CIEE Beijing, China

Course title: Chinese Language, Beginning II  
Course code: CHIN 1002 BJCH  
Programs offering course: Sustainable Development  
Language of instruction: Chinese  
U.S. semester credits: 4  
Contact hours: 60  
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description

This 4-credit Chinese language course is designed for beginning-level language learners. This course enables students to practice speaking skills on presenting detailed information by expending student's basic knowledge of Chinese language and by leading students to have topic-orientated practice of oral and Chinese writing skills. The students will be able to understand and deliver short conversations or written text about their study-abroad daily life, including the weather, actions and events, living habits, personal evaluation, sending invitation, and future plan. This course will help students to acquire the language skills to life on campus and meet non-English speaking friends in Beijing.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Respond to direct questions, and have conversations of sharing detailed information and building up social connections with Chinese with vocabularies, phrases, or complete sentences learnt from class, or sometime phrases or sentences creatively organized by their own, topics related to personal preference, objects, actions, some immediate requests and future plan
- Understand most of or some information in a clearly instructional or informational verbal text related to daily life without speakers’ repetition
- Read short sentences of personal preference, social topics, or other narrative written text
- Write sentences to describe one’s daily routine or a normal event, and also can write short letters, and other functional writing
Detect and avoid making mistakes on cultural rules in conversations with local Chinese
• Master approximately 1000 words and about 120 grammar structures

Course Prerequisites
This course is designed for the beginner level Chinese learners, who have had two college semesters of Chinese or at least is at the Novice-Mid 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 is designed to promote teacher-student interaction in order to lead the students have real communication in Chinese. Most of the class hours are organized to have students speaking and listening with the help of on-line multimedia courseware, pictures, videos. Different types of stimulus are carefully arranged into class to meet needs of different learning styles. Assignments after class is facilitated as writing practices. Other teaching methods 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 meetings per week is slip into two parts: two times of 100 minutes group class and one 40-minute 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 by 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”, 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 mark 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 examination 25%
5. 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 examination

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
Class: Orientation Week Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 3

Introduction to class

Unit 1: Today is another cloudy day.

Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 2&3

Oral prep: greeting with weather

Week 2
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 3

Unit 2: He is surfing online.

Unit 3: Morning jogging is my habits.

Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 4&5

Oral prep: dorm life

Week 3
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 3
Unit 4: Is the life in Beijing convenient?

Unit 5: I want to mail a letter.

Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 6

Oral prep: pros & cons of living on campus

Week 4
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 3

Review

Unit 6: What is the exchange rate today?

Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 7&8

Oral prep: patience on waiting in line

Week 5
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 3

Unit 7: This outfit doesn’t suit young people.

Unit 8: I have a cold.

Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 9&10

Oral prep: elder fashion vs youth fashion

Week 6
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 3
Unit 9: Let’s go to watch a soccer game!

Unit 10: Have you been to Beijing before?

Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 9&10

Week 7
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 3

Review

Homework: preview Unit 1

Week 8
Class: Mid-term examination Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 4

Mid-term examination

Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 4

Unit 1: Class begins

Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 2&3

Oral prep: the best class

Week 9
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 4

Unit 2: What’s your major?

Unit 3: Have you get used to Chinese university campus?

Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 4&5

Oral prep: your academic background and plan
Week 10
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 4

Unit 4: What job do you want to have in the future?
Unit 5: What do you think about this firm?
Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 6
Oral prep: career path in China

Week 11
Class: Review

Unit 6: How do you register in school?
Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 7&8
Oral prep: register for a driving license

Week 12
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 4

Unit 7: Best wishes to your new job! Cheers!
Unit 8: Which country do you want to study abroad in?
Homework: finish workbook and preview Unit 9&10
Oral prep: the next stop of study abroad

Week 13
Class: Great Wall Chinese – Essentials in Communication 4

Unit 9: My class will have excursion this weekend.

Unit 10: What's your plan for this weekend?

Homework: finish workbook

Oral prep: a wonderful trip

Week 14
Class: Review

Prepare for final presentation

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