Elementary Chinese I

Syllabus - Fall 2017

The University of Texas at El Paso
Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 9:30-10:20am
Classroom Location: MAIN 201

Instructor: Wang Zhirui
Email: zwang3@utep.edu
Phone: 915-282-7288
Office Location: LART, Room 228
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30 to 2:20; 3:20 to 4:20 pm or by appointment.

Required Texts

ISBN: 978-7-5619-1014-5. (This book is donated by Hanban, China. You can use them for free, and return at the end of the semester so the books can be reused.)
A note book and a folder

Course Description

This course is recommended for students who have had little or no experience in the Chinese Language. A beginning Mandarin course designed to introduce the Mandarin sound system, basic vocabulary, and Mandarin characters. In order to help beginners develop their communicative competence in the four basic skills, the 5Cs (Communication, Culture, Comparisons, Connections and Communities) will be integrated consistently into the content and exercises in the course.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, the students should be able to:

1. Understand greetings in China, Chinese families values, festivals, hobbies, and being someone’s guest in China
2. Demonstrate basic reading and writing skills using cultural topics
3. Apply the language to greet each other, talk about his/her family, discuss important dates, talk about hobbies, and visit a friend in China
4. Approach an novice-mid proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing, as well as to enhance his/her cultural awareness and be able to respond appropriately in Chinese language contexts
5. Use basic introductory phrases an sentences in Mandarin
6. Use basic Mandarin vocabulary
   Demonstrate the four basic tones used in Mandarin
7. Demonstrate the most used characters
8. Understand various Chinese grammatical concepts
9. Understand Chinese culture and compare aspects of different cultures, making connections to their daily life, and building links among communities

University policies

CHEATING / PLAGIARISM: The most serious violation of academic standards, plagiarism refers to using the work, ideas or knowledge of other people as your own -- this includes all forms of exam cheating, borrowing from published sources without citation, and using the ideas of others without citation. The penalty for plagiarism is failure (a grade of “F”) in the class and a letter reporting your behavior to the appropriate university authorities (e.g., Dean of Students).

If you are at all confused about what constitutes plagiarism, please contact me. This also applies to the forums, so cite properly.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. Please notify me during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course. Late notification may cause the requested accommodations to be unavailable.

GUIDELINES FOR COURTESY AND RESPECT: In order to create a positive learning environment for all students in this class, please arrive for class sessions on time and stay until the end of the class, unless you have informed me you will need to leave early. You cannot sleep in class, text, check the internet, check your e-mail, play with your phone, have your headphones plugged in (whether you are listening to music or not), log into Facebook, Twitter, etc., or anything else that disrupts me or other students. I reserve the right to ask you to leave class/our classroom for the day if you disrupt our class by doing any of the aforementioned acts.

Please ensure your cell phone is turned off before class begins unless there is a special circumstance you have informed me of. To permit all students to stay focused on the lecture, please note that only one person should be speaking at one time. Side conversations are a distraction from the lecture for your fellow students, so please minimize these. Finally, please note we will cover a range of topics in this course. Observing norms of courtesy and openness to diverse perspectives will ensure the class runs in everyone’s best interests. I may ask you to save your questions for my office hours or to contact me via e-mail. Our class period is short and I must ensure the assigned material is covered to prepare you for your mini-quizzes.
Assignments & Exams

There will be basic speaking, listening, reading and writing assignments based on daily schedule after each class. All homework assignments should be finished and handed in before the class begins. There will be one examination for Mid-term and one examination for Final. Examinations may include listening, dictation, reading comprehension, translation, conversation and character writing. The final will be one hour and will cover the entire body of materials covered in this course. based on the basic pronunciation system, vocabulary, phrases and sentence patterns learned on class. Besides there will be an oral test and two quizzes which could be in oral or written.

I will also discuss the optional extra-credit assignments. The assignment is worth up to 10 points added to your semester grade. The extra-credit assignment will be due on December 6th 2017. You are not allowed to miss any days in a semester such as this one. I will note days you are absent, one unexcused absence will result in a drop in 5 points of your final grade. Only university sanctioned excuses will be accepted.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

1) Attendance (10%)
2) Class Participation (10%)
3) Oral presentations and test (10%)
4) Quizzes (25%)
5) Mid-term Exam (20%)
6) Final Exam (25%)

Total: (100%)

All work is based on the following scale:

\[
\begin{align*}
A & = 89\% \text{ and above} \\
B & = 79\% - 88\% \\
C & = 69\% - 78\% \\
D & = 59\% - 68\% \\
F & = \text{Below 59\%}
\end{align*}
\]

Class Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Learning Activities</th>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Extra Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 28-Sep 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Course overview&lt;br&gt;Distribution of syllabus&lt;br&gt;Introduction to course themes and requirements&lt;br&gt;Introduction of China&lt;br&gt;Lesson 1: Saying hello &amp; Greetings</td>
<td>Forming learning group&lt;br&gt;Making conversations in groups&lt;br&gt;Exercises on the textbook for lesson 1</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Sep 5-Sep 8</td>
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<td>Lesson 2 Are you busy?&lt;br&gt;Greetings&lt;br&gt;Asking what someone wants&lt;br&gt;Four Tone Chant</td>
<td>Making conversations in groups&lt;br&gt;Exercises on the textbook for lesson 2&lt;br&gt;Practice four tone chant</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sep 11-Sep 15</td>
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<td>Lesson 3 Which country does she come from?&lt;br&gt;Asking someone's nationality&lt;br&gt;Introducing people&lt;br&gt;Quiz 1</td>
<td>Making conversations in groups&lt;br&gt;Exercises on the textbook for lesson 3</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sep 18-Sep 22</td>
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<td>Lesson 4 Nice to meet you&lt;br&gt;Self-introduction&lt;br&gt;Asking for permission and someone's name</td>
<td>Making conversations in groups&lt;br&gt;Exercises on the textbook for lesson 4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sep 25-Sep 29</td>
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<td>Lesson 5 Where is the dining hall?&lt;br&gt;Looking for someone&lt;br&gt;Asking for directions&lt;br&gt;Making an apology</td>
<td>Making conversations in groups</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Oct 2-Oct 6</td>
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<td>Lesson 5 Where is the dining hall?&lt;br&gt;Asking about someone's occupation&lt;br&gt;Celebrate Mid-Autumn Day</td>
<td>Exercises on the textbook for lesson 5</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 9-Oct 13</td>
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<td>Lesson 6 Let's go swimming, shall we?&lt;br&gt;Making comments&lt;br&gt;Making suggestions&lt;br&gt;Refusing or declining politely</td>
<td>Making conversations in groups&lt;br&gt;Exercises on the textbook for lesson 6</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 16-Oct 20</td>
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<td>Revision&lt;br&gt;Mid-term exam</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 23-Oct 27</td>
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<td>Lesson 7 Making comments&lt;br&gt;Meeting someone for the first time&lt;br&gt;Talking about one's major</td>
<td>Making conversations in groups&lt;br&gt;Exercises on the textbook for lesson 7</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Oct 30-Nov 3</td>
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<td>Lesson 8 How many people are there in your family?</td>
<td>Making conversations in groups</td>
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<td>Lesson</td>
<td>Dates</td>
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<td>Exercises</td>
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| 8      | Nov 6- Nov 10 | Talking about one's family  
Taking about one's school                                                                 | Exercises on the textbook for lesson 8                                    |
|        |            | Lesson 9 He is 20 years old this year  
Making an appointment  
Asking about someone's age and birthplace  
Celebrating someone's birthday  
Quiz 2                                                                 | Making conversations in groups  
Exercises on the textbook for lesson 9                                    |
| 9      | Nov 13-Nov 17 | Lesson 10 I am here to buy a CD  
Likes and dislikes  
Solving language problems  
Shopping                                                                 | Making conversations in groups  
Exercises on the textbook for lesson 10                                    |
|        |            | Lesson 11 I can speak a little Chinese  
Asking the time  
Expressing one's ability  
Expressing permission or prohibition                                                                 | Making conversations in groups  
Exercises on the textbook for lesson 11                                    |
| 10     | Nov 20-Nov 22 | Lesson 12 I am not feeling well at all  
Talking about one's health  
Expressing one's desire or need                                                                 | Making conversations in groups  
Exercises on the textbook for lesson 12                                    |
|        |            | Lesson 13 I knew a beautiful girl  
Renting a house  
Asking for suggestions                                                                 | Making conversations in groups  
Exercises on the textbook for lesson 13                                    |
| 13     | Nov 27-Dec 1 | Revision  
Final exam.                                                                 |                                                                           |
| 14     | Dec 4-Dec 8  | Revision  
Final exam.                                                                 |                                                                           |
| 15     | Dec 11-Dec 15 | Revision  
Final exam.                                                                 |                                                                           |
| 16     | Dec 11-Dec 15 | Revision  
Final exam.                                                                 |                                                                           |