

Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business

LEVEL 1 CHINESE (MANDARIN) COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACT HOURS: 80

ENTRY LEVEL REQUIREMENT: minimal or no proficiency in Mandarin Chinese.

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

Upon completion of this language course students should have a good command of:

- 325 Chinese words and expressions
- 244 Chinese characters
- 22 grammar items and 23 communicative function items

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Level 1 Chinese is a basic four-skill (Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing) course designed to introduce participants to the sound and writing system of the language and to develop a minimal level of communicative competence for socializing in everyday situations. It also sensitizes participants to a limited number of aspects of Chinese culture and daily life.

CONTENT

Themes

- Greeting
- Numbers
- Self introduction
- Family members
- Borrow things
- Shopping and Dining
- Planning
- Time and Schedule
- Location and direction

Grammar

- Simple sentence pattern 1: subject + verb(+ object); adverb + verb
- Simple sentence pattern 2: subject + adjective
- Measure words
- Numbers
- Verb phrases in series
- The reduplication of verbs

- Attributive + noun
- Expressions of Time
- Adverbial + verb/ adjective
- Direction Verbs
- The reduplication of adjectives
- “? zai ” sentences and “? you ” sentences

OBJECTIVES

The objectives are presented according to the four language skills: Speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Speaking

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Introduce family members
- Tell favourite colours
- Describe clothes for different occasions
- Talk about weather, temperature and feeling
- Tell date and time
- Talk about vacation and activities

Listening

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Answer questions and do exercises about extracts (simple dialogues, brief narratives, etc.) based on the areas listed above.

Reading

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Answer questions, summarize and do exercises based on readings about:
 - (a) The areas listed under “*Speaking*”

Writing

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Compose pieces of writing related to the topics dealt with in the course and in different forms of written communication (letters, dialogues, e-mails, etc.).
- Recognise key components of a Chinese character, which would aid in reflexive understanding without the use of a dictionary

Cultural Component

Upon completion of the course, students will have been introduced to:

- Chinese Names
- The way people address each other in China
- Tourist industry of China
- Shopping and Dining in China
- Education system of China

**subject to adjustment at the teacher's discretion or students' request*

Chinese people have great pride in their culture and history. Awareness of and interest in their heritage and traditions is a predictable topic of conversation with any native Chinese speaker. The cultural segment of the class will be used as a language-building opportunity through the introduction of relevant vocabulary, idioms and sentence patterns. Student handouts will be prepared, and student participation will also be encouraged through individual or group projects.

Supplementary Language-Building

The text will be used as a base for further expansion into the language. A segment of the class will be used to build upon grammar and vocabulary presented in each lesson. This extra content will not be included in the in-course tests or the final exam (see below). It is designed to enhance and expand communicative skills on the basis of personal motivation. Each student will be able to engage in filtered reception of new information according to his/her individual learning threshold and according to his/her own individual interest and needs. Full student participation is expected.

Assessment

Participants will be assessed on the four language skills: Speaking, listening, reading and writing.

(a) In-course Tests

Four tests on the four skills will be taken during the course, representing 40% of the final mark.

(b) Final Examination

At the end of the course, a comprehensive examination testing each of the four skills will be administered, representing 60% of the final mark. The language skills will be weighted as follows:

Speaking	30%	Listening	20%
Reading	20%	Writing	30%

* Simple quizzes will be a regular feature of the course. They will not count towards the final grade, but will serve to help students strengthen their skills and assess their progress.

METHODOLOGY

In this course, there will be considerable emphasis on developing oral and writing skills. Delivery will be interactive and the teachers will make use of the target language as much as possible. The learning pace will be moderate but deliberate to facilitate a smooth crossover between two very distinct language systems. Students will be encouraged to

work in small groups and share learning experiences. Students will be encouraged to use the internet along with other materials to assist them in their learning experience.

MATERIAL

Textbook: Contemporary Chinese – Book One « ? ? ? ? ? »
Exercise Book
Character Book

Publisher: Sinolingua
Edition: 2003 first edition
ISBN: 7-80052-880-4

Internet resource : <http://hmarty.free.fr/hanzi/>
<http://www.chinaculture.org>

May 2006