Advanced Chinese: Part I

Time:  M W F: 3:00-3:50 pm  
Place: 104 FraJel (Frazier Jelke Science Center)

Instructor’s Information:

Dr. Ming Dong Gu  
Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literatures  
Rhodes College

Office: 523 Rhodes Tower  
Office Hours: MWF 10:30-11:30  Or by appointment

Office Phone: 843-3952

Preliminary Remarks:

You have achieved great success in the past two years. Congratulations. You have entered a stage in the process of learning Chinese at which you can do complicated things with the Chinese language. We will build on our strength and improve where we are weak, especially in the areas of listening and speaking.

Course Materials

We will continue to use Integrated Chinese Level II, and start from where we left off in the second year.

Audiotapes to accompany the lessons in Integrated Chinese are on reserve at the Language Center. Duplicates of these tapes can be made on request. As you will be asked to master the contents of the tapes, it may be a good idea to get copies made so that you can work on them at home (each tape contains several lessons). You may, of course, choose to use the tapes in the Resource Center.

Course Objectives

In addition to the same objectives as those in the first two years, we will put more emphasis on listening and speaking. We will spend more time on listening comprehension part of the homework. This means that we will go over listening comprehension in a more detailed way in class. In addition to asking you to understand the listening materials, I will also ask you to retell the materials. In this way, you will have more opportunities to practice both listening and speaking. Also, we will do more written exercises.
Grading

Breakdown of grading:

- attendance and participation: 15%
- homework: 20%
- quizzes: 40%
- final examination: 15%
- oral exam: 10%

Total: 100%

Note on the oral test:

The oral test for this semester will be different from those in the past semesters. I will record a few short passages in a tape. You listen to the tape twice and then answer questions based on the recorded passages.

Attention: 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 class or an exam for such an acceptable reason, a make-up will be arranged for you. But inexcusable absence from a class or an exam will considerably lower your grade.

Three absences without documented reasons will lower the final grade.

Remember: if you have difficulties of any kind, please do not hesitate to ask the instructor for help.

Course Organization

As the difficulty of each lesson gradually increases, we have entered into a stage at which it is rather difficult to have a fixed daily schedule. We therefore adopt a tentative schedule. As we go along, I will either quicken the pace or slow down to suit students’ needs.

We will spend approximately seven hours on each lesson. Altogether we will finish 6 lessons of Level II.

Tentative Course Schedule:

8/25   L. 8 begins
8/27   Character homework due
9/2    Homework Due
9/10   Quiz for L. 8
9/13   L. 9 begins
9/15   Character homework due
9/24   Homework Due
9/27   Quiz for L. 9.
9/29  L. 10 begins
10/1  Character homework due
10/13 Homework due
10/15 Quiz for L. 20;
   Midterm Oral Test

Fall Break

10/20  L. 11 begins
10/22  Character homework due
10/28  Homework due
11/3   Quiz for L. 11;
11/5   L. 12 begins
11/10  Character homework due
11/17  Homework due
11/19  Quiz for L. 12;
11/22  L. 13 begins

Thanksgiving Holiday

11/29  Character homework due
12/8   Homework due
   Last day of class: Review for the final exam

12/15  Final Exams:
   Written Exam: 5:30-6:40am
   Oral Exam: 6:50-7:30am