Intermediate Chinese I

Syllabus – Spring 2018

The University of Texas at El Paso
Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 2:30-3:20 pm
Classroom Location: CRBL, Room C301

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.

Prerequisite(s)

The prerequisite(s) for this course are: Students should have finished Elementary Chinese I and Elementary Chinese II or reach the equivalent level. Students who do not meet the prerequisites may be dis-enrolled during the first few weeks of class. Please see me if you have not satisfied the course prerequisites.

Delivery method: Face to face

Required Texts

ISBN: 978-7-5619-3255-1. （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 designed for students who have taken Elementary Chinese I and Elementary Chinese II and have a basic foundation on Chinese grammar, phonetics and characters. In order to help students 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, students will approach a novice-high proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

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

1. Demonstrate improved students’ vocabulary and sentence-making ability
2. Demonstrate language skills that would help him/her live or travel in China
3. Understand Chinese culture, exercising their ability to compare aspects of different cultures, making connections to their daily life, and building links among communities
4. Manage a number of uncomplicated communicative tasks in straightforward social situations
5. Converse about basic personal information, basic objects and a limited number of activities, preferences and immediate needs
6. Response to simple, direct questions or requests for information
7. Ask a few formulaic questions
8. Meet limited basic practical writing needs using lists, short messages, postcards and simple notes
9. Express themselves within the context in which the language was learned, replying mainly on practiced material
10. Understand information from sentence-length speech, one utterance at a time, in basic personal and social contexts where there is contextual or extra-linguistic support, though comprehension may often be very uneven
11. Understand speech dealing with areas of practical need such as highly standardized messages, phrases, or instructions, if the vocabulary has been learned

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

Learning a language, especially one as difficult as Chinese, is a very demanding task. It is very hard to learn to speak a foreign language without adequate contact with the language. Students are required to make full use of the listening materials. Part of the homework for each lesson will be done with the help of these. Students are strongly advised to practice with the listening materials as much as possible in order to lay a good foundation for further training in spoken Chinese. Don’t just listen, but also repeat after the listening materials, imitating the voices of the native speakers. 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.

To expand your proficiency in a language, you must be present in class so as to engage in active practice there. Good attendance is a course requirement. 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 (20%)
4) Quizzes and Mid-term Exam (25%)
5) Written Assignments or Activities (10%)
6) Final Exam (25%)
Total: (100%)

All work is based on the following scale:

- A = 89% and above
- B = 79% - 88%
- C = 69% - 78%
- D = 59% - 68%
- F = Below 59%

**Weekly Class Schedule (subject to change as necessary)**

Week1: Revision

Week2: Lesson 6 Why don’t you eat more

Week3: Lesson 7 Do you live far from your company

Week4: Lesson 8 Let me think about it and I’ll tell you later Quiz1

Week5: Lesson 9 There were too many questions, I didn’t finish all of them Celebrate Chinese New Year

Week6: Lesson 10 Stop looking for your cell phone, it’s on the desk

Week7: Lesson 11 He is three years older than me

Week8: Review Mid-term exam

Week9: Spring break
Week 10: Lesson 12 You wear too little

Week 11: Lesson 13 The door is open

Week 12: Lesson 14 Have you seen that movie

Quiz 2

Week 13: Lesson 15 The New year is coming

Week 14: Lesson 1 What's your plan for the weekend

Week 15: Revision and oral presentation

Week 16: Revision and Final Exam