Chinese 302 Third-Level Mandarin

MTWF: 1:30 p.m. - 2:20 p.m. • Moore Hall 394

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Office Hours: Wed 2:30-3:30 or by appointment

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will gain listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in standard (Mandarin) Chinese, attaining approximately the Intermediate High to emerging Advanced Low levels on the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) proficiency scale. Specifically, students will achieve the followings:

Listening Be able to sustain understanding over paragraph length narrations and conversations on a number of topics pertaining to different times and places as well as events removed in space and time from the speaker. Be able to understand face-to-face speech in the standard Mandarin about everyday topics, common personal and family news, well-known current events, and narration about current, past and future events.

Speaking Be able to converse with ease and confidence when dealing with most routine tasks and social situations of the Intermediate level, and certain Advanced-Low level. Be able to initiate, maintain and close a general conversation with a number of strategies appropriate to a range of circumstances and topics for face-to-face conversations. Be able to handle successfully most uncomplicated communicative tasks and social situations more than exchanges of basic information related to work, school, recreation, particular interests and areas of competence.

Reading Be able to read simple, authentic written material in a form equivalent to usual printing or typescript on subjects within a familiar context. Be able to read straightforward, familiar, factual material with full understanding simple connected texts dealing with basic personal and social needs. Be able to locate and understand the main ideas and details in material written for the general reader. Be able to read uncomplicated but authentic prose on familiar subjects that are normally presented in a predictable sequence which aids the reader in understanding.

Writing Be able to describe and narrate in paragraphs, write articles of at least several paragraphs in length (700 Chinese characters or more) on self-selected and familiar topics. Be able to use a dictionary to advantage to express simple ideas. Be able to write routine social correspondence and prepare documentary materials.

Text & Materials:

2. Audio/Video: The audio/video files for the textbook are available at the textbook website.
3. **Supplementary material:** *Chinese Builder Cards: The Lightning Path to Mastering Vocabulary,* By Song Jiang and Haidan Wang, Cheng & Tsui, 2005. (Optional, available at UH Bookstore)

**Student Responsibilities:**

1. **Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory. Absences without valid reasons will affect your grade. Anyone who is late for more than 15 minutes will be regarded as absent. Four unexcused absences will result in one letter grade lower toward your final grade (A to B, B becomes C, C becomes D, etc.).

2. **Class preparation and participation:** All students are expected to participate actively in the daily language practice. Students’ class participation and performance will be evaluated daily, and the evaluation will be used as a reference for final grading. All students are required to participate in Extensive Reading (3% of final grade) as supported by Chinese Flagship Program and Diagnostic Test (2% of final grade) as required by Chinese Section.

3. **Homework and Assignments:** You will be responsible for turning in ALL homework and assignments on the day due (see syllabus). Late homework and assignments will NOT be accepted **WITHOUT A VALID REASON.** Practice writing characters **EVERY DAY!** No language can be acquired overnight. The only way to build up your Chinese language proficiency is gradually through constant practice; remember **“Practice makes perfect!”**

4. **Compositions:** Students are required to write three compositions for the semester. 2~3 drafts and corrections are needed for the full credits (included in the Homework & Assignment section, counted toward your final grade).

5. **Monthly Journals (MJ):** Three journals are required assignments for communicating in timely manner with the teacher the students’ suggestions and comments with regards to students’ self-reflection, the teaching materials, teaching approaches, as well as students’ individual needs, self-evaluation and summery of his/her progress.

6. **Vocabulary quizzes, Unit tests, Midterm and Final Exams:** Every effort should be made to take quizzes and tests at the specified times. If you know you must miss a class ahead of time, tell the teacher before that class. Quizzes or tests cannot be made up unless arrangements are made BEFORE being absent from class. No one is allowed to make up a missed quiz **without a valid, written excuse.**

*You are reminded that each student’s background, interests, learning style, difficulties and goals are different. Please be patient with each other and do not hesitate to see one of the teachers for extra help or explanations in certain areas.*

**Final grade** will be based on the results of:

1. **Attendance (10%) & Participation (including Extensive Reading 3%, Diagnostic Test 2%)** 20%
2. **Homework (10%), Assignments (MJ & Composition 10%)** 20%
3. **Vocabulary Quizzes (10%) & Unit Tests (10%)** 20%
4. **Oral Exams (Midterm 5% & Final 5%) & Presentation (5%)** 15%
5. **Written Exams: Midterm (10%) & Final (15%)** 25%

Final percentage score will be converted to a letter grade based on the following:

90 ~ 100% = A, 80 ~ 89% = B, 70 ~ 79% = C, 60 ~ 69% = D, 0 ~ 59% = F