

Department of Comparative Literature
University of Georgia
CHNS 1001 Introductory Chinese Level 1
Fall 2007

Instructor: Xiaobo (Jacky) ZHANG
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Time & Classroom: Mon & Fri 12:20-1:10 Pm (352 Fine Arts)
Tue & Thu 12:30-1:45 Pm (135 Leconte)
Office: Joe Brown 139 (Chinese language Program)
Office Hours: Tuesday 3-5:00 Pm or by appointment

Textbooks: Integrated Chinese, Level 1, Part 1, including

1. Textbook (ISBN Simplified: 0887274609)
 2. Workbook (ISBN Simplified: 0887274625)
 3. Character Workbook (ISBN Simplified: 0887274382)
- The 2nd edition has a lot of revision. Choosing the old (1st) edition may deteriorate the learning efficiency and quality. The used book websites (ex. Amazon, Half.com, etc.) might sell the old edition, so try to find the 2nd edition of the simplified version. All the required books can be accessed via UGA bookstore or the internet <http://www.cheng-tsui.com/>.
 - Although the Audio CD is not required, it is of great benefit to new learners especially in listening quiz. It is also accessible through <http://www.cheng-tsui.com/>. (ISBN Individual: 0887274676; ISBN Institutional: 0887274684)

Goals of this Course:

A solid foundation is the prerequisite of a preeminent language skill. Chinese, which is one of the most profound languages in the world, is notorious for its unique tones and pronunciations, complicated characters, and completely different sentence structures from English. The goals of this course are to facilitate Chinese beginners the capacities of speaking Chinese in an accurate manner, reading and writing simple Chinese, and understanding the most useful "Chinese survival expressions." These capacities, on the other hand, help beginners overcome their fear, construct their confidences and intrigue their interests in learning more advanced Chinese.

Course outline:

There are 11 lessons in the first textbook. The minimum requirement is the completion of eight or nine lessons. Schedule in this class is not fixed but fully depends on the extent to which students can absorb and understand.

Grading:

Theoretically, grades are the summation of a student's final examination, mid-term examination, quizzes, assignment, homework assignments and presentation.

- **Mid-Term Examination (20%)**
- **Final Examination (25%)**
- **Attendance (15%) - Five times of absence allowed; since the 6th absence, each equals 4 points reduction.** Attendance is absolutely required. Information provided by the textbook is not used for this class. Every student can have five times of absence, with or without excuse – you don't need to inform me beforehand, I will count your absence from the attendance record. After this limit, each absence will be 4 points reduction of the overall grade. Quiz in the absence day can not be made up after this limit.
- **Homework Assignment (10%):** Before the class starts a new lesson, every student is expected to finish the character practice. When one or two lessons come to the end, workbook practices will be assigned. Every submission includes the character practice and workbook practice, please staple them. There are three levels of grading: check plus, check, check minus. The best grade of late submission (including "I forget") is check minus.
- **Quizzes (20%):** Quizzes might include vocabulary translation (from English to Chinese and from Chinese to English), sentence translation (from English to Chinese and from Chinese to English), pattern drills, listening comprehension, sentence making. Occasionally, there are exams on speaking and listening. There are about 4 quizzes.
- **Presentation (10%):** Students have 1 presentation in this class. The presentation topic can be any topic related to China, for example, China's history, cultures, economy, politics, city, its relations with the US, leaders etc. First, you should submit your own topic by **Sept 15** so that I could arrange you into different presentation groups; second, during the presentation, you need to provide all students one paged abstract, and the presentation will take about 5 minutes and you need to get prepared for possible questions. More details will be announced.

The Office of the Vice President for Instruction has announced that beginning summer semester 2006 all courses will be graded on a plus/minus system.

Special concerns:

1. This class will be instructed in both traditional and simplified ways. Students choosing traditional Chinese need to change the class section in the beginning.
2. Students who have any physical or learning disabilities or any special problems should inform the instructor in the beginning of the semester.
3. Students who have Chinese background should inform the instructor in the beginning of the semester. Criteria designed for beginners shall not be applicable to those who have engaged in Chinese for a long time. Other tasks will be assigned due to the "fairness" consideration.

Disclaimers:

This course syllabus simply provides general information for the course not a contract; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture Honesty." All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.