Sample of Chinese I Course Syllabus

This syllabus is subject to change without notice

TEXTS & MATERIALS

1. **Chinese Link Textbook Level 1 Part 1** (Elementary, simplified character) by Dr. Sue-mei Wu *et al.* Prentice Hall, 2006. ISBN 0-13-156442-0
Both textbook and workbook can be purchased as a set in IVC bookstore.
3. **Chinese Link Audio CDs**
The audio CD for the textbook and workbook can be purchased separately.
4. **Chinese Link Companion Website: [www.prenhall.com/chineselink](http://www.prenhall.com/chineselink)**
   This companion website provides resources to accompany the Chinese Link textbook: complete audio program, self-grading vocabulary and grammar review exercises, flashcards, self-grading listening and reading comprehension activities. Students are encouraged to use these free resources to enhance their learning.
   (If you forget the link, just google “Chinese link” and then select “Welcome to Chinese Link”. The online audio program is open and free to all users; you may download all the audio files for free. You need to have Real Player on your computer to use, click “tune-up” to download the newer version of real player first.
5. Use **Blackboard** to download instructor’s teaching materials, power point and homework assignments

Useful on-line Chinese language learning resources:
- [www.pinyinpractice.com](http://www.pinyinpractice.com) (Pinyin pronunciation practice)
- [www.USC.edu](http://www.USC.edu) (USC Chinese department)
- [www.zhongwen.com](http://www.zhongwen.com) (on-line dictionary web)
- [www.mandarintools.com](http://www.mandarintools.com) (on-line dictionary)
- [www.csubl.edu/~txie/online.htm](http://www.csubl.edu/~txie/online.htm) (on-line learning resources)
- [www.yellowbridge.com](http://www.yellowbridge.com)

**Add Chinese characters to your computer**
2) You may add Goggle Pinyin input method by downloading Goggle Pinyin IME
3) Mac users can also install Chinese characters by selecting Pinyin IME.
INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

This is a Chinese language course for beginners. It aims to help students develop communicative competence in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing the Chinese language.

Listening and Speaking
You will learn to understand simple questions and answers, statements, and daily conversation. Remember that as children learning your first language, you had lots of time to listen before you attempted to speak. Don’t be impatient with yourself when you find that you can understand far more than you can produce, that is natural. Students will also learn basic vocabulary and sentence structure for use in essential daily-life situations through various forms of oral practice. You will not only learn to use familiar memorized language, but also create language by making up your own conversations. You can expect to be able to communicate with native speakers of Chinese even though you make mistakes.

Reading and Writing
You may learn approximately 200-250 characters and expressions in both Pinyin and character form. Students will learn to write Chinese characters (and pinyin) based on what you will learn to say. This will include basic sentences and short paragraph length texts. Aspects of Chinese social structure and culture will also be an important part of the course.

CLASS PROCEDURE

This course will use two instructional methods: total immersion and information-discussion. The total immersion part of the class is taught entirely in Chinese; English will not be used, and students are expected to fully participate in Chinese. The main goal is to simulate, as much as possible, an authentic Chinese-language environment. The information-discussion part of the class is designed to impart the information and knowledge necessary to successfully interact in Chinese. This part of class will use both English and Chinese, and this is the time to ask questions, discuss grammar and vocabulary, and discuss social and cultural issues.

In Class Learning Activities Routine

We will spend roughly 6-7 hours (3 meetings, or 2.5 hours x 3 classes) for each lesson of the text. Each lesson will be taught through the following activities:

1) Dialogue performance – memorize dialogue, practice pronunciation
2) New vocabulary and grammar, character practice
3) Dialogue expansion: pattern practice, communicative oral activities
4) Listening comprehension activities
5) Reading and writing exercises
6) Discussion of culture topics
7) Vocabulary quiz and chapter test

Outside Class Learning Activities
1) Cultural activities – Twice per semester, visit a museum or gallery exhibition about China, dine in a Chinese restaurant, shop in a local Chinese supermarket, or watch a Chinese movie
2) Cultural projects and presentation – Students study Chinese geography and make a power point presentation on a city in China, Hong Kong or Taiwan
3) Audio / Video Project - Students in small group will perform 2 assigned dialogues in a real-life situation and video tape the performance

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

After the completion of this course, the students can expect to be able to understand and communicate on the following topics

**Introduction:** You and the other students in the Classroom Settings: Classroom commands, Names, Numbers to 100, Greetings, Description of people.

1) **Lesson 1:** Conduct simple greeting, asking yes/no questions
2) **Lesson 2:** Exchange names, get to know each other
3) **Lesson 3:** Nationality, asking each other’s nationalities and language
4) **Lesson 4:** Ask and explain what something is; talk about courses in school
5) **Lesson 5:** Introduce people, make small talk
6) **Lesson 6:** Introduce oneself and one’s family
7) **Lesson 7:** Exchange address and phone number, make phone calls
8) **Lesson 8:** Plans and preferences
9) **Lesson 9:** Activities
10) **Lesson 10:** Daily schedule
11) **Lesson 11:** Order food at a restaurant

Instructors are expected to drop any student who fails to attend the class with no reason; and students may be dropped for non-attendance. However, students are responsible for dropping the class they are no longer attending; failure to do so will result in a grade of “F”. Due to enrollment demands, students who do not show up the first day of class may be dropped. If you wish to retain a place in this class you must attend class for the first two weeks. If you do not show up on days 2, 3 and 4 your place may be given to another student. Student who does not attend the final exam will receive “F” grade in this class.

**Grading Standards**
Your grade will be based on the following criteria: Grades are NOT rounded up on the final grade in this course.

**a. Participation and attendance (15%)**

You can earn your participation grade by coming to the class prepared and ready to participate on a regular basis; and by consistently interacting in Chinese with your instructor and classmates. If you do not need to attend this class to pass the exams, you belong in a more advanced Chinese class. **There are no “excused” absences.** Missing a class will deduct 10% from your grade from this category. Students who arrive late or leave during class session will be marked absent unless they communicated with the instructor prior to class. Instructor may drop students with 8 absences (25% of the semester course). All students in Chinese I begin the semester with 100 in participation. 1 miss = 90%, 2 misses = 80%, 3 misses = 70%, 4 misses = 60%, 5 misses = 50%, 6 misses = 40%, 7 misses = 30%, 8 misses = 20%, and so forth. If a student registers late and misses the first day of class, it is still considered 1 absence.

**b. Homework and Assignment (30%)**
Homework will be assigned each class session. A handout will be passed out the first day of class with all assignments and exams details. It is student’s responsibility to hand in work on time. Any late work is regarded as missing work. If a student misses a class, he or she will need to submit the homework within a week from the day of absence. **Any work turned in after a week will receive no credit.** Students should retain all assignments until you receive your final grade in the course. There are no extra credit assignments.

Homework assignments include:
- Online practice
- Weekly homework assignments – Vocabulary and sentence worksheet, workbook
- Listening assignments (CD, online practice)
- Oral performance presentation with a partner
- Video project – 2 real-life situation dialogues
- Essay --- All essays need to be typed and double-spaced.
- Cultural Paper and presentation

**c. Unit Tests (35%)**
For each unit, there will be a vocabulary and character quiz, a conversation presentation, and a chapter test. A **character quiz** will be given for each lesson. **Oral assignments** will be assigned for each lesson. Chapter tests may include Pinyin, Chinese Characters, listening comprehension, reading, and translating sentences. **Students are not allowed to make-up** any test. There are no extra credit assignments to replace any missing test. If you miss one part of the unit test, it will be calculated as zero. If students arrive late, no accommodations will be made for you to make up any portion of the exam. Instructor will drop the lowest unit test grade at the end of the semester.

**d. Final exam - (20%)**
The final exam includes oral presentation, listening and writing portions, it will be a full 120-minute test including all materials taught in this course

Grading scale:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Credit / Non-credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100% - 90%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>89% - 80%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79% - 70%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>69% - 60%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59% and below</td>
<td>F</td>
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**NATIVE SPEAKERS**
This beginning Chinese class is far below the level of any native speaker of Chinese. If you do not wish to learn another language and choose to be in this class in order to meet a college requirement, keep in mind that your instructor will only give you credit for what you accomplish in this course, **and not for what you already know.** Check with your counselor to know more about language requirements for the four-year institution.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY and GROUP WORK**
Working with other students in study group is an effective means of studying. Not everyone in the study group needs to be at the same proficiency level: teaching others is a very powerful way to learn material for yourself. Make sure that you do not simply copy another’s work and turn it in as
your own. When working in groups, all participants must vary their works so that each assignment reflects individual work.

Cheating is not permitted on either exams or homework assignments. Turning homework or essays that you did not write, for which you had considerable direct help from someone else, or which have been translated by a translation service or computer program will be considered cheating. Anyone caught copying from others, allowing others to copy his/her work or using information fraudulently obtained is subject to receiving an “F” in the class. Anyone talking with other students during an exam will receive a “0” on that exam.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS
If you have a disability that might prevent you from fully demonstrating your academic abilities, you should meet with the Disabled Student Program staff in SSC 171, or call (949) 451-5778 to talk to an IVC Learning Disabilities Specialist, as soon as possible to initiate disability verification and discuss appropriate accommodations. It is also student’s responsibility to make the instructor aware of any special needs you may have relating to this class.

Financial Aid and Supportive Service
For financial support, scholarship support, and fee waivers, please visit SSC 120 or call (949) 4515287

EXPECTATION
Chinese I Students are expected to
1) Bring Chinese Link textbook and workbook or a copy of the current chapter to every class session.
2) Listen actively when the instructor or another student is talking to the whole class.
3) Turn off and put away all electronic equipment (cell phones, pagers, laptops, i-pod)
4) Work on assignments on a daily basis and come to class prepared to interact with other students
5) Inform the instructor if I am unable to work in groups because I have not prepared for class
6) Ask questions at the beginning of class or see the instructor outside of class.
7) Never copy another student’s homework or exam
8) Arrive to CLASS on time

HOW TO PREPARE FOR CLASS

1) LISTENING AND SPEAKING
The Chinese Link Audio programs, either with CDs or Online practice, are perhaps the single most important element to your experience in Chinese I, and it is a requirement of the course that you listen to the audio CDs on a daily basis. It is vital to your success that you use those audio programs together with the textbook and workbook. When memorizing a dialogue it is suggested that you listen a few times to familiarize yourself with the context of the dialogue and the newly introduced language. Repeat out loud after each sentence so you can hear yourself speaking.

2) READING AND WRITING
Plan on using the workbook to practice the Chinese characters on a daily basis. Familiarizing yourself with the Chinese characters visually is as important as writing the characters by hand. Practice the reading and writing assignment daily. All learners, under normal conditions must handwrite each character 8 or more times in order to remember it. At the beginning, students may find memorizing how to write is harder than recognizing characters. Repeated use of online or hard copy flash cards will help you to learn characters.
SYLLABUS AGREEMENT for CHINESE I

Please complete this information about yourself

Name_________________________ Chinese Name ___________________________

Major _________________ Home Phone (       )___________ Work phone (   )___________

E-mail address used most________________________ Cell phone (      )___________

Is a language required for your degree? Yes /No       How many semesters?____

Have you ever studied Chinese before? Yes /No, 

If yes, for how long?______________ Textbooks used________________________

Where have you taken Chinese before? _____________________________

Is Chinese spoken in your home and /or at work? Yes/No      By whom?____________

Is there anything about yourself that you want me to know?

______________________________________________________________________________

Is there anything you want to know about me or about the class?

______________________________________________________________________________

Initial in each box, sign and date in the bottom, return to the instructor today.

1)( ) I understand I can take Credit/non-credit option and letter-grade option.

2.( ) I understand there are no “excused” absences.

3.( ) I understand that students in Chinese I class, with 8 or more absence (25% of the semester course) will be dropped by the instructor, or receive an “F” grade at the end of the semester.

4.( ) I understand instructor will not accept any late work.

5.( ) I understand that I need to do my homework and study characters on a daily basis

6.( ) I understand that I need to spend time listening to the CDs or using online audio programs

7.( ) I know I can sign up for one-on-one tutor service in the library.

8.( ) I know I can come to the office hours or email the instructor to ask questions

9.( ) I will not copy other student’s homework.

10.( ) I know I cannot make up any test that I missed. And there is no extra credit assignment.

I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE to the classroom rules of Chinese I

Print Name: ___________________________ Student ID no._______________________

Sign Name:____________________________ Date__________________________