

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

Course Description:

This intensive course is intended for foreign learners who have no prior knowledge of the 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 structures of Putonghua, the Hanyu Pinyin system, pronunciation, tones, intonation, sentence patterns and the characteristics of situational conversations. 400 most frequently used Chinese characters will be introduced and students will be taught how to make use of Chinese dictionaries.

The course emphasizes overall development in all four language skills in addition to Chinese word processing. Students will learn pronunciation, tones and basic patterns so as to speak short sentences and carry survival conversation and simple topic conversations accurately, clearly and fluently. For listening comprehension, students will learn to distinguish sounds and tones and comprehend short sentences. Students should be able to transcribe in pinyin for note-taking purposes. Students are trained in basic character writing, different strokes and proper stroke order and be able to write 150 characters. Students will also learn word processing with pinyin, which is essential for everyday communication on the internet and mobile phone SMS.

Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively in basic Chinese using correct pronunciation.
2. Correctly identify the 400 most frequently used Chinese characters and words, and the origins of basic Chinese characters.
3. Demonstrate an ability to communicate in speech and writing using the basic grammar structures of modern Chinese.
4. Demonstrate the ability to use a Chinese dictionary.

Assessment: (100% Coursework)

Assessment Methods	Weighting (%)
1 Chinese Typing	5
5 Dictations	10
5 Online Exercises (Level 1_Step 1-5 on CLC Mandarin Learning Platform)	15
2 Recordings	10
2 Written Exercises	10
1 Composition	10
1 Speaking Test (based on the composition)	10
2 Written Tests (Mid-term:10 & Final: 20)	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

General Expectations of Student Performance at Various Grades:

[A20/906 \(hku.hk\)](http://hku.hk)

OR→

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



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