

**DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BUFFALO**  
**CH201 Syllabus (First Semester of Two)**  
**--- Fall 2002 ---**

Instructor: Xuehong Lü

Classroom: 115 Baldy

Days/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Office hour: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/E-mail:

- Materials:
1. **Oh, China!** (Chih-p'ing Chou, et al., Princeton University Press)
  2. Audio Recording: <http://wings.buffalo.edu/services/ubaudio/chi104/>  
<http://wings.buffalo.edu/services/ubaudio/lang.html>

## **I. GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

This course is the first part of a two-part intermediate Chinese course, designed for students who have successfully completed the Elementary Chinese courses (CH101/CH102 or CH104 at SUNY/Buffalo) or the equivalent before. This course will continue to improve students' aural and oral skills in Mandarin Chinese. In the mean time, students will be trained to read and write letters, short paragraphs and essays in Chinese characters. Reading and writing materials include not only topics closely related to present-day lives in the U.S. and China, but also provocative topics on the life of Chinese Americans. Students could put to use their newly learned vocabulary immediately in and outside class. If you are determined to take advantage of your bilingual capability in the Sino-US government and/or business affairs in your future career, or if you would like to become a sinologist, or even if you just want to surprise your parents and grandparents with letters written in Chinese, you are in the right place to start.

## **II. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The course focuses on students' spoken and written communicative competence in Chinese. Besides, the reading assignments and practices will be basically carried out in Chinese characters rather than in *pinyin*. Therefore, students are expected to spend a lot of time reading and writing Chinese the way that most Chinese native speakers do. Major goals of this course are:

- to train students' communicative competence through conversing on everyday and academic subjects in a formal or informal context
- to use relatively correct grammar and vocabulary in context
- to be able to read and write longer paragraphs and essays in Chinese characters
- to be able to translate from Chinese to English and vice versa
- to be more familiar with both the traditional and simplified Chinese characters
- to help students build vocabulary necessary for higher level Chinese studying

- to further acquaint students with various aspects of Chinese culture, lifestyles and social-cultural conventions

### III. REQUIREMENTS

- Class attendance and participation are required and counted in the final grade
- Homework assignments in listening, speaking, reading and writing
- Quizzes (including unannounced quizzes given weekly)
- Midterm exam
- Final exam (**to be given during the University Final Exam Week**)
- Other things needed: Some audio cassettes (compulsory); A tape recorder (recommended)

Students with diagnosed physical, learning or psychological disability should advise the instructor during the first two weeks of the course, so we may review possible arrangements for reasonable accommodations.

### IV. GRADING

Students will receive a letter grade in this course. **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. Besides, the student is responsible for making up the homework assigned and/or collected during his/her absence.

Generally, an Incomplete grade is not considered unless the student can show written proof of illness or unexpected family emergency. In the mean time, the student should remain a fair academic standing (i.e., a grade of C or better) at the time of requesting an Incomplete grade for the course. Grades will be determined as the following:

- Attendance and Class Participation 30%
- Homework Assignments 20%
- Quizzes 10%
- Midterm Exam 10%
- Final Exam 30%
- **Total 100%**