Course title: Chinese Language, Intermediate I  
Course code: CHIN 2001 BJCH  
Programs offering course: Sustainable Development  
Language of instruction: Chinese  
U.S. semester credits: 4  
Contact hours: 60  
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description

This Chinese language course enables students to enrich language materials and formulate Chinese expressions by introducing a wide range of vocabularies, offering detailed grammar explanations, reinforcing grammar structures with regular repetition, and raising their cultural awareness. The textbook of this course is topics oriented, following the life of an exchange student experiencing Beijing for the first time. Students who finish this course are expected to give narration precisely and have prepared in culture knowledge to interact with local Chinese.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Engage in different but not complicated conversations, and confidently respond to and also ask questions by organizing phrases and sentences with language knowledge learnt from class or information collected from the context
- Understand conversations related to familiar topics, and correctly understand the main idea of a descriptive speaking text
- Read informative, narrative, and some descriptive written texts, and recall forgotten words based on context
- Write narrative sentences and a short paragraph with proper grammar, phrases, and conjunction words
- Understand and have the willingness to interact with local Chinese on certain cultural customs
- Master approximately 1500 words and 160 grammar structures

Course Prerequisites
This course is designed for the intermediate Chinese level students, who have had three college semesters of Chinese or at least is at the Novice-High level according to ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

Methods of Instruction

The leading methods applied in this course is Communicative Language Teaching, embedding students into real-life and meaningful conversations, and using the learning materials updated with student’s daily life. The teaching approaches and activities are designed to promote teacher-student interaction in order to lead the students to real communication in Chinese. Most of the class hours are organized to have students speaking and listening in sentences with the help of multimedia courseware, pictures, videos. Different types of stimulus are carefully arranged into class to meet needs of different learning styles. Assignments after class is applied as writing practices. Other teaching methods and approaches are utilized based on learning objectives, such as audiolingual methods applied at the first stage of structure practice, TPR used for learning certain vocabularies.

The 4 meeting hours per week is slip into two parts: two times of 100 minutes group class and 40 minutes tutoring/discussion/presentation.

The 100 minutes group class is mainly focus on content of textbook, including vocabularies and grammar structures. Students are expected to learn under the guidance given by instructor and to have topic and structure controlled language practice. Correct out-put is highlighted in the 4 hours meeting.

The 40 minutes tutoring/discussion/presentation offers opportunity of “free speech” and review section, talking about topics students interested in, correcting pronunciation, or solving questions students met during the week study. Though students are encouraging to express freely, instructor will note down any error/mistake during the conversation and give feedback to students in the end of the meeting.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Homework 15%
2. Tutoring Performance 15%
3. Mid-term Exam 25%
4. Final Exam 25%
Participation 20%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Homework

Homework, which is assigned daily, includes finishing the workbook or prepare a short oral presentation. Students should spend approximate one and half hours to two hours on homework and previewing. Homework is accepted up to three days after deadline and 0.3 percentage point off for each day. Missing a homework will lead to 1 percent off final grades.

Tutoring Performance

Tutoring on Friday is 15% of final grade. Students are expected to bring topics or questions to instructor. In this free conversation, making errors will not make students loss grade point but no or poor preparation before the meeting will. The instructor evaluates students’ performance according to their contribution to the conversation and willingness of using vocabularies and structures learnt in the week.

Mid-term Exam

Final Exam

Mid-term exam is on the eighth week and final exam is on the fifteenth week. Both of the exams consist of a listening and speaking exam, 15% of final grade, and a reading and writing exam, 10% of final grade.

The listening and speaking exam requests students to finish 2 conversations with the teacher and 2 independent presentations in 45 minutes. Student will be given topics ahead of the exam for preparation. Students are expected to collect information from teacher, to share information precisely, and to address personal viewpoint properly with correct pronunciation and tones, phrases and sentences, and communication strategies.

The reading and writing exam request student to complete writing tasks based on reading 2 written texts, and to complete a functional/paragraph writing based on a given topic in 1 hour. Exam time length can be accommodated for special needs.
Students are expected to understand information or ideas in the text, and to write readable characters in the right form and coherently sentences with right grammar structure.

Participation

Participation is worth 20% of final grade. Fully attendance and actively involving activities and communications in class ensure a 20% grade. Being late or absent, eating, messaging, calling, or other disrespectful behaviors to instructors or classmates leads to loss points.

Attendance

Attendance is an important part of participation:

- Each unexcused absence from class will lead to one percentage point reduction.
- Exceeding 6 hours (10% of total course hours) unexcused absence may lead to a written warning from Beijing Director, a notification to student’s home school, and/or dismissal from program in addition to the grade reduction.
- Unexcused absence exceeding 12 hours may lead to a fail in this course.
- Over 15 minutes late or early leaving is taken as an unexcused absence.
- An absence will only be considered excused if:
  - a doctor’s note is provided
  - a CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class
  - evidence if provided of a family emergency
- Excused absence exceeding three times will lead to one percentage point reduction for each one, unless a doctor’s note on being hospitalized is provided.

N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1
Week 1
Class: Orientation Week

Introduction to class
Arrival in Beijing
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 2 & 3 and dictation
Oral prep: your first day

Week 2
Class: Call mom

Call mom
Early getting up and showering
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 4 & 5 and dictation
Oral prep: introduce your daily life at school

Week 3
Class: Where is the post office?

Diarrhea and bad sleep
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 6 & 7 and dictation
Oral prep: introduce a place you visited near school

Week 4
Class: Take a noon nap and drink hot water
Do laundry
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 8 & 9 and dictation
Oral prep: The most health life style you recommended

Week 5
Class: Haircut
Exchange bank notes
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 10 & 11 and dictation
Oral prep: Online pay in China (Ali pay, Wechat Pay, etc)

Week 6
Class: Haggle on price
Comrade, Miss, and Mister
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 12 & 13 and dictation
Oral prep: your best friends’ nickname

Week 7
Class: The toilet
Take a train
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook
Oral prep: My travel experience/plan in China

Week 8
Class: Review

Mid-term examination
Discussin
Pre-view Unit 14 & 15 and dictation

Week 9
Class: Parks in Beijing

Night markets in Beijing
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 16 & 17 and dictation
Oral prep: A best place in Beijing

Week 10
Class: Beijing Zoo

The Great Wall
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 18 & 19 and dictation
Oral prep: If use an animal to describe yourself, what will it be and why?

Week 11
Class: It depends…

On the table
Review + Discussion
Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 20 & 21 and dictation

Oral prep: the difference about table manner

Week 12
Class: Order your dish

Crossing the roads is so dangerous.

Review + Discussion

Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 22 & 23 and dictation

Oral prep: Traffic in China

Week 13
Class: Good good study, and day up

Mandarin Chinese and standard characters

Review + Discussion

Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 24 and dictation

Oral prep: Popularize Mandarin Chinese

Week 14
Class: Made in China

Review

Homework: Exercise on workbook, pre-view Unit 6 & 7 and dictation

Oral prep: Made in China 2025

Week 15
Class: Review
Final examination

Course Materials
Readings

Textbooks


Recommended readings

- https://www.class-central.com/search?q=China
- https://www.coursera.org/courses?query=china&start=40&userQuery=China
- http://wz.chinesecio.com/?cat=10