you encounter any language or cultural barrier during the exchange that was particularly difficult to overcome? Were there any misunderstandings and how were they solved? Looking back, how would you express or respond differently?

# CHIN 201 SCHEDULE

August 26–December 9

**Icebreaker (10/07)**

**Module 1 (10/07–11/04)**

- Readings
- Chats
- Composition

**Module 2 (11/08–12/02)**

- Readings
- Chats
- Composition

# GRADING

1. Class attendance and participation 10%
2. Written assignments 15%
3. Telecollaboration 20%
4. Quizzes 15%
5. Midterm Exam 10%
6. Final Exam 10%
7. Proficiency Exam 10%
8. Literacy Foundation Tests 10%

## EVALUATION

The telecollaboration project will count for **20%** of your final grade. Each module will count for 10% of your final grade, and it will consist of:

- Readings: 2%
- Weekly WeChat: 3%
- Oral Presentation: 2%
- Written Report: 3%

SAMPLE STUDENT  
WORK FROM OUR  
PROJECT



# ICEBREAKER SAMPLE

## Introduce your pen pal in Chinese

介紹筆友  
介绍笔友

FORM GROUPS, ICE BREAKER WITH PARTNERS

Example:

- What's your name, age? Where are you from/originally from?
- 你是哪裏人？
- 你是哪里人？
- What do they study?
- How many more years before graduation?
- Why are you learning English/Chinese?
- Siblings? What do you like to do in your free time?
- Favorite movie/TV show/artist?
- What is your hobby?
- 你的興趣愛好是什麼？
- 你的兴趣爱好是什么？

我想介紹我的兩個筆友. 我的第一個筆友的名字是XX1另一個筆友的名字是XX2. 今年是他們第一年上大學. 他們都還沒開始上課, 因為他們要做軍隊訓練. X1告訴我們軍隊訓練得時候要去站軍姿, 齊步走, 踢正步, 軍體拳等等. X2喜歡軍隊訓練但訓練非常累. 他們要練習十二天才能開始上課. 當他們有時間, 他們喜歡去購物或看電視. 他們還有四年才畢業.





# MODULE 1 READING 1

Due Date: 10/11

## Module 1 Reading 1

Post your reflection in English on Blackboard Blog. (min 150 words)

- *Which of the main points analyzed in the text were you most surprised by or interested to learn about?*
- *What information did you know already, if any, and how did you learn about it?*
- *Was there anything you would like to explore further or find out more about? Why?*

(1) Learning across the world: Chinese vs. US college experience

<http://college.usatoday.com/2011/07/02/learning-across-the-world-chinese-vs-us-college-experience/>

(2) Differences of Chinese and American College Campus Cultural Life

[https://baldeaglepanda.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/sisizheng\\_neu.pdf](https://baldeaglepanda.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/sisizheng_neu.pdf)

# MODULE 1 READING 1 SAMPLE

"After reading the article and study on the differences between Chinese and US college experience, there were quite a few of main points that I found surprising or interesting. The campus itself in China is very different from the US in a way that it has a physical barrier like walls or gates around the university or college. Campus lifestyles are also different especially in dorms. I was surprised to learn as many as six people would dorm together. In the US, dorming with four other people is already considered cramped. Another surprising factor was the majors and classes a student is or is not allowed to take. Unlike the US, we encourage all of our students to participate in classes that are unrelated to their majors. This allows students to get a taste of other possible interests that they may have. Having to stick to one major must be very stressful for students in China especially if they decided to pick something they will not enjoy. Some other points made in both the article and study were already known. Having a cousin in China, my parents would constantly emphasize the amount of stress that comes with placement and entrance exams since there is only one exam a year. The huge population of students trying to get into a great college will definitely cause tension and anxiety since there is a huge competition. Living in an Asian household, I noticed majority of Chinese people enjoy KTVs more than dancing and throwing parties like US students. Listening to my mom talk about her past experiences in school, she did mention that sports were very popular. I would like to find out more about China's food options. Do most students cook or go out to eat? Most US students would grab fast food since it is cheap and convenient therefore leading to the term 'freshman 15'. I also want to know if most students have part time jobs. Majority of US students have a part time job to cover their living expenses and daily needs."

# MODULE 1 CHAT 1

Due Date: 10/14

## Module 1 Chat 1: College Life

- Chat with your partners using WeChat (at least) 10 messages from you solely in Chinese Mandarin.
- Select 2 new phrases/words in Chinese that you have learned from your partners, and update your Blackboard Blog dictionary page.
- Complete a journal entry on Blackboard in English using references and examples from the exchange. (min 150 words)
  - What was discussed this week that particularly caught your attention?
- Any similarities/differences between the American and Chinese systems that particularly interested you? What? Why?
- Did you encounter any language or cultural barrier that was particularly difficult to overcome? Were there any misunderstandings and how were they solved?

### Question Example:

Do people in the China usually attend university right after high school? At what age do people start college? How long does a degree typically take to be completed? Is it a credit-based system? Is it an exam-based system? Is it semester-based or period-based system? How many credits/exams? Is attendance mandatory? Do your partners attend full time or part time? Why did your partners chose Inner Mongolia University? How many classes do full-time/part-time people take in a semester or period? Is tuition high? Is there a financial support program to attend college? Payment plans? How do your partners pay for college? Do university students in China typically wear a uniform? Are languages taught only in college or in high school as well? Is it mandatory to learn a foreign language? Which languages are taught at their college? Do they know many people who speak another language? Are there gyms or sport facilities on campus? Which sports, if any, are practiced at the university? Is there a national tournament that the university participates in? Are students required to play a sport or take gym classes?

# Module 1 Chat 1 Sample

10/07/2016 23:27:17

- 你們好(午上好?)! 我可以問关大學嗎?
- 可以
- 所有問題是"一般來說..."
- 學生幾岁上大學? 還有, 他們通常高中比业就上大學嗎?
- 20岁左右上大学
- 高中毕业就上大学
- 怎么申請大学呢? 准备申請的过程怎麼?
- 不需要申請
- 要通过高考
- 高考的分数决定上什么样的大学
- 只要考試? :-o
- 对
- 考什麼?
- 考很多科目

- 比如语文
- 数学
- 英语
- 上面三个科目是必须考的
- 有幾個科目, 左右?
- six
- 我們要考英文和数学可是考試只是申請表其中一部分
- 你們為什麼選去你們現在的大学?
- 那你們比我們复杂一些:
- 因為我們比較對這門学科感興趣
- 可是听说中國的大学試是非, 非常难的
- 因為這裡有你想讀的專業?
- 嗯, 還有离家比較近
- 是的

# MODULE 1 CHAT 2 SAMPLE

10/12/2016 20:34:37

- 你们在学校里有什么运动？
- 篮球，羽毛球，乒乓球，网球，滑板等等
- 你的学校参加了全国比赛吗？
- 我们有中蒙俄三国足球赛
- 学生需要参加体育课还是健身课吗？
- 体育课，但是大学二年级才有
- 在照片中他们在踢足球吗？
- 是的，那是国际性比赛
- 哇。很大。有很多人去看他们比赛吗？
- 是的，场面很盛大，观众大部分是在校的学生
- 还有好多俄罗斯帅哥
- [Drool][Drool] 他们有多帅？



# MODULE 1 CHAT 3 SAMPLE

10/24/2016 20:53:30

- 宿舍里有什么规定
  - 在大学规定少
  - 有门禁
  - 怎么说
  - 门禁吗？
  - 是的
  - 就是早上6点开门晚上11点关门
  - 如果过了11点你怎么办？
  - 我会敲宿管员的门然后被她说一通
  - 可能还被她登记名字被扣学分
  - 好严厉
- 你们宿舍有抽水马桶吗？
  - 没有
  - 我们宿舍每一层楼都没有公厕
  - 我们的是蹲坑
  - 什么？
  - 蹲坑？
  - 什么意思
  - 哦知道了
  - 你说宿舍每一层楼都没有公厕？
  - 厕所不是在房间里？
  - !!
  - 不是

# DICTIONARY -SAMPLE

	character	pinyin	meaning	sentence
1	抵御	diyū	to resist; to withstand	我难以抵御各种美食的诱惑。
2	全国性	quanguoxing	nationwide; national	高中毕业候会有全国性的考试。
3	锻炼	duanlian	to do physical training; exercise	虽然军训很苦，但是这是一个很好的机会去锻炼自己。
4	进入社会	jirushehui	to enter society	有些学生高中毕业后选择进入社会去实现自我。
5	地区	diqu	district/region/area	学生在同一个地区就会分配在同一个宿舍。
6	划分	huafen	divide/to group by	宿舍大部分是按地区划分。
7	网咯	wangluo	network/internet	我们还有网路授课，需要通过网络进行讨论。

# MODULE 1 WRITTEN REPORT SAMPLE

在和我的笔友谈话的时候，我学到了很多以前不知道的事。比方说，在中国大学，第一年的学生都要参加军训。我从来没听过军训。笔友们说她们学校有活动的时候，她们必须穿上军训的制服。我问了她们觉得军训怎么样。他们都说军训很难。我同意他们说军训很难因为我在高中的时候也有做过军训。虽然我的军训经验可能不像他们的那么难，但是我觉得我们的经验很像。我在谷歌上找到了一些资料。军训是一九五五年开始的。在军训中学生要做很多事。比方说，队形训练，立正，稍息，步法，和敬礼。

美国大学和中国大学的不同是军训，校舍建筑，和老师跟学生的关系。虽然美国在高中和大学也有军训，但是军训不是必须要做的。在中国，很多学校是中式建筑。而美国的建筑通常是希腊式。在美国，老师都很支持学生举手问问题。在中国，如果学生有问题，学生要等到上课完了以后才能问老师。美国和中国的同样是要学外文。在中国，他们要学英文。在美国，我们要学中文。

我从笔友们那边学到很多新的词汇。比方说‘画画’和‘感情’。画画的意思是to draw。感情的意思是affection。



# MODULE 2 READING 1 SAMPLE

“From the text, it was interesting to learn how much of a culture experience McDonald’s provided the people of China throughout the 1990s. While McDonald’s to me was simply another typical fast food chain, it was interesting to see how McDonald’s was to the people of China. Apart from the food, the citizens of China treated the opening of McDonald’s as a sign of modernization and westernization. In the 1990s, having hamburgers and fries were a foreign experience and some people would even ride a taxi to McDonald’s just to complete the whole package. Food in McDonald’s was certainly not the cheapest for a typical household family during that time but people still went despite everything. For a working man, the meal was practically one sixth of their monthly salary. However, people would still bring their families to McDonald’s for this foreign culture experience. Since the opening of McDonald’s in 1992, it has been very popular amongst yuppies, young couples, and families. While some say the food is not very filling and is more of a snack, people still continued to go there for the cultural experience.”

# MODULE 2 READING 2 SAMPLE

“It was interesting to learn about the methods and tactics that different countries would employ to sell their brand. In the commercial for McDonald’s in America, to gain popularity, they used popular male celebrity Justin Timberlake to advertise their products. However, to gear towards Asian culture and to use a familiar face with just as much of an impact and popularity, the company used Wang Lee Hom in their commercial. Although commercial ads for McDonald’s in China did not occur immediately after the opening of the first ever McDonald’s in Beijing, the company decided to do so seeing how much of an impact it caused. The reason why McDonald’s was hesitant initially to film a commercial in China was because they tended to play in between programs. While China advertised quality over quantity in their commercials, America did quite the contrary. America advertised quantity over quality and even had a dollar menu so that consumers were able to purchase as much as possible with as little money as possible. I am not sure which one would I prefer more, but I do think the quality of the food being consumed is very important.”

“While the menus in McDonald’s for both China and America are similar in some aspects, there are still differences between them. These unique food items target the consumers depending on their culture and I think that that is quite smart. It was interesting to see that while America had a salad menu, China did not offer the same. However, they did have an extensive tea list for drinks that America does not. Along with that, they had drinks with various flavors such as melon, strawberry, green tea, mango, taro, etc. which identifies itself with the Asian culture. Also, both countries had a few differences for their breakfast items. It was nice to know that in China, you can even order food like congee, mantou, and youtiao at a local McDonald’s. In America, these items can only be ordered at Chinese restaurants and would not be offered elsewhere.”

“The different McDonald’s menu in each country across the world each had unique food items specific for each own’s culture. Growing up in New York, my mom would always order apple pie for when I went to McDonald’s as a kid. It was nice to know that in other countries, an alternative taro pie is served and is so popular amongst consumers. If possible, I would like to visit each country one day and try their McDonald’s menu.”

# MODULE 2 READING 3 SAMPLE

“The main focus of the articles and the video is the health risks that come with eating fast in the long run. In the United States, fast food has been incorporated into American culture and people’s lives. Americans typically resort to have meals from these fast-food restaurants because of their busy lives and the easy accessibility of the restaurants. However, there are long-term consequences on eating too much fast food. For example, there are serious health risks for people who do not moderate their fast-food consumption. Obesity, especially childhood obesity, is becoming a growing problem in the United States. Obesity, along with heart disease and cancer, are among the health risks that comes with the overconsumption of sugar, salt, and fats. The video mentioned the movie “Super Size Me” which follows a man who experimented with consuming McDonald’s for his every meal for thirty days. By the end of the experiment, as many studies have stressed, consuming fast food at high rates ultimately leads to health problems. Due to the emphasis on health issues nowadays, many Americans have steered away from fast-food and looking at healthier options. However, there are still many Americans who still consume fast-foods at a high rate.”

“Something I would like to explore is fast-foods in school. I feel students do not always understand the concept of eating healthy and eating fast-foods in moderation. Many times children want to eat food that tastes good. It would interesting to see how schools try to balance between good tasting food and healthy food choices for students.”

# MODULE 2 CHAT 1 SAMPLE

11/08/2016

10:30:36

- 美国快餐品牌有什么呢?
- 我會去麥當勞 叫一個漢堡包 薯條 汽水
- 有很多選擇 mcdonalds, Wendy's, Popeyes, Burger King
- 听起来不错
- 价格怎么样呢?
- 哪一个快餐品牌更受欢迎呢?
- 那些快餐店是遍布城市当中吗?
- 應該是麥當勞吧 哈哈。 快餐店哪裡都有的
- 畢竟是城市我覺得很多人沒什麼時間去親手下廚
- 那平常很多人吃快餐吧?
- 会认为麦当劳是美国的标志之一嘛?
- 每次去麥當勞都很多人 所以我認為平常會很多人吃快餐
- 可以這樣認為
- 你更喜欢中餐还是西餐?
- 我覺得是,因為美國實在太多麥當勞

# MODULE 2 CHAT 2 SAMPLE

11/21/2016

09:06:09

- 你有看我发给你们看的美国麦当劳的广告吗？
- 看了，看不懂啊
- 啥意思
- 对了，你们可以说说中美饮食文化的异同吗？
- 在美国，中国餐厅很多人、很热闹
- 麦当劳也是吗？
- 麦当劳很热闹、什么人到有
- 你们的麦当劳多人吗？
- 还好
- 还有你看过美国麦当劳的餐吗？
- <https://www.mcdonalds.com/us/en-us/full-menu/burgers.html>
- 没有，
- 你可以看一下吗？
- 我想问问你啊，你们应该更懂，你先说说
- 能，都是英语
- 你不用读但是你看的时候你觉得有什么不同或一样？

# MODULE 2 CHAT 3 SAMPLE

12/05/2016

13:49:01

- 你有没有健康减肥方法
- 年轻人在中国关注他们的健康嘛
- 你有没有做运动？ 如果有 一个星期做多少次
- 肥胖是一个问题在中国吗
- 晚安
- 没有de^\_^
- 我的减肥方法就是运动，晚上不吃饭
- 他们大多不会关注的
- 一个礼拜一直在打篮球
- 在中国肥胖问题很严重
- 因为我也很胖

# MODULE 2 WRITTEN REPORT SAMPLE

麥當勞可是一個很有歷史性的快餐店。雖然它是源於美國，可是到目前為止，麥當勞已經是發展到全世界的每一個角落。在不同的國家，它的餐點裡會因當地人民的口味而跟其他國家有點兒不同。在美國，麥當勞可算是一個文化代表。快餐店在美國人生活中是一件不可或缺的東西。美國人天天都很忙，所以有些人會想要節省時間來把精神放在其他事情上。

北京第一間麥當勞是開在一九九二年四月二十三日。從一開始，麥當勞就受了很多人民的歡迎。對他們來說，麥當勞是一個邁進現代社會的一步。

我跟筆友談話的時候，發現原來他經常會在快餐店吃飯。我覺得這件事情很稀奇因為我從來都不會把麥當勞當飯來吃。他每一個星期都會跟朋友一起去吃快餐，一起聚會。這對我來說很有趣因為作為大學生，我很少會跟好幾個朋友去快餐店坐下來吃東西。可是，這對我筆友來說卻是一件很平常的事。我覺得在美店，很少會看見一群大學生在快餐店坐在一起。

在美國，麥當勞是一個文化代表。人民去快餐店是為求快和方便。可是在北京，麥當勞包含著另外一個意義。麥當勞在北京是代表著國家願意接受外來的新東西，而並不是那麼保守。有些人除了真的是為了去吃快餐，也是想要享受過程。對他們來說，麥當勞是一個從外國發展過來的店。所以，有些人為了想要體驗美國文化才去吃快餐。我覺得這挺有趣因為我發現原來有些人還會搭的士去麥當勞門口。他們的目的不是因為麥當勞的東西特別好吃，而是因為他們想要體驗一下外國的東西。

以前在麥當勞吃一份餐是打工仔的收入六分之一。很多人以前只會在生日或有特別意義的事情才會去吃。還有，有些父母為了孩子開心才會帶他們去吃麥當勞餐。所以以前在麥當勞吃東西可是很奢侈。但現在社會進步，要吃一份快餐不需要那麼貴了。在美國，快餐的吸引力在於他便宜的價錢。其次就是因為吃快餐可以節省時間。在美國，打工人很辛苦，每一分每一秒都是錢。

我覺得美國的麥當勞講究的是份量和划算。但是北京的麥當勞是講究品質。在北京的麥當勞，人民可以隨時申請看麥當勞的運作。他們都會以食物品質為先來確保人民的信心。可是在美國的麥當勞，食物品質不是最首要的目的。美國的麥當勞注重份量。我們的餐單裡會有一個 Dollar Menu，讓人民用一塊錢就可以買到食物。從這看來，可以見到美國人是喜歡用最少的錢來買到最多的東西。這樣的話，人民會覺得很划算，不會管食物有多麼不健康和不衛生。

北京的麥當勞從一九九二年來也大有改進。以前，人民在麥當勞吃完東西不會自己收拾。可是現在，他們會跟美國一樣，吃完東西之後會在快餐店裡把東西扔掉。

我跟筆友談話的時候學會兩個詞語。跟筆友談話的內容當中，常會出現一些我不懂的詞語，所以就要去查字典。我跟筆友學會的兩個詞語是「熬夜」和「暴露」。「熬夜」的意思是 to stay up overnight。如果用在句子裡，可以說：最近工作太忙，經常熬夜。「暴露」的意思是 to reveal。如果用在句子裡，可以說：他的行蹤已經暴露了。

FEEDBACK





# STUDENTS' FEEDBACK

	5 strongly agree	4 agree	3 neutral	2 disagree	1 disagree strongly	Total
1. Speak	5	13	19	9	2	48
2. Write	9	23	13	3	0	48
3. Read	13	20	12	2	1	48
4. Culture	17	23	7	1	0	48
5. Confident	6	17	19	3	2	47
6. Topics	4	20	16	7	1	48
7. Partners	19	15	12	1	0	47
8. Valuable	13	12	16	6	1	48
Total	86	143	114	32	7	382

# STUDENTS' FEEDBACK Q1

*1. Please describe in what kind of way, if any, the WeChat experience helps to improve your Chinese. For example, did you learn any new expressions/vocabulary/sentence structures from your partners? If so, please list them.*

- “This telecollaboration experience definitely helped improve my Chinese by exposing me to new vocabulary and new ways of thinking about different culture. I learned a log of commonly used phrases like ‘wan3 an1’ (good night 晚安), and the term for voting ‘tou2 piao4’, which is useful in discussing the American presidential election with my penpal.”
- “This telecollaboration experience helped me improve my Chinese because through my partner, I learned new vocabulary words. For example, 大屏幕, 掛科.”

# STUDENTS' FEEDBACK Q2

*2. Are there any facts about China or Chinese culture which you did not know before but learned through this WeChat experience? If so, please specify them.*

- *“There was a fact about college life in China that wasn't aware of, which was the system of standardized tests. I didn't know that the determination of which school and what major a student will have was based heavily on the grade of their standardized tests.”*
- *“It was interesting to learn about Inner Mongolia because there were a lot of things I did not know about Mongolia. In the beginning, I would even ask my penpal - since there is a 内 meng gu, is there a 外 meng gu?”*

# STUDENTS' FEEDBACK Q3

*3. Is there any WeChat topic that you are interested in but was not covered in this course?*

- *"I'm interested in family structures in China, especially childhood experiences."*
- *"I would have liked to know more about Chinese traditions especially since the holidays and Chinese New Year being so close."*
- *"I would enjoy learning more about the way Chinese food is marketed and advertised to Chinese people within China (in the second module we looked at the methods with which American food was marketed in China)."*
- *"I wanted to talk more about our own interests and hobbies."*

# STUDENTS' FEEDBACK Q4

*4. Do you have any suggestions for future telecollaboration projects?*

- "Let students decide on the subject matter, this way they are more eager to learn, and will be able to learn easier."
- "If we can have 1 on 1 pairings would great. My partner's Chinese was stronger; therefore she carried most. If not all the conversations with minimal input from me."
- "It's kind of hard to communicate with students in China because of the time difference. So it's better to set up a certain time for us to chat."
- "Start as early as possible."

# INSTRUCTOR'S FEEDBACK

1. Some students asked several questions at one time because they said it took time for their partners to reply. I said don't ask too many question at one time. It is fine to wait for a reply because they need interaction.
2. One student said that she needed to install a Chinese input system to type Chinese characters on her phone.
3. Most students were excited about this project, but some students thought it was too much work.
4. We asked students to chat in Chinese first and then in English, but some students were confused.
5. One of my students sent me an email said that some private chats from her partner made her uncomfortable. I talked to Yun about this. I asked my student to delete this student from her contacts and to chat only with the group.
6. One of my student said that her partner only typed in English. One of my students said that her partner didn't reply to her questions. I told Yun about these issues and they are resolved now.

# THANK YOU

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A revised version of the modules will be available on the CILC website May 2018.

[www.cilc.gc.cuny.edu/HT](http://www.cilc.gc.cuny.edu/HT)

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