

CET Syllabus of Record



Program: Chinese Studies and Internship in Beijing
Course Title: Beginning Chinese (Summer)
Course Code: CL111
Total Hours: 88
Recommended Credits: 5
Suggested Cross Listings: Chinese Language
Language of Instruction: Chinese
Prerequisites/Requirements: None

Description

This course is designed for non-native speakers of Chinese with no previous training in Mandarin. The course comprises a variety of integrated classes which meet for a total of 11 hours per week, or 88 contact hours per semester. The component classes include: Grammar and Vocabulary, Drill, and One-on-One classes.

Grammar and Vocabulary: First, students grasp the fundamentals of the Pinyin system of Chinese Romanization (i.e. use of initials and finals, the four tones, tonal shift, characteristics of the neutral tone, methods of pronunciation, and the laws governing *erhuayin*). Second, working from this base, students develop additional language abilities such as: the skill to handle vocabulary that appears in class texts, in particular those nouns, verbs, measure words, and locative terms that commonly occur in day-to-day interactions; and the facility to compose basic narrative, interrogative, and imperative sentences. Throughout the course, the instructor pays particular attention to cultivating appropriate pronunciation, word usage, and intonation in all students.

Drill: This class reinforces students' understanding of material covered in the grammar class. Instructors use methods such sentence completion, switching sentence structure, word changes, etc. to ensure that students can actively use each new word and pattern with accuracy. Students are required to not only use appropriate pronunciation, tones and vocabulary, but also to maintain a certain speed of communication indicative of a basic comfort with the target language. Furthermore, students are expected to use language skills developed in class to participate in simple, simulated social interactions as dictated by the instructor. This is a task-based class.

One-on-One: Once per week, a teacher and a student work one-on-one to resolve that individual student's language problems.

Objectives

In this course, students learn the pinyin system of Chinese Romanization and develop a solid grasp of basic Chinese pronunciation, a platform on which later study may be built.

Students acquire 400 common Chinese words, phrases and structures and by the end of the course are able to engage in limited, basic interactions with Chinese speakers on topics covered in class.

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They are also able to read short passages similar to those used in class, and compose brief papers in Chinese between 100 to 150 characters in length.

Course Requirements

Students can expect at least 1 hour of homework or preparation for every hour spent in class. They complete daily and bi-weekly quizzes, bi-weekly compositions and frequent oral reports. Before attending class, students are expected to review the previous day's material, complete all homework assignments, listen to language CD's from the new lesson text, review the new lesson text and memorize all vocabulary, review grammar notes in the textbook, etc. Comprehensive final exams are also used to evaluate student progress.

Methods of Evaluation

The final grade is determined as follows:

General classroom performance	20%
Daily quiz grade	10%
Daily homework scores	10%
Bi-weekly test grades	30%
Final examination	30%

Primary Texts

Integrated Chinese, Level 1, Part 1, Cheng & Tsui. (11 units)

Integrated Chinese, Level 1, Part 2, Cheng & Tsui. (1 unit)

Supplementary Texts

NA

Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

The first week are used to learn the Pinyin Romanization system and basic pronunciation. After that, one textbook lesson is covered every four class periods. Every two weeks, there is a brief review of material and oral and written examinations.

Students complete 12 units of *Integrated Chinese*, Level 1, Part 1, and 1 unit of *Integrated Chinese*, Level 1, Part 2.