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**Course Description and Objectives:**
This course is designed to learn both spoken and written Mandarin Chinese. Emphasis will be put on the training of the four communicative skills, listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Each lesson will focus on a typical daily conversational topic to teach the students to use the language in linguistically and socially appropriate ways, whereas the situation exercises and the interaction with fellow students will help to enable the students to integrate what they have learned into their everyday practice. By the end of the course, we expect our students to move from the novice to the intermediate level in both oral and written communicative proficiency, a standard set by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). To be specific, our students are expected to be able to communicate their ideas correctly at sentence level and handle simple survival situations.

**Textbooks:**
※Required for paper copy, NOT electronic copy:


These three textbooks are available at the University Bookstore, Campus center, UAlbany. (518) 442-5690

※Optional (Highly Recommended):

Integrated Chinese, Level 1 Part 1 MP3 Audio (Download), 3rd Edition. ISBN/SKU: D9780887276422. This set of MP3 audio files includes all the dialogues, vocabulary, and pronunciation exercises from each lesson of the Integrated Chinese third edition textbook, as well as the listening exercises from each lesson of the Integrated Chinese third edition workbook. The MP3s also include the detailed introduction to Chinese phonetics and pronunciation from the textbook. This material can be purchased directly from the publisher: Cheng and Tsui, [www.cheng-tsui.com](http://www.cheng-tsui.com)

**Online Resources:**
Other materials for the course will be available online via the course Blackboard. Blackboard is a REQUIRED component of the course. Please log in and familiarize yourself with it. You will see a Blackboard Demo at the start of the semester.
Some useful Internet resources related to this class:
http://www.studypond.com/pinyin.aspx
www.pinyinpractice.com

Course Requirements
Chinese character forms: All written work in this class will be done in simplified-form Chinese characters, which are used in China today.

Attendance and Make-ups: Students are expected to attend all classes. Attendance will be taken daily. You can have 3 absences in the semester. **Bonus:** If you attend every class and arrive on time through this semester, you will receive a 2 points reward to your **final grade**. 3 coming late or leaving early for classes equals 1 absence.

- One grade lower for more than 4 inexcusable absences.
- Two grades lower for more than 6 inexcusable absences.
- One Letter grade lower for more than 8 inexcusable absences.
- Additional one grade lower for every 2 times of inexcusable absences after 9.

Make-ups for missed quizzes and exams will be given only when the absence was due to a documented medical (this means you must have a signed note from an MD saying you were physically unable to attend class) or documented personal emergency. If possible, consult with the instructor before the absence.

Exams and quizzes: After finishing each lesson there will be an exam. Exams will be given approximately once every week; quizzes will be given once to twice a lesson. 1 lowest quiz and 1 lowest exam will be dropped.

**Homework:** Assignments are listed in “CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS”. **Late homework will NOT receive a grade on the due date.** Please hand in your homework in class, preferably right when the class starts. Please finish your homework before class. Working on your homework in class will distract you from learning Chinese.

**Oral Exam, Midterm and Final Exam:** There will be one oral exam, one midterm exam, one final listening comprehension exam, and one final written exam. Format to be announced.

**Grading System:**
- Classroom performance (attendance and participation) 15%
- Homework (18) 25%
- Quizzes (18) 15%
- Exams (8) 20%
- Midterm (1) 5%
- Oral exam (1) 5%
- Final exam 15%

Grades will be assigned using the following scale:
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Policies and Other Information

Classroom Etiquette: Greet your instructors to start class and say thank you after class. When your instructors give things back to you, use BOTH hands to receive them. No food, drinks (except for water), or chewing gum. Do not text or check your cell phone during class. While in class, prepare to learn. Stop distracting yourself. Wearing hat in class is not considered polite.

Email: If you need to contact me outside of class, email is your best option. Start your message with “Ye laoshi hao” and end with “xiexie” and your name. An email starts with only “hi” or “hello” will NOT get a response.

Grade Disputes: Please check your grades on Blackboard regularly to make sure that your grades are being posted and appear to be in line with what you expect them to be. If you find that a grade is missing for work you submitted, a grade that seems to be a posting error, OR if you would like to dispute a grade, please contact the instructor ASAP.

Disabilities: If you have a disability please meet with me to so we can discuss ways to help you succeed in the course. If you need accommodations that would affect the terms of this syllabus, you will need to provide documentation of you disability.

Incompletes: Due to the nature of this course, I do not allow any incomplete in this course.

Academic Honesty: An important component in learning is taking on tasks, assignments and exams in an honest effort to do your best possible work. On this note, you are expected to turn in and do original work. From the University website:

Presenting as one’s own work the work of another person (for example, the words, ideas, information, data, evidence, organizing principles, or style of presentation of someone else)... Plagiarism includes paraphrasing or summarizing without
acknowledgment, submission of another student’s work as one’s own, the purchase of prepared research or completed papers or projects, and the unacknowledged use of research sources gathered by someone else. Failure to indicate accurately the extent and precise nature of one’s reliance on other sources is also a form of plagiarism. The student is responsible for understanding the legitimate use of sources, the appropriate ways of acknowledging academic, scholarly, or creative indebtedness, and the consequences for violating University regulations.

More information can be found at http://library.albany.edu/usered/plagiarism/index.html

On this note, I do want to let you know that I take academic honest seriously and that if you are found to be engaging in dishonest behaviors you will be reported to the University and will receive, at a minimum, a failing grade for the assignment or exam. Severe cases will result in a failing grade for the course and possible expulsion from the University.

It is your responsibility to inform me if you know of any situations where academic dishonestly is taking place.

Syllabus as Contract: The course syllabus is a contract for the terms and conditions of your participation in this course. If, after reading the syllabus, you are unclear about or do not agree to the terms stated within, please speak with me or withdraw yourself from the course.