Syllabus **FIRST YEAR CHINESE** **Fall 2006**

Time: M W F: 1:00-1:50pm
Tu: 12:30-1:45pm
Place: MTWF –Palmer 206

Course Instructor: Dr. Ming Dong Gu
Office: 523 Rhodes Tower
Office Phone: 843-3952
Office Hours: M W F 10: 30-11: 30
or by appointment

Course Objectives

This course introduces students with no previous knowledge of Chinese to the language--called "Mandarin" by English speakers, *putonghua* in mainland China, and *Kuo-yu* in Taiwan. Equal emphasis will be given to acquiring the rudiments of both spoken and written Chinese. Although oral-aural work naturally makes up the bulk of our work in the classroom, the instructors will always be available during their office hours to help students with their written homework or their writing of characters. Students who complete the year course will have mastered approximately 700 characters and a vocabulary of a little more than 1,000 words. They should be able to hold simple conversation on daily-life topics, and to travel with relative independence in Chinese-speaking countries. We hope also to acquaint students with some basic aspects of Chinese culture and society as a necessary part of their education in this language.

Course Materials

We are going to use Part 1, Level I of Integrated Chinese, 2nd edition, published by Chen & Tsui Company. Integrated Chinese is a very popular set of instructional materials for learning Mandarin Chinese. Field-tested since 1994, it has been very well received and widely adopted by American colleges and universities. As the title indicates, it aims to train students in all four language skills: reading, listening, speaking and writing. It employs a variety of pedagogical methods: direct method, interactive conversation, grammar translation, audio-lingual, tonal physical response, etc. to achieve desired results.

The set comprises 1) a Textbook, 2) a Student Workbook, and 3) a Character Workbook, all required for the course. In addition, audio CDs to accompany the lessons in Integrated Chinese can be accessed on Rhodes website. As you will be asked to master the contents of the texts, **you are required to listen to audio CDs regularly**. There is also a **workbook audio CD on the website**. You **must access it** so as to do the listening comprehension part of homework. If your computer screen has shortcut to acad_dept, you can click on it and select Mod_Lang. Then select Language_Lab, Chinese, and Integrated_ Chinese_1. If you don't have that shortcut icon, you can type in the website address:
\\Fileserver1\acad_dept_pgm\Mod_Lang\Language_Lab\Chinese\Integrated_Chinese_1

Grading: Breakdown of grading:

attendance and participation = 10%
In-class quiz = 5%
homework = 20%

quizzes = 40%
final = 15%
oral quiz = 10%
Total: 100%

Note: Late submission of assignments and absence from class will adversely affect your grade unless you have an acceptable reason-- family emergency or religious observance, for instance. If you miss a quiz or an exam for such an acceptable reason, a make-up will be arranged for you. But inexcusable absence will considerably lower your grade.

Three absences without documented reasons will lower the final grade.

Course Organization

Approximately, we will spend one week and a half on each lesson. For each lesson we will study the new vocabulary items, the grammar notes and sentence patterns, and we will learn to use them in different life-like situations. In addition to the various kinds of in-class exercises, which include listening comprehension exercises and vocabulary mini-quizzes, you will have home assignments for each lesson, most of which will be from your Student's Workbook. We will spend some time in class going over the errors in your assignments, since one of the most effective ways in language learning is learning from mistakes. After we finish each of the lessons we will have a comprehensive quiz. And there will be a final examination at the end of the semester.

We will cover 8 lessons (in addition to the introduction) of Integrated Chinese, Part 1. The semester will be divided into two periods, each covering four lessons. At the end of the firs period, there will be a mid-term oral quiz. At the end of the semester, there will be a final examination and an oral test.

Detailed Schedule:

8/23 Wed	Introduction: Chinese Pronunciation A and B
8/25 Fri	Pronunciation C and D
8/28 Mon	Continue C and D
8/29 Tu	Continue A, B, C, and D
8/30Wed	Chinese Writing System and Basic Chinese Radical
9/1 Fri	Useful Expression Phonetics Homework Due
9/4 M	**Labor Day**
9/5 T	Quiz for the Introduction
9/6 W	Start L. 1: New Characters and reading the text
9/8 F	Dialogue 1 Character Homework Due
9/11 M	Dialogue 2
9/12 T	Grammar
9/13 W	Pattern Drill and Oral Practice Homework Due
9/15 F	Quiz for L. 1
9/18 M	Start L. 2: New Characters and reading the text
9/19 T	Dialogue 1
9/20 W	Dialogue 2
9/22 F	Grammar
9/26 T	Pattern Drill and Oral Practice Homework Due

9/27 W Quiz for L.2
9/29 F Start L. 3: New Characters and reading the text
10/2 M Dialogue 1 Character Homework Due
10/3 T Dialogue 2
10/4 W Grammar
10/6 F Pattern Drill and Oral Practice Homework Due
10/9 M Quiz for L. 3
10/10 T Start L. 4: New Characters and reading the text
10/4 W Dialogue 1 Character Homework Due
10/13 F Dialogue 2
10/14-10/17 **Fall Break**
10/18 W Grammar
10/20 F Pattern Drill and Oral Practice Homework Due
10/23 M Quiz for L. 4
10/24 T Start L. 5: New Characters and reading the text
10/25 W Dialogue 1 Character Homework Due
10/27 F Dialogue 2
10/30 M Grammar
10/31 T Pattern Drill and Oral Practice Homework Due
11/1 W Quiz for L. 5
11/3 F Start L. 6: New Characters and reading the text
11/6 M Dialogue 1 Character Homework Due
11/7 T Dialogue 2
11/8 W Grammar
11/10 F Pattern Drill and Oral Practice Homework Due
11/13 M Quiz for L. 6
11/14 T Start L. 7: New Characters and reading the text
11/15 W Dialogue 1 Character Homework Due
11/17 F Dialogue 2
11/20 M Grammar
11/21 T Pattern Drill and Oral Practice Homework Due
11/22-26 **Thanksgiving Holiday**
11/27 M Quiz for L. 7
11/28 T Start L. 8: New Characters and reading the text
11/29 W Dialogue 1 Character Homework Due
12/1 F Dialogue 2
12/4 M Grammar
12/5 T Pattern Drill and Oral Practice Homework Due
12/6 W Review for the Finals **Last Day of Class**
12/11 M **Final Exams**:
Written Exam: 1:00-2:20am
Oral Exam: 2:30-4:30am

Have Great Fun in Learning A New Language!