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CHIN 101 Elementary Chinese

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CHINESE 101 ELEMENTARY CHINESE SYLLABUS – SPRING 2014
TU/TH 4:00-5:15    CIN 201

Instructor: Simran Khaira                      Office Hours: Schott 912, TU/TH 1:15-2:15 or by apt.
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Chinese 101 is an introductory course of elementary Chinese Mandarin, and has no pre-requisites. This
course introduces basic language knowledge and common vocabulary, and aims to develop basic
communication ability and knowledge of Chinese language and culture for learners with no previous
experience in the language.

REQUIRED BOOKS AND MATERIALS:

1. Chinese: Communicating in the Culture Performance Text One, Author: Galal Walker and Yong
2. Chinese: Communicating in the Culture Interactive DVD, Author: Galal Walker and Yong Lang,
3. Chinese Written Transfer: Volume 1, Author: W. Sergent, M. Chiang and G. Walker, Publisher:

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to help you develop fundamental skills in Mandarin Chinese to communicate
across cultural boundaries. By the end of the semester, you will:

- Broaden your knowledge of Chinese language in cultural contexts
- Develop your ability to communicate verbally on topics such as, but not limited to instructional
  expressions, greetings, people, activities, descriptions, telling times, daily life, shopping, past
  events, and descriptions of locations
- Learn to read and write elementary Chinese characters

At the same time as learning Chinese language, you will also be learning how to behave appropriately in
a Chinese cultural setting. The focus of this course is on your performance in a Chinese linguistic and
cultural environment.

COURSE SET UP:
Chinese 101 will help you develop all four skills of Chinese: speaking, listening, reading and writing. It is
your responsibility to be well-prepared, active, and ready to perform in class.

Speaking and Listening:
Classes will be taught from Chinese: Communicating in the Culture Performance Text One (CCC). Classes
will mostly be conducted in Chinese.

For the most part, each class period will be broken up into two sections:
1. **Grammar overview**: A discussion of language structure and usage. This part of class will be taught mainly in English and will emphasize your approach to language learning. The purpose is to familiarize you with the main points of the lessons, and you may ask questions in English or Chinese.

2. **Student Performance**: This part of class will be taught in Chinese, with focus on students doing things in the language. The majority of class time will be Student Performance based. In the Performance part of classes, you will practice handling various realistic situations using the language, based on what you’ve prepared for that class hour. You will be asked to perform dialogues you have memorized from the CCC textbook, and be drilled on grammar and vocabulary from that lesson.

You will receive a daily grade for all classes—4 points maximum for dialogue performance, and 4 points maximum for your performance in grammar and vocabulary drills.

**Reading and Writing:**
Reading and writing classes will be taught from *Chinese Written Transfer Volume 1*.

Reading lessons will include, but are not limited to, reading aloud, asking and answering questions in Chinese on the content of the readings, and discussing content.

Writing lessons will include, but are not limited to in-class writing practice, writing character sheets, and being quizzed on new vocabulary. You will receive a grade for each of these components—4 points maximum for the in-class practice and 4 points maximum for the homework.

**EVALUATION**
You will earn your grade through daily performance, a reading and writing final exam, and a final oral presentation. Your grade will be calculated as follows, with a total of 316 points possible *(You will need a minimum of 60% to pass the course)*:

1. Daily Performance: 216 points
2. Final Reading and Writing Exam: 50
3. Final Oral Presentation: 50 points

**Your daily performance is very important!** Please refer to the weekly schedule to prepare for class ahead of time. Your daily performance will be graded on the following scale unless you are told otherwise.

**Grade Scale:**

4 = Well prepared, performs with fluidity, no difficulty, discomfort or miscommunication. Any mistakes are self-corrected.

3.5 = Well prepared and understandable, but makes some errors that would hamper smooth communication. Most mistakes are self-corrected.

3 = Prepared, and performance is understandable, but there are consistent mistakes. Self-correction is not enough; also requires occasional correction from the instructor.

2.5 = Performance and preparation are not enough to communicate without significant help from the
instructor.
2 = Preparation is insufficient, would require an interlocutor to communicate with a native.
1.5 = Barely prepared, very little understanding apparent.
1 = Unprepared, cannot perform
0 = Absent

Most class sessions will be graded on a scale of 8 possible points. Grades and comments will be entered onto Blackboard, which is located at blackboard.xavier.edu. Use your Banner ID username and password to access Blackboard. Please check Blackboard daily for postings regarding the course.

For writing classes, if the homework is late one day, you will receive only half of the total possible points. Homework late for more than two days will not be accepted and will be entered as a zero in your grade record.

Percentage Grade Scale:
A 93 – 100 %   B+ 87-89.9 %   C+ 77-79.9 %  D+ 67-69.9 %
A- 90-92.9 %  B 83-86.9%   C 73-76.9 %   D 63-69.9 %
B- 80-82.9 %   C- 70-72.9 %   D- 60-62.9%  F Below 60%

Make-up policy:
If you must miss class, please let me know in good time if possible. You will be allowed to make up no more than three missed classes. The make-ups will be conducted during office hours or by appointment and will cover the work missed. Make-ups are to be arranged within two days of your return to class; missed classes which are not made up within the above time frame or which exceed three in number will be entered as zeroes in your grade record. It is vital that you maintain communication if you miss class. There will be NO MAKEUPS during exam week.

Schedules
You will be given a weekly schedule for one or two weeks in advance. You are required to be prepared and perform in class as indicated on the schedule. If you do not understand what the schedule is asking you to do, it is your responsibility to seek clarification. The instructor reserves the right to make changes in the schedule or course requirements and evaluation as necessary.

Acknowledgements
This course was originally designed and taught by Professor Galal Walker and other Professors at The Ohio State University’s Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures. I have followed their syllabus closely and borrowed liberally from their rich experience and language teaching culture.

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