

Course Introduction

With the continuing economic and political rise of China, it is becoming increasingly important to learn the Chinese language. In this online Chinese language course, students will continue to strengthen their written and spoken Mandarin Chinese, and allow participants to communicate in Chinese on a range of daily topics.

Course Description

The primary text for this course is Discovering Chinese Pro, which is an interactive, technology based curriculum that is accessible on any computer or tablet. Each lesson is comprised of the following sections:

1. Lesson - Introduces what the student will learn and the lesson material in 3 different formats to cater to different learning styles (animation, illustration, and plain text)
2. Language Notes - Teaches the lesson's vocabulary, 3-5 grammar points, and a few tips to better understand the language
3. Cultural Points - Provides students with a taste of the cultural background to the language. Since Chinese idioms are an important part of Chinese culture, each lesson also includes one relevant idiom.
4. Practice - Includes 7 sections (pinyin, Chinese character writing, listening, reading, writing, speaking, and a group activity) with lots of exercises to help students build their language skills. There's a built-in auto-correct function to encourage self-learning.
5. Homework - More exercises focused on building reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.
6. I Can Do Statements - Offers students a chance to create a record of what they've learned at the end of each lesson.

This is a yearlong course consisting of 12 units. Upon successful completion students will receive 1 credit towards high school graduation.

Purpose of the Course

The course will help the student further extend your standard (Mandarin) Chinese language skills to attain approximately the level of Intermediate Low on the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) proficiency guideline.

Course Prerequisites

Successful completion of Chinese 3.

Course Overview

Semester 1

- Science Exhibition
- Shopping Online
- Grandpa's Birthday
- Chinese Festivals
- Nature
- Environmental Protection

Semester 2

- Getting Sick
- Diet and Health
- Watching a Performance
- Getting to Know China
- Summer Vacation
- Travel Plans

Course Outcomes

Specifically, students are expected to achieve the following:

* Listening: Understand sentence-length utterances which consist of re-combinations of learned elements in a number of content areas. Comprehend a considerable range of topics such as online shopping, planning for a birthday party, visiting a doctor, discussing health and diet and traveling to China.

* Speaking: Successfully handle most communicative tasks in straightforward social situations. Express personal meaning by combining and recombining known elements and conversational input to make utterances of sentence length and some strings of sentences.

* Reading: Identify about another 300 character that allow the full understanding of simple connected texts predominantly written in familiar sentence patterns, such as short, straightforward descriptions of persons, places, and things written for a wide audience.

* Writing: Write short paragraphs using a number of cohesive devices that combine sentences into paragraph-length descriptions and narrations on everyday events, and topics of current and general interest.

Required Course Materials

Please access the list of course materials from the OC Online book ordering system and order your materials as soon as possible. Oftentimes, course materials are on back order and you may experience a delay in receiving them, causing students to fall behind in their online coursework. When ordering used or rented materials, be careful that online access codes are also current.

Methods of Instruction

The course materials are presented in a variety of interactive forms to help students learn the content. The various forms of instruction include:

- **Writing**

Students will develop writing skills by writing characters, sentences, or short paragraphs depending on the requirement of the task.

- **Audio Recordings**

There will be tasks where students will record their speech to an audio file for submission. This is to develop oral skills and to continue to perfect your tones and pronunciations.

- **Presentations**

In each unit, there will be a comprehensive task where students have the opportunity to demonstrate what they've learned from the unit in the form of a presentation.

- **Chapter Tests**

Finally to wrap up the unit, students will take a review chapter test that helps you examine your grasp of the material content.

Methods of Evaluation

Students will be assessed by their performance in each unit. The assessment includes:

- Characters and vocabulary building
- Vocabulary quizzes

- Grammar review and quizzes
- Listening comprehension
- Translations
- Discussion board
- Reading comprehension
- Compositions and presentations

Students will demonstrate mastery through the following formative and summative assessments:

- 40% Assignments
- 10% Participation (Discussion Posts, Synchronous Sessions)
- 10% Quizzes
- 25% Final Exam
- 15% Unit Tests