

Chinese 101: First year first semester Chinese
Fall, 2002

Instructor:	Classroom:
Phone:	Class time:
E-mail:	Office hours:

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES

In this course, you will embark on a journey of learning Mandarin Chinese. This is the first half of the first-year Chinese at the State University of New York at Buffalo. The course is designed to teach basic language skills in speaking, reading and writing of modern Chinese. You are recommended to take both CHI101 and CHI102 to take full advantage of training in elementary Chinese.

After completing the entire series of First year Chinese (CHI 101 and CH 102), you are expected to learn:

- Chinese phonemes through pinyin – the romanized Chinese phonetic system;
- a working vocabulary of over 800 words and active use of about 500 characters;
- both traditional and simplified Chinese characters;
- basic Chinese grammar and sentence structures;
- daily conversations and survival Chinese, in both formal and informal contexts;
- various aspects of Chinese culture, lifestyles and social-cultural conventions;
- basic knowledge of Chinese computing

II. TEXT

Yao, T-C., Liu, Y-H, et al., *Integrated Chinese, Level 1 Part 1, and workbooks*. Boston: Cheng and Tsui Company, 1997 (to be purchased at the University Bookstore).

Supplementary Materials to Integrated Chinese: Study Kits. (to be purchased at “Makin’ copies”).

III. REQUIREMENTS

- Class attendance and participation
- Homework assignments in listening, speaking, reading and writing
- Quizzes (including unannounced quizzes given weekly)
- Midterm exam (to be given in Week 8)
- Final exam (to be given during the University final exam week)

IV. GRADING

Students receive a letter grade in this course. Please note that curving is not adopted in this course. A course grade of A or above is not impossible; however, it requires not only a student's constant excellent performances on most homework assignments, quizzes and exams, but also his/her excellent record of attendance and class participation.

Generally, no make-up quizzes and exams will be given unless students can show written proof of illness or unexpected family emergency. Quizzes will be either announced or unannounced, and will be given relatively once a week by the instructor. If a student misses a quiz without an accepted excuse, the best way to make it up is to do well on the following quizzes. The student is also responsible for making up the homework assigned and/or collected during his/her absence. Being absent is not an excuse for handing in homework late.

An Incomplete grade is not considered unless the student can show written proof of illness or unexpected family emergency. In the meantime, the student should remain a fair academic standing (i.e., a grade C or better) at the time of requesting an Incomplete grade for the course.

A. Grade distribution

- Attendance and Class Participation	20%
- Homework Assignments	20%
- Quizzes	20%
- Midterm Exam	10%
- <u>Final Exam</u>	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

93-100% = A	80-82% = B-	60-64% = D+
90-92% = A-	75-79% = C+	55-59% = D
87-89% = B+	70-74% = C	54% and below = F
83-86% = B	65-69% = C-	

B. Attendance

A Chinese language class is relatively small compared to other courses at UB. We have the advantage of making our learning more efficient, effective and enjoyable. Nevertheless, we could not be able to make that happen without each and every student's regular attendance and active participation in class on a daily basis. For that reason, students are advised to pay attention to the following guidelines:

Students can have two unquestioned absences throughout the semester. Beyond these two absences, each additional absence subtracts 5% from the attendance grade

which accounts for 20 points in the final course grade (see the details below). Note that with more than 15 absences, the student will receive a zero on the attendance and participation grade. In addition, students who arrive to class more than 15 minutes late (according to the instructor's watch) will be counted absent for that day. Students are expected not only to be present in class, but also to be ready to participate in class. Therefore, students should do the required assignments so that they are familiar enough with the topics covered in class to join in the discussions and answer questions.

2 absences = 100%	3 absences = 95%	4 absences = 90%
5 absences = 85%	6 absences = 80%	7 absences = 75%
8 absences = 70%	9 absences = 65%	10 absences = 60%
11 absences = 55%	12 absences = 50%	13 absences = 45%
14 absences = 40%	15 absences = 0%	

C. Homework assignments

Generally homework will be assigned every class for the next class meeting. Homework will be graded with number grades. Any missed or sometimes late homework will receive either a zero grade or a reduced grade and WILL be counted during the averaging process later. Homework assignments handed in one day after the due date will be accepted with three points deducted from the actual grading. Homework assignments handed in two days after the due date or within a week will be corrected with no grade.

V. Web resources

- *Integrated Chinese* Homepage: <http://tyao.lll.hawaii.edu/icusers>
- Listening materials for *Integrated Chinese*:
<http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/Chinese/materials.html>
- Pronunciation guide: <http://icg.harvard.edu/~pinyin>

VI. WHAT'S NEXT?

Hopefully, the following Chinese saying will get you up and running:

“*Qian li zhi xing, shi yu zu xia*”

(A thousand-mile journey starts by taking the first step.)

Ready? Let the journey begin!

CHI 101: Class Schedule

What follows is an overview of the material to be covered this semester. This schedule is subject to change and is intended to give you an idea of the scope of the course.

Week	Date	Agenda
1	8/26-8/30	Introduction to course Introduction to Pronunciation
2	9/3-9/6	Pronunciation (continues) Introduction to writing system Lesson 1. Greetings (no class Monday, Labor Day)
3	9/9-9/13	Lesson 1 (continues)
4	9/17-9/20	Lesson 1 (continues) Lesson 2. Family (no class Monday, Yom Kippur)
5	9/23-9/27	Lesson 2 (continues)
6	9/30-10/4	Lesson 3. Dates and time
7	10/7-10/11	Lesson 3 (continues) Lesson 4. Hobbies
8	10/14-10/18	Lesson 4 (continues) 10/18 Mid-term exam
9	10/21-10/25	Lesson 5. Visiting friends
10	10/28-11/1	Lesson 5 (continues) Lesson 6. Making appointments
11	11/4-11/8	Lesson 6 (continues)

12	11/11-11/15	Lesson 6 (continues) Lesson 7. Studying Chinese
13	11/18-11/22	Lesson 7 (continues) Lesson 8. School life
14	11/25-11/26	Lesson 8 (continues) (11/27-29 Fall recess)
15	12/2-12/6	Lesson 8 (continues)
Exam week	12/9-12/19	12/9 Last day of class – Review for Final exam 12/10-11 Reading days 12/12-12/19 Final Exam Week