

Florida International University

College of Arts and Sciences

**CHI 1130: CHINESE I
FALL 2008 COURSE INFORMATION & SYLLABUS**

(Please read the entire document carefully as it is your responsibility to be familiar and comply with all class requirements listed in this syllabus.)

Course Description: CHI 1130 is an introductory course for students interested in the Chinese language and culture. It is assumed the students have had no previous knowledge of spoken or written Chinese. In this course we will learn Pinyin (the national phonetic alphabet of Mandarin), pronunciation, vocabulary, Chinese characters, and some basic sentence patterns. General exposure to the Chinese culture will also be infused throughout the course.

Credit: 5

Instructor: Li Ma (a.k.a. Mali) – DM 494, (305)-348-6909, mali@fiu.edu

Office Hour: Thursday 1 – 4pm or by appointment

Class time & Classroom: 1-1:50pm M, GC 278B; 1-2:50pm WF, GC 289

Required Textbooks and Other materials:

Textbooks (available at the FIU bookstore):

New Practical Chinese Reader Textbook I, Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2002

New Practical Chinese Reader Workbook I, Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2002

Optional - Audio CDs for the textbook are also available at the FIU bookstore

Audio tapes for the textbook are available in the Language Lab (DM 194)

Dictionary:

Optional - Concise English-Chinese Chinese-English Dictionary (3rd Edition) The Commercial Press; Oxford University Press

Evaluation:

1. Attendance 5%
2. Class participation 15%
3. Speaking 15%
4. Homework 20%
5. Quizzes 10%
6. Midterm 15%
7. Final 20%

Requirements and Grading:

1. Mandatory attendance – Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students are allowed TWO (2) unexcused absences for the entire semester. Each unexcused absence after those will automatically reduce one's overall grade by one (1) full point. In case of illness or emergency, the absence may be excused at the instructor's discretion upon receipt of official documentation.

A tardy will be given for anyone who is more than 5 minutes late. Three (3) tardies will count as one (1) unexcused absence. Leaving early without official documentation is the same as being tardy.

Religious holidays: In accordance with university policy, the instructor is willing to work with students to insure that no conflict exists between their religious obligations and their course work. Please advise the instructor at least *one week* prior to the holy day of any restrictions the student will be observing that potentially conflict with class attendance or assignments.

2. Class preparation – Students will take responsibility for their own learning. They will come to class with the relevant texts, having completed all assignments and related exercises prior to the corresponding lecture.

3. Class participation – Extensive participation and constructive collaboration in class count favorably toward the final grade. The instructor reserves the right to lower a student's final grade in the course by half a letter grade should she/he be constantly unprepared for class, and likewise, raise a student's final grade by half a letter grade should that student stand out as an active and quality participant.

4. Homework completion – Homework will be graded based on its quality. **ABSOLUTELY NO** assignments will be accepted via FAX machine or as an email or email attachment unless designed in that format. All written homework must be turned in during class on the date noted on the syllabus, or it will be marked late regardless of the reason. Homework from any of the excused or unexcused absences must still be turned in at the beginning of the first class the student returns to. It is highly recommended that students establish connections with one another to get notes and assignments from missed classes.

50% will be deducted from the original score of any late homework, unless accompanied by official documentation citing an excuse. Homework finished during class period will automatically receive a "0".

5. Quizzes – There will be one quiz for every or every other chapter. ABSOLUTELY NO make-up of quizzes is permitted unless accompanied by official documentation citing an excuse. Oversleeping, transportation problems, poor preparation for the quiz, minor illness or work conflict without a doctor or supervisor's note will NOT be accepted as an excuse.

6. Midterm and Final exams – Neither exam can be taken in advance or made up unless request is made with official documentation citing an excuse. Oversleeping, transportation problems, poor preparation for the exam, minor illness or work conflict without a doctor or supervisor's note will NOT be accepted as an excuse. Decisions will be made at the instructor's discretion.

7. Drop date - The university has established a formal drop date for each semester, which serves as the last date that students may withdraw from this course and receive a "DR" grade. *It is the student's obligation to make note of that date.*

8. Incompletes - Incompletes are ONLY given in the event of an emergency that is beyond the student's control and prevents (s)he from finishing the course for which the bulk of the work has been completed. The instructor has complete discretion in awarding such a grade although it is rarely done.

9. Disability support - In compliance with federal and state laws, students with disabilities are advised that accommodations and services are available through the FIU Disability Resource Center. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Disability Resource Center and submit appropriate documentation prior to receiving services.

10. Classroom etiquette and student behavior - Students will demonstrate respect for the instructor and fellow students. All cell phones must be on mute prior to class. Taking phone calls, text messaging, using laptop or leaving the room for over 5 minutes without approval is prohibited while class is in session. Failure of compliance will result in a 50% deduction from one's "Class Participation" in that class period. A second time of such conduct will result in an automatic unexcused absence for the same class period. Inappropriate remarks, personal attacks, and behavior that is disruptive to a positive learning environment will result in one's dismissal from class and be treated as an unexcused absence; the second instance might result in expulsion from the course.

11. Academic dishonesty - Academic dishonesty includes the following actions, as well as other similar conduct aimed at making false representation with respect to the student's academic performance:

- (1) cheating on an exam,
- (2) collaborating with others on work to be presented, if contrary to the stated rules of the course,
- (3) submitting, if contrary to the rules of the course, work previously submitted in another course,
- (4) knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above actions,

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(5) plagiarism (copying another's work and presenting it as one's own or copying from a printed source without proper documentation).

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any student who commits academic dishonesty will receive a grade of zero for the corresponding test or assignment. A second time will result in an automatic zero for the course. Academic dishonesty during a midterm or final exam will also result in an automatic zero for the course.

12. Comments and concerns - Students enrolled in this course who have comments or concerns about their experience should feel free to discuss them with the instructor. In addition, Chair of the Department of Modern Languages, Dr. Pascale Bécél (becelp@fiu.edu), can assist students.

13. Grade scale:

100-94 A	93-90 A-	
89-84 B+	83-82 B	81-80 B-
79-74 C+	73-72 C	71-70 C-
69-64 D+	63-62 D	61-60 D-
59- F		

14. Some additional websites for learning Chinese or resources:

New Practical Chinese Reader Support:

Flashcards of words:

<http://yellowbridge.com/language/fc-options.php?deck=npcr-1>

Flashcards of words printable:

http://www.chinaboard.de/handedict/vokabeln_praktchin_jtft_13_20071018.pdf

Video of the text: <http://unclp.org/oneword/xin1/1-1.htm>

Video of the text (another source): http://www.hanyu.com.cn/en/htm_newlesson/mulu.htm

Software for creating your own flashcard:

http://www.freechineselearning.com/download_homework.asp

Text: <http://www.mcs.vuw.ac.nz/~thorbuandr/NPCR1Chars.html>

Workbook keys (I) Lessons (1-9): http://www.nihaointernational.com/blog/?page_id=36

Workbook keys (I) Lessons (10-14): http://www.nihaointernational.com/blog/?page_id=37

Dictation of words and sentences (I) (instruction in Spanish):

http://www.aprendechinohoy.com/blog/?page_id=53

Introduction: http://learn_chinese.ckungfu.com/beginner/textbook1.htm

How to read and write characters: http://www.hanyu.com.cn/en/htm_newlesson/cc-01.htm

Character Writing Exercises for Practical Chinese Reader (Vol 1 and 2):

http://www.chinaboard.de/en/handedict/schreibuebung_praktchin_jtft_20071018.pdf

Character Writing Exercises for Practical Chinese Reader (Vol 3):

http://www.chinaboard.de/en/handedict/schreibuebung_newpract_jtft_20071012.pdf

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Writing exercise sheets (Vol 1 and 2):

<http://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/academics/faculty/kessel/Writing%20Sheets/Writing%20Sheets.htm>

Study material: <http://www.athenschinese.com/studymaterials/studymaterials.html#>

More websites for practicing or browsing:

<http://www.pinyinpractice.com> (for Pinyin)

<http://www.xuezhongwen.net> (Free online dictionary)

<http://www.pinyinannotator.com>

<http://www.csulb.edu/~txie/online.htm> (Learning Chinese Online)

<http://english.hanban.edu.cn/> (The Office of Chinese Language Council International)

<http://www.conncoll.edu/academics/departments/chinese/mhu/003gallery/gallindex.html> (Photo Gallery)

<http://www.chinesepod.com>

<http://www.zhongwen.com>

<http://www.mandarintools.com>

<http://myhappyplanet.com/register.php?refid=3wLff6Jz>

<http://www.trymango.com>

<http://www.clavisinica.com> (click on the Free Resources link)

<http://www.ccssf.org> (weekend Chinese heritage school)

<http://www.chineselistening.com> (Listening materials)

<http://english.cri.cn> (click on “language studio”)

© To join the Chinese Club at FIU for cultural events and language-related activities, write to fiuchinese@gmail.com.

© To subscribe to the “Miami Chinese Corner” which is a free service for Chinese learners to practice with native speakers, send email to miamichinesecorner@googlegroups.com.

FALL 2008 Tentative Weekly Class Schedule*

Week 1 (August 25 – 29)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
8-25	Course introduction	Assignment #1
8-27	L1 Text 1	Assignment #2
8-29	L1 Text 2	Assignment #3

Week 2 (September 1 – 5)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
9-1	Labor Day (FIU Closed)	
9-3	Speaking and Quiz – L1	Assignment #4
9-5	L2 Character Practice & Text 1	Assignment #5

Week 3 (September 8 – 12)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
9-8	L2 Text 1	Assignment #6
9-10	L2 Text 2	Assignment #7
9-12	Speaking and Quiz - L2	Assignment #8

Week 4 (September 15 - 19)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
9-15	L3 Character Practice	Assignment #9
9-17	L3 Text 1	Assignment #10
9-19	L3 Text 2	Assignment #11

Week 5 (September 22 - 26)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
9-22	Quiz L3	Assignment #12
9-24	Speaking for L3; L4 Character Practice	Assignment #13
9-26	L4 Text 1	Assignment #14

Week 6 (September 29 – October 3)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
9-29	L4 Text 2	Assignment #15
10-1	L4 Text 2	Assignment #16
10-3	Speaking & Quiz – L4	Assignment #17

Week 7 (October 6 - 10)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
10-6	L5 Character Practice	Assignment #18
10-8	L5 Text 1	Assignment #19
10-10	L5 Text 2	Assignment #20

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Week 8 (October 13 - 17)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
10-13	Quiz L5	Assignment #21
10-15	Speaking for L5; Chinese song	Assignment #22
10-17	Review	Assignment #23

Week 9 (October 20 - 24)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
10-20	Midterm (L1-5)	Assignment #24
10-22	L6 Character Practice & Text 1	Assignment #25
10-24	L6 Text 1 & 2	Assignment #26

Week 10 (October 27 - 31)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
10-27	L6 Text 2	Assignment #27
10-27	Speaking and Quiz – L6	Assignment #28
10-31	Chinese Fashion Show; L7 Character Practice	Assignment #29

Week 11 (November 3 - 7)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
11-3	L7 Text 1	Assignment #30
11-5	L7 Text 2	Assignment #31
11-7	Speaking and Quiz – L7	Assignment #32

Week 12 (November 10 - 14)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
11-10	L8 Character Practice	Assignment #33
11-12	L8 Text 1	Assignment #34
11-14	L8 Text 2	Assignment #35

Week 13 (November 17 - 21)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
11-17	Quiz L8	Assignment #36
11-19	Speaking for L8; Chinese games	Assignment #37
11-21	Chinese Movie	Assignment #38

Week 14 (November 24 - 28)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
11-24	L9 Character Practice	Assignment #39
11-26	Early Travel (No Class)	
11-28	Thanksgiving (FIU Closed)	

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Week 15 (December 1 - 5)

Date	Class Activities	Homework
12-1	L9 Text 1	Assignment #40
12-3	L9 Text 2	Assignment #41
12-5	Speaking and Quiz – L9	Assignment #42

Week 16 (December 8 - 12) Final Exam Week

Date	Class Activities
12-8	Date, Time and Location to be announced
12-10	
12-12	

*Students' level varies slightly from semester to semester. Therefore, this schedule is subject to change. Please check your email daily to receive assignment and/or updates.