

Course Code & Title: CHIN9501 / Chinese as a Foreign Language I (6 credits)

Course Description:

This intensive course is intended for international undergraduate students, as well as exchange and visiting students, who have no prior knowledge of Chinese language. It aims to build a solid foundation for students wishing to go on to more advanced levels of language study and in-depth study of Chinese culture and society. It familiarizes students with the phonetic system of Putonghua, i.e. Hanyu Pinyin System. Students will learn pronunciation, tones, and basic patterns which will enable them to construct short sentences and carry on basic conversations on familiar topics, accurately and clearly. Students with no prior knowledge of Chinese characters must master 100 commonly used simplified Chinese characters*. The course emphasizes development of all of the four language skills, in addition to Chinese word processing.

**Note: Chinese characters will not be specifically taught in class but will be an integrated part of the course. Students with no prior knowledge of Chinese characters must study 100 commonly used simplified Chinese characters on their own by following the learning plan and e-learning materials via the links posted on Moodle.*

Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

Oral/written literacy:

- Demonstrate an overall ability to communicate short messages on everyday topics that they are familiar with and affect them directly.
- Demonstrate an ability to produce greetings, self-introductions, and expressions of courtesy that they have rehearsed.

Oral literacy:

- Demonstrate an ability to accurately and clearly express themselves using common words, phrased, simple sentences, and questions that they have encountered and rehearsed.
- Exchange greetings, basic information related to their identity, and everyday topics that they are familiar with, using visuals (e.g. photographs, videos and etc.).

Written literacy:

- Demonstrate an ability to transcribe familiar expressions in the Romanization system (i.e. Hanyu Pinyin System).
- Demonstrate an ability to identify and produce basic commonly used Chinese characters (i.e. Simplified Chinese characters).
- Demonstrate an ability to communicate by writing on well-rehearsed, familiar topics using limited formulaic language.

Assessment: (100% Coursework)

Assessment Methods	Weighting (%)
Participation	10
2 Recordings	10
2 Written Exercises	10
2 Compositions	20
2 Presentations (based on the compositions)	20
3 Quizzes	30

Course Study Load: 120 learning hours

Course Activities	No. of Hours
Preparation	10
Out-of-class Tasks	32
Small Group Classes	48
Reading/Writing Homework	30

Grade Descriptors of CHIN9501

Note: 'Assessment results are determined after careful deliberation by the relevant Boards of Examiners and they are final.'

Standard	Grade	Grade Point	Description
Distinction	A+	4.3	All of the assessment criteria have been fully met at a superior level. Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the Hanyu Pinyin System, basic Mandarin vocabulary and grammar. Presents original ideas accurately, clearly and effectively. Demonstrates strong ability to understand spoken language, express oneself verbally, comprehend written texts, and produce written content. All aspects indicate a superior language proficiency.
	A	4.0	
	A-	3.7	
Good	B+	3.3	All of the assessment criteria have been fully met at a very good level. Demonstrates a very good level of understanding of the Hanyu Pinyin System, basic Mandarin vocabulary and grammar. Presents sound ideas with reasonable clarity. Demonstrates a very good level of competence in understanding spoken language, expressing oneself verbally, comprehending written texts, and producing written content. Most aspects conform to a good level of language proficiency.
	B	3.0	
	B-	2.7	
Satisfactory	C+	2.3	Most of the assessment criteria have been met. Demonstrates an acceptable level of competence in understanding spoken language, expressing oneself verbally, comprehending written texts, and producing written content. Presents some ideas with limited clarity. Some aspects conform to a satisfactory level of language proficiency.
	C	2.0	
	C-	1.7	
Pass	D+	1.3	Some of the assessment criteria have been met. Demonstrates a passable level of competency in all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Presents ideas with very limited clarity. Demonstrates limited ability to apply communication skills in composition writing and oral presentations. Most aspects indicate an unsatisfactory level of language proficiency.
	D	1.0	
Failure	F	0	Demonstrates poor understanding of the subject topics. Presents ideas poorly and ambiguously. Poorly organized, full of grammatical errors and communication is seriously impeded. Shows lack of ability to write compositions. Spoken language is mostly incomprehensible. Not able to acquire communication knowledge and develop the specific skills required of a communicator.