CHIN 1010: ELEMENTARY CHINESE
Brooklyn College, The City University of New York
Study Abroad in China Program

Instructor: Professor Yonggang Huang, Ph.D.

Textbook


The textbook items come in a package (with text and CDs):
1 x 496-page book
2 x 75-minute audio CDs (MP3 compatible)

Recommended website:
http://mjiang.com/mecps/ch/lessons/ (one lesson each day by yourself, starting one week prior to departure)

Course Description

This is an intensive, skill-based, elementary-level course of the Chinese language. The course focuses on the acquisition of correct pronunciation and basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Speaking skill is the priority objective which leads the acquisition of other skills of the language. The goal of the course is to lay a solid foundation for students’ further learning of the language.

Course Outcomes

1. Students will master the pinyin system and pronunciation of Mandarin Chinese;
2. Students will familiarize themselves with the basic syntactic structures of Mandarin Chinese;
3. Students will develop the basic skills and proficiency of listening, speaking, reading in Chinese, with an emphasis on conversational skills in different practical situations; and
4. Students will learn to write Chinese characters with simpler strokes (100 the most-frequently-used characters and basic radicals as components of the character).

Class Format

Because this class is part of the study abroad in China program, students are encouraged to make the best use of their time in China to practice the Chinese language. In addition to attending and learning in regular class sessions, students are also required

1. To find partners or form small groups to practice the lessons and language skills after class; and
2. To speak Chinese whenever and wherever they can while in China.

The textbook is designed to help students to teach themselves beginner’s Chinese. Students are strongly encouraged to start Chinese lessons before they embark on the China trip. At least several days prior to departure, students should do the following:

1. Listen to the CD and practice the pinyin (phonetics); and
2. Go to this site http://mjiang.com/mecps/ch/lessons/ and start learning/practicing the simple lessons, with one lesson per day (prior to the trip if possible and each day during the trip).
**Attendance and Participation**

Students should actively participate in class activities. Prompt attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. Each absence without instructor’s permission will result in a 2 percent deduction from the final grade of the course; two late arrivals or early departures are equal to one absence.

**Study group:** in addition to class time learning, students will be organized into study groups (3 or 4 students in one group). Class presentation and after-class practice will be conducted in the form of study group.

**Homework and After-Class Practice**

Practice of language drills in each of the lessons in an elementary language course is essential to learning a new language. Completion of homework assignments, both oral and written, is also necessary in order to maintain steady progress. Therefore, a reasonable amount of homework will be assigned, and practice after class will be required. You are required to do the following after class:

1. Review the vocabulary by reading the words in pinyin aloud;
2. Check with each other the Chinese-English translation of the vocabulary;
3. Practice new words and sentence patterns in real life situations;
4. Practice the dialogues and translate them from Chinese to English and vice versa; and
5. Complete the practice exercises at the end of the lesson.

**Evaluation**

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Punctuality, attendance and participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation and quizzes</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral test</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Final written exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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As this course is part of the study abroad program, students are advised that their behavior during the program may affect their final grade for the course.

Non-Brooklyn College students are required to keep a course portfolio of all work and assignment submissions for this course, to be evaluated by the appropriate office and committee at their home institution for equivalent credits.

**Class Meetings**

At least 15 class sessions will be scheduled, with each session for 3 hours, plus additional sessions to practice language skills in real life situations.

Most formal class sessions are scheduled to be conducted during our three-week stay in Nanjing, but a few (2-3) sessions may take place while the group is visiting the first two cities of Beijing and Xi’an. Normally, the class meets 8:30-11:30 am on weekdays (and on some weekend days and evenings if necessary) during our stay in Nanjing.

**Allocation of class time**

- Hour 1: First half: presentation of content learned in the previous day (performance quiz);
Second half: grammar points and idiomatic usage;
Hour 2: First half: pronunciation practice;
Second half: sentence pattern drills – group activity.
Hour 3: First half: pair presentation to class;
Second half: to learn and practice writing characters.

**One hour lab time each day**

Students can come to the place where the instructor is, who will answer questions (either in the afternoon or evening). It is not compulsory for students to come if they prefer to do the lab work in their room with their own computer, and in their own self-designated time (the point is that everyone must do it and get ready for the performance quiz of next morning).

Actual schedule of the class meetings and the location may not be announced until the group’s arrival in China and may be subject to change, sometimes at short notice. Students are advised to check their email often for notification for possible changes. The instructor reserves the right to make necessary adjustments in the class schedule and evaluation in response to the changing situation during the course of the program in China.

Students are strongly advised to read the CUNY and Brooklyn College’s policies regarding academic dishonesty, attendance and sexual harassment.

**Tentative Class Schedule**

Day 1: To say hello; to observe basic courtesies; do say please and thank you; Chinese name.
Expressions: Ni Hao; qing; bu; xing bu xing.

Day 2: to make simple introductions; to exchange greetings; to address people correctly; to make apologies; measure words and number 0 – 99.
Expressions: gei; yixia; shi; nin; ba; ne; hui.

Day 3: to ass about children; ask the age of children; ask marriage state; invite people; tell time
Expressions: ge; er and liang; nar; suffix-le; de.

Day 4: to say what nationality; Chinese equivalents of foreign names; expressions during a meal.
Expressions: shi …de; particle-le; bie; duo/shao.
Characters: 一, 二, 三, 四, 五, 六, 七, 八, 九, 十。

Day 5: to describe the rooms; thank the hosts; ask questions of alternatives; expressions of direction; auxiliary verbs.
Expressions: lai and qu; haishi; fang+zai; suffix-men; adverb+de; he.
Characters: 人, 大, 太, 天, 土, 王, 玉, 口, 国,

Day 6: to describe a house and garden; furniture and appliances; most common items.
Expressions: lao and xiao; you … you; bu verb le; duo and shao.
Characters: 日, 月, 木, 女, 我, 你, 他, 她, 们。

Day 7: to talk bout yourself and family; say age; compare and contrast.
Expressions: ye; hai mei you …ne; bi; da and xiao; yi+measure word.
Day 8: to describe living conditions; more about directional endings; conjunctions: before, when and after.
Expressions: mei…dou; yihou and yiqian; tian and nian; xie; youde; suiran … danshi.
Characters: 手，水，火，是，不，吗，心，小。

Day 9: to learn vocabulary for hotel stay; use question words in a non-question way.
Expressions: huozhe; suffic-guo; ruguo … jiu; congqian and yigian; double negative- bu … bu.
Characters: 那，这，请，的，在，中，上，下。

Day 10: to ask questions about weather and seasons; seasonal activities; expressions of time.
Expressions: bing; shi bus hi; kexi; yi … jiu; da+object; deng+noun; suffix-zhe.
Characters: 多，少，来，去，年，又，会，很。

Day 11: to express approximate numbers; numbers of sequence; difference between cai and jiu.
Expressions: bu shi…er shi; zenme and zenmeyang; more le; Di+number; bus hi … ma? cai and jiu.
Characters: 把，还，没，美，前，后，都，只。

Day 12: to say common measure words; denominations of money; resultative verbs and conjugations: types of time words; auxiliary verbs: neng, hui and keyi.
Expressions: useful public notices and signs.
Characters: 东，南，西，北，目，竹，言，金。

Day 13: to learn evolutions of characters; composition of characters; radicals.
Expressions: table of radical.
Characters: 足，雨，子，力，犬，衣，田，贝。

Day 14: to ask things in shops; ask the price; stroke order of useful characters.
Expressions: table of stroke order of Chinese characters.
Characters: 车，食，足，耳，了，有，和，个。

Day 15: to buy tickets for entertainments; more stroke order; names of China’s main dynasties.
Expressions: names and dates of dynasties.
Characters: 分，毛，块，想，最，家，从，也。