Instructors: Zhu Laoshi (Yongping Zhu), Croft Associate Professor
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or by appointment

Ye Laoshi (Weibing Ye), Office Croft 216
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Office hours: TTH 9:00 am – 10:00 am or by appointment

Class Time and Room: 8:00 am – 8:50 am, M-F; Lewis Hall RM 109

Class Description:
This course introduces and provides the basic training of elementary Mandarin pronunciation, grammar, reading and orthography (in both Romanized and character forms) to beginners with no or little prior exposure to the language. It emphasizes on the ability to communicate and function accurately and appropriately in Modern Chinese. This course consists of three lectures and two drill sessions per week; plus individual tutorial session. Lectures and drill session aside, students are expected to spend 5 to ten hours per week in private study. Over the course, those finishing the course will have acquired the following skill:

Pronunciation: Accurate pronunciation and ability to distinguish all Mandarin vowels, consonants and tones in all syllables.

Grammar: Productive and idiomatic use of grammatical patterns introduced in the course

Reading: ability to read short passage written in Chinese characters.

Conversation: ability to converse in Mandarin on subject matters covered in the course.

Orthography: ability to recognize at least 300 Chinese characters, and to reproduce a minimum of 200 characters from memory.

Textbooks and Audio:

Recommended Materials and Websites
Concise English-Chinese/Chinese-English Dictionary by the Commercial Press and Oxford University Press, 1985

Chinese Pinyin/pronunciation: http://www.freecele.net/pinyin.html
Chinese characters: http://www.clavisinica.com
Chinese characters & culture: http://www.zhongwen.com
Chinese tools: http://www.mandarintools.com
Chinese culture: http://www.chinapage.com/china.html
Learning Chinese Online: http://www.csulb.edu/~txie/online.htm
Online Writing Software: Chinese Writing Master (Simplified Characters): http://www.cchar.com/
Course Requirement
Preparation
You are expected to prepare the material for the designated lesson before coming to class. Preparation includes, but not limited to, (1) read the text and vocabulary list carefully until the meaning of each word is fully understood and the character recognized; (2) listen to the lesson, familiarizing with the vocabulary, sentence patterns. Your preparation is critical in this course. Success largely depends on your preparation.

Attendance and Performance
You are expected to attend every class and participate in class activities actively. If you know that you will miss class, please contact your instructors ahead of time by email or phone to let them know the reason for absence. Frequent absences and tardiness without proper reason will influence the instructors’ evaluation of your grade. Being late to class for three times will be considered as one absence. More than ten unexcused (including ten) absences may lower your final grade to F.

Quizzes, Tests, Oral presentation
Quizzes will be given about one - two times for each lesson, and will be held at the beginning of lecture.
Test will be given for each lesson. There are one midterm, one final exam and two oral examinations during this semester.

Homework
The regular homework includes:
● copying the new characters in the character book
● memorizing the new vocabulary for each lesson
● listening to the dialogue(s)
● written exercises based on the designated lesson
Please write your homework neatly and turn in it by the due day. Sloppily written homework or homework with too many errors will be required to rewrite. The rewritten homework should be turned in on the following day.

Individual Tutorial Session (it may start the second week)
You are required to practice Chinese individually with Teaching Assistants (15 minutes per week). Please prepare well for the tutorial session.

Student Study Group/Chinese Table
You are encouraged to organize and participate in Chinese study groups run by students and Chinese Language Table run by Chinese Language and Culture Club. Chinese Language Table provides an opportunity where you can exchange daily conversation with native Chinese speakers and classmates in a relaxing and natural environment.

Recording
You are required to record one lesson among lessons of 1-7 (select one lesson by yourself) and hand it in to your drill instructor.
Grades:
Your grade in this course will be based on following:

**Attendance/Daily performance:** 25%
**Homework assignments:** 20%
**Quizzes:** 10%
**Tests:** 20%
**Oral exams:** 10% (midterm and final)
**Final written:** 15%

**Grading Scale:**
- 91-100: A;
- 89-90: A-;
- 86-88: B+;
- 83-85: B;
- 80-82: B-;
- 77-79: C+;
- 73-76: C;
- 70-72: C-;
- 60-69: D
- Below 60: F

**Instructors’ Expectations of Students**
- Attend each class (notify instructors ahead when you will not be in class)
- Arrive to class on time
- Speak Chinese as you can in the classroom
- Turn assignments in on time
- Read all assigned readings before class
- Do not work on assignments after class has started
- Do not chew gum or eat food in class (drinking a beverage is OK)
- Turn off all noise-making devices such as cell phone and MP3 after class has started.

**Note:** Late homework will be corrected but received no credit. There will be no make-up quizzes or tests except in some extraordinary circumstances beyond the students’ control. Any make-up quiz and test, please contact your instructor.