Course description and objectives

The course is designed for “true” beginners who have no knowledge of Chinese. The emphasis of the course is on how to use Chinese in real life and focus on the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

The students coming out of this course will master the basic pronunciation (pinyin) as well as grammatical structures of spoken Chinese, basic tones, have a vocabulary of 200 lexical items and comprehend and navigate through most simple daily conversational situations such as: greetings, family dialogue, dates and time, and hobbies. The course will also introduce the Chinese writing system, and other useful expressions.

Required Textbook


Supplementary Material:

(ii) Suitable extra pedagogical material provided by instructor.
(iii) Helpful Internet Websites:

http://www.sinospilice.com
http://Chinese.rutgers.edu
http://www.cctv.com
http://krtmatu.com/chinese/cedict

In-Class Activities:

The key to effective learning of Chinese is to master listening and speaking first, followed by reading and writing. In addition to lectures, we will use videos, newspaper clips, photo stories, and CDs. Students will be put into “conversational pairs” to facilitate practice of spoken Chinese. Compulsory speaking in Chinese is required by the third week of the semester.

Regular Homework:
Memorizing new vocabularies for each lesson
• Copying new characters for each new lesson
• Reading and reciting the designated text
• Listening to tapes of lessons
• Practicing oral Chinese by ‘conversational pairs’ in class

**Term Assignment**

Study pair assignment.

Each study pair is required to create a situational dialogue utilizing the vocabulary you have learned. Tape it and bring it to class on time. It will be evaluated in class. Study pair is required to have the skit approved by the instructor prior to the final taping.

**Grading:**

- 10% - Participation: Class and Lab attendance will be mandatory. Classroom performance and other activities will be recorded. Half a point will be deducted for each absence.
- 10% - Vocabulary quizzes, twice per lesson.
- 20% - Chapter Tests: every two weeks. It will include reading comprehension, grammar and written.
- 10% - Oral examinations: midterm and Final (listening comprehension and speaking)
- 15% - Midterm written examination
- 20% - Final written examination
- 10% - Homework (Grammar exercise and character writing exercise)
- 5% - Term assignment (No late turn-in accepted)

**Final letter grade:**

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>90-93</td>
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**Makeup policy:**

No make-up quiz, tests, or exams, except under special circumstances, will be given.

**Attendance Policy:**

1. The student is responsible for any in-class materials/announcements that he/she misses during an absence.

2. A 0.5% of one’s final grades will be deducted for absence to class & lab. (Proof from doctor must be presented for sick leaves)

3. Students who are late for 10 minutes will be regarded as absent.
4. A 0.1% of one’s final grades will be deducted for lateness to class & lab.

**Technology policy in the class room:**

All the following is not allowed to be used in the class without prior approval by the instructor: Cell phones, PDAs, blackberries, ipods, Bluetooth, and laptops.

**Homework policy:**

1. **Always turn in homework by the end of class on Friday.**
2. No late homework will be accepted, except those resulting from an excused absence.
3. A 0.25 % of one’s final grades will be deducted for your missed homework.

**Weather policy: 977-snow**

**No negotiating for grades:**

There will be no opportunity for “extra credit” to improve grads that have already been earned. Bargaining for grads will not be tolerated. The only way to achieve the minimum grad that you require is to attend class and lab every day, study suitably for exams and successfully complete all assignment.

**Academic Honesty:**

Students are expected to be honest in their academic work. The university reserves the right to penalize any student whose academic conduct is at anytime, in its judgment, a detriment to the university. Such conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving/receiving or offering or soliciting information on examinations, or the use of previously prepared material on examination or quizzes. Violations should be reported to your course instructor, who will investigate and adjudicate them according to policy on Academic Honesty of the college of arts and sciences. If the charges are found to be true, the student may be liable for academic or disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion from the university.

**Students with Special Needs – Disability Services:**

Any student who, because of disability, feels that he or she may need academic accommodation in order to meet the requirements of the course as outlined in the syllabus, should contact the office of Diversity and Affirmative Action. Please telephone the office at 314-977-8885, send an email to meyerah@slu.edu or visit DuBorg Hall, Room 36. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquires.