**CHINESE 1 & 2 SYLLABUS**

**Chinese 101** is a 3-credit course designed to help students with little or no background in the subject to acquire survival fluency in spoken and written Mandarin Chinese, the national language of China. Lessons cover basic language interactions such as shopping, eating, getting help, etc. Chinese 101 is available as a 2-credit course (with a commensurately lighter work load).

**Chinese 201** is for those who have had one or two courses in Mandarin already, but whose ability falls below that needed for Advanced Chinese (“Chinese 301”). Chinese 201 students will have class with the 101 students, but they are required to be able to write and recognize significantly more Chinese characters than those taking 101.

During the later part of the semester, Chinese 102 is offered as an elective 3-credit course that continues beyond Chinese 101 so that a student can handle situations such as buying clothes, treating illness, planning travel, etc. During that same time, Chinese 202 is also offered as an elective 3-credit course that continues beyond Chinese 201 and is modeled after the workload in Chinese 201. All students will also learn other aspects of the language, such as the categories and make-up of Chinese characters, issues relating to traditional and simplified characters, an introduction to Chinese dialects, as well as the relationship between Chinese and other East Asian languages (especially Japanese). Business internships run concurrently with this course, so it’s not an option for business students.

**Course text for Chinese 101/201, and 102/202**

*Note: We will be using a revised draft version of this text.*

**Course objectives**

By the end of Chinese 101/201, students should be able to
- identify, upon hearing, any of the tones of a word in Mandarin.
- spell any word of Chinese according to the conventions of Pinyin.
- write, for any Chinese character listed in the schedule, the English equivalent and its Pinyin spelling.
- write, for any English word covered in class, the Chinese equivalent in Pinyin
- write, for any “Active” character listed in the Chinese Characters Schedule, the English equivalent and its Pinyin spelling.
- pronounce, with correct tones, vocabulary items taught in class.
- say, according to the conventions of Chinese, numerals in a variety of formats: dates, addresses, ages, prices, etc.
- converse, with reasonable fluency and the correct conventions of Chinese grammar, on any of the topics covered for this course.
- write, using the correct conventions of Pinyin and Chinese grammar, any of the sentences covered for this course.
- recite in Mandarin, from memory, a Tang dynasty poem.

By the end of Chinese 102/202, students should be able to do all of the above for the additional topics that have been covered, as well as be able to
- explain linguistic aspects of Chinese, oral and written.
- appreciate the factors involved in translating from Chinese to English.
- learn how to input Chinese characters as text via a computer
- recite in Mandarin, from memory, the Lord’s Prayer.

**Course schedule for Chinese 101 & 102**

Chinese double-period classes will be held every class day. There will also be several double-period lectures on linguistic aspects of Chinese. Chinese 102 students will also have independent study classes during which each student will a) prepare themselves to recite from memory the Lord’s Prayer in Mandarin, and b) type and print out the Lord’s Prayer in characters, Pinyin & English word-for-word translation.

**Assessment**
Given the interactive nature of this language course, “participation” is assumed and not factored into your grade. However, if you are not participating in classroom activities, you will be notified about this. If you continue not to participate, your course grade will be lowered by at least one letter grade.

**Percentages of course components that comprise your grade**

For all levels of these courses, the grade will be drawn from quizzes for each lesson, an oral examination, and a cumulative examination on vocabulary, grammar, and Chinese characters. Specifically, here are the percentages for which each part is factored into your grade:

**Chinese 101/201**
- Quizzes: 40%
- Tang dynasty poem: 10%
- Written Exam: 40%
- Oral Exam: 10%

**Chinese 102/202**
- Quizzes: 40%
- Lord’s Prayer assg.: 25%
- Written Exam: 25%
- Oral Exam: 10%

**Quizzes**

Though each quiz will focus on the lesson just covered, all quizzes and tests may draw from any of the previous lessons. Language learning is inherently cumulative, so you should build upon what you have already learned.

Virtually all quizzes and tests will include five parts: Dictation, Dialogue, Passive Characters, and Active Characters. Dictation usually will include words new to you, not covered in your lessons.

Dialogues will be drawn overwhelmingly from the lessons you covered since the previous quiz. Sentences will be given in English. You are to write the Chinese equivalent of each sentence in Pinyin (not characters) rather than a word-for-word translation.

On every quiz and written exam, you will be tested on characters covered on the Chinese Characters Schedule, both “Active” and “Passive” characters. You should be able to indicate their pronunciation using Pinyin, and to write the English (or Mandarin) equivalent. **Note: For Business students taking Chinese for 2-credits, all characters are “Passive.”**

**Tang Dynasty Poem**

On the designated day, you should recite from memory the assigned Tang dynasty poem in Mandarin. You get up to five points of extra credit if you can write the poem in Chinese characters (not in Pinyin).

**The Lord’s Prayer Assignment**

China Concentration students in Chinese 2, will need to be able to recite the Lord’s Prayer in Mandarin from memory. Also you will need to type—on your own—the characters, the pinyin, along with a direct translation into English. You will be given a handout that models what is expected from you. This assignment must be done via a computer and printed out to be handed in. Further details will be given to you in class.

**Exams**

The written exams are very much like the weekly quizzes, but noticeably longer because they cover all the lessons that you have covered. The oral exams are given by the Chinese language teacher, who will meet with each student individually for about five minutes. You may be tested on your oral ability regarding the use of numbers, dates, and lesson dialogues.