

Course: Mandarin Chinese I

Instructor: Mrs. Hui-Ling Singer

Academic year: 2009-2010

Course philosophy: There are many good reasons to take this course. 1) Chinese is spoken by one-quarter of the world's population and in the United States; it is the language of the second-largest group of non-English speakers, after only Spanish. 2) China's economy has been blooming for the last decade and will continue to thrive. Being able to speak Mandarin Chinese will certainly open up a lot of job opportunities for you in the future. 3) China is one of the oldest countries, which has a lot of cultural and historical heritage that will enrich your knowledge and vision about the world in which you live. 4) In 2007 Mandarin Chinese was offered for the first time as an Advanced Placement course by the College Board in the United States. With all these and maybe more good reasons in mind, this course will serve you as a foundation for learning Mandarin Chinese. Have fun and enjoy the adventure!

Course requirements:

- 1) textbook-Huanying Volume I
- 2) workbooks-Huanying Volume I Part 1 and Part 2
- 3) One section of a 3-ring binder for hand-outs, notes and homework
- 4) Pencil or pen (black or blue only) for note-taking and test-taking
- 5) Blank CDs to download audio files from Internet for each unit
- 6) A CD player or computer to listen to the audio files
- 7) An audio recorder (optional)
- 8) A smile and an open heart

Grading procedure:

Your grade will be determined by the following assessment methods within each trimester:

Class Participation: 20%

Homework: 20%

Oral communication skill: 20%

Quizzes and Tests: 20%

Presentations: 20%

To emphasize the importance of growth through the school year, the weight of each trimester grade is:

1st trimester: 15%

2nd trimester: 25%

3rd trimester: 35%

The final grade of your overall performance in this class is based on the combination of each trimester grade and two major exams.

Mid-year cumulative exam: 10%

Final cumulative exam: 15%

Grading scale: The following scale is also listed in the Student Handbook:

90-100 A- to A+

80-89 B- to B+

70-79 C- to C+

60-69 D- to D+

0-59 F

Homework policies: You will be given homework every day. Get it done and hand it in on time.

Classroom policies:

- 1) be in class on time
- 2) come prepared
- 3) be respectful
- 4) be responsible
- 5) be honest
- 6) water only
- 7) more Chinese, less English
- 8) have fun

Tentative Course Schedule:

First Trimester

August:

1. Basic Greetings and Simple Self-introduction
2. Chinese Sound System-Pinyin (1.1)

September:

1. Chinese Sound System- Pinyin continue (1.1)
2. Unit One- My Classmates and I (1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6)

October:

1. Unit Two- My Family (2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4)

November:

1. Unit Two- My Family continue (2.5, 2.6)

2. Review of Unit One and Two

Second Trimester

November:

1. Unit Three- Time and Dates (3.1, 3.2)

December:

1. Unit Three- Time and Dates continue (3.2, 3.3, 3.4)

January:

1. Unit Three- Time and Dates continue (3.5, 3.6)
2. Unit Four- Things We Use Every Day (4.1, 4.2)

February:

1. Review for Mid-year Exam and Mid-year Exam
2. Unit Four- Things We Use Every Day continue (4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6)
3. Review of Unit Three and Four

Third Trimester

March:

1. Unit Five- Things We Do for Fun (5.1, 5.2, 5.3)

April:

1. Unit Five- Things We Do for Fun continue (5.4, 5.5, 5.6)
2. Unit Six- The Places where We Live (6.1, 6.2)

May:

1. Unit Six- The Places where We Live continue (6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6)
2. Review for Final Exam and Final Exam

Course Outline:

I. Introduction

1. Chinese Sound System-Pinyin
2. Initials
3. Finals
4. Tones and Tone Marks
5. Pinyin Spelling Rules
6. How to Pronounce Chinese Using Pinyin
7. Pronunciation Practice
8. Classroom Expressions
9. Basic Greetings

II. Grammar

1. Word Order
2. Positive and Negative Statements
3. Tag Questions
4. Yes/No Questions
5. Questions with Interrogative Pronouns
6. Possessive Pronouns
7. The Order of Times and Dates
8. Adverbial of Time
9. Adverbial of Place
10. Measure Words
11. Basic Sentence Structures for Indicating Distance Between two Things
12. Basic Structure for Indicating the Completion of an Action

III. Vocabulary

1. My Classmates and I
2. Basic Greetings
3. My Family
4. Numbers 1-99
5. Names of Some Countries and Languages
6. Some Common Occupations
7. Time and Dates
8. Names of High School Courses
9. Things We Use Every Day
10. Colors
11. Basic School Supplies
12. Sports
13. Basic Computer Supplies
14. Basic Eating Utensils
15. Recreational Activities (Computer Games, TV Programs, Musical Instruments, Movies, Concerts and Travel)
16. The Places Where We Live

IV. Culture

1. The Chinese-Speaking World
2. Chinese Customs
3. Basic Knowledge of the Structures of Chinese Characters

V. Writing

1. Writing Chinese Characters in the Correct Stroke Order
2. Writing Simple Sentences

VI. Reading

1. Dialogues
2. Multi-Paragraph selections answered in Chinese in complete sentences

VII. Listening

1. Free downloadable audio files that correspond to both the textbook and workbooks
2. CD
3. Instructor and other students

VIII. Speaking

1. Repeat after the instructor in class
2. Practice Dialogues
3. Roll Play
4. Record your own speaking