

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
Chinese Program
Advanced Chinese I (Chinese 401)
Fall 2010

I. Course information

1. Instructor: Xiaorong Wang 王小戎

Office: Curtin 872

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Office Hours: M&W: 2:30pm-3:30pm, and by appointment

2. Meeting Time and Classroom:

Tuesday, Thursday: 9:30 am-10:45 am CRT: 804

3. Texts and Materials

Beyond The Basics 乐在沟通/樂在溝通(Jianhua Bai, Juyu Sung, and Janet Zhiqun Xing, published by Cheng & Tsui, 2009)

II. Objectives

This course aims to develop students' language proficiency in Mandarin and enhance their understanding of current cultural and social issues through the multi-media textbook and articles provided. It focuses on developing the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing using a proficiency-based curriculum. Students will develop the above four skills in standard (Mandarin) Chinese, moving toward approximately the **Advanced-Low** levels on the ACTFL ETS (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) proficiency scale. Specifically, students will be able to achieve the following:

1. Listening: Able to understand main ideas and most details of connected discourse on a variety of topics beyond the immediacy of the situation. Comprehension may be uneven due to a variety of linguistic and extralinguistic factors, among which topic familiarity is very prominent. These texts frequently involve description and narration in different time frames or aspects, such as present, nonpast, habitual, or imperfective. Texts may include interviews, short lectures on familiar topics and news items and reports primarily dealing with factual information. Listener is aware of cohesive devices but may not be able to use them to follow the sequence of thought in an oral text.

2. Speaking: Speakers at the Advanced-Low level are able to handle a variety of communicative tasks, although somewhat haltingly at times. They participate actively in most informal and a limited number of formal conversations on activities related to school, home, and leisure activities and, to a lesser degree, those related to events of work, current, public, and personal interest or individual relevance. They can handle appropriately the linguistic challenges presented by a complication or unexpected turn of events that occurs within the context of a routine situation or communicative task with which they are otherwise familiar, though at times their discourse may be minimal for the level and strained. Communicative strategies such as rephrasing and circumlocution may be employed in such instances. In their narrations and descriptions, they combine and link sentences into connected discourse of paragraph length.

3. Reading: Able to read somewhat longer prose of several paragraphs in length, particularly if presented with a clear underlying structure. The prose is predominantly in familiar sentence patterns. Reader gets the main ideas and facts and misses some details. Comprehension derives not only from situational and subject matter knowledge but from increasing control of the language. Texts at this level include descriptions and narrations such as simple short stories, news items, bibliographical information, social notices, personal correspondence, routinized business letters and simple technical material written for the general reader.

4. Writing: Able to write routine social correspondence and join sentences in simple discourse of at least several paragraphs in length on familiar topics. Can write simple social correspondence, take notes, write cohesive summaries and resumes, as well as narratives and descriptions of a factual nature. Has sufficient writing vocabulary to express self simply with some circumlocution. Writing is understandable to natives not used to the writing of non-natives.

III. Class Requirements

1. Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. **Tardiness for each hour of class will result in 2 points being deducted from the 1000 points course grade.** Telling the instructor your reason for not coming to class does not mean that you are automatically excused. **One unexcused absence for each hour of class will result in 5 points being deducted from the 1000 course grade.**

Valid excuses for absences include: student illness, serious illness or death in the immediate family, religious holidays, participation in authorized field trips and athletic contests, as well as paper presentations at academic conferences, and job interviews outside of Wisconsin.

Students are obliged to inform the instructor of these circumstances as soon as they can through email notification. Your alarm clocks' failure in setting off is not a valid excuse. While losing points over missing classes is one thing, not having taken enough times of dictation which cannot be made up could pose a serious threat to your final score as well.

2. Preparation:

You are expected to be well prepared for each lesson **BEFORE** class so that class time can be fully utilized for practice at the desired pace. For each new lesson, you are required to ask your classmates two questions related to that lesson. This will be considered as part of daily performance.

3. Class Participation(weekly performance):

All students are expected to participate actively in language practice every day. Students' class participation and performance will be evaluated weekly and a final score will be given using the following scale, and then the final average will be calculated into the 150/1000 participation grade:

10-9 = Present with strong indication of excellent preparation

8-7 = Present with some indication of good preparation

6-5 = Present with some indication of mediocre preparation

4-3 = Present with some indication of inadequate preparation

2-1 = Present with almost no indication of prior preparation

4. Homework & Assignments:

All homework and assignments must be turned in on the due date, as indicated in the weekly schedule. Homework must be turned in on time unless a valid excuse connected with an excused absence is presented. **2 points off for homework turned in late. Homework/writing assignments turned in 1 week later than the due date will not be accepted or graded. The deadlines will be strictly enforced.** If you turn in your **corrections** on the **following Thursday**, and correct the mistakes, half deducted points will be returned back. Multiple choices and T/F need explanations. Corrections of writing part need to be whole sentences. Laoshi do encourage you practice more than once.

5. Weekly Essays:

You are expected to turn in **12** weekly essays throughout the semester. The purpose of the assignment is to encourage you to write about the topic related to that week to express your opinions by using the newly learned vocabulary and grammatical structures. The weekly essay should be placed on the classroom desk on each **Tuesday**. You will need to underline the new vocabulary and grammatical structures that you have learned during the week. Each essay is expected to be 200 to 300 words long. Both hand-written and typed forms are accepted. At the end of the semester, the 10 best ones will be counted.

6. Final Presentation:

You are required to present an at least 10-minute report on a topic selected from those we will learn this semester. Details will be explained to you two weeks before final presentation week.

7. Quizzes & Tests:

A dictation of sentences from text will be given at the beginning of each class. Make-up dictations are **NOT** allowed. There will be three unit tests in total. Dictations and tests cannot be made up unless arrangements are made **BEFORE** being absent from class.

8. Grading:

Class Participation	130
Homework & Assignments	15 × the best 10 = 150
Weekly Essays	20 × the best 10 = 200
Dictations	6 × the best 20 = 120
Tests	100 × 3 = 300
Final Presentation	100

Grading scale:

1000-980 A+	899-870 B+	799-770 C+	And so on	Below 600 F
979-940 A	869-840 B	769-740 C		
939-900 A-	839-800 B-	739-700 C-		

Class Schedule (Subject to change) :

Wk 1 *Introduction*

Wk 2 L1 Childhood 童年往事

Wk 3 L2 Describing A Person 描述一个人/ 描述一個人

Wk 4 L2&L3 Master Salesperson 推销高手/推銷高手

Wk 5 L3 Master Salesperson 推销高手/推銷高手

Wk 6 L4 Every Field of Work 各行各业/各行各業

Wk 7 L4&Test I (L1-4)

Wk 8 L5 Problem-Solving 难题二三则/難題二三則

Wk 9 L5&L6 Lunch 午餐

Wk 10 L6 Lunch 午餐

Wk 11 (Nov 9&12) L7 Music 音乐欣赏/音樂欣賞

Wk 12 (Nov 16&19) L7 & 复习

Wk 13 (Nov 23&25) Test II(L5-7) **Thanksgiving Recess**

Wk 14 (Nov 30& Dec 2) **L8 Crime**

Wk 15 (Dec 7&9) **L8 &Review**

Wk 16 (Dec 14) **Test III (L1-8)**

Final Presentation Day Dec 20(M) 10AM-12PM

Make use of the available resources on campus:

A. Chinese Language Table:

In order to help you develop your listening and speaking skills in a more relaxing and enjoyable way, we will have lunch together in Curtin Hall once a week. We will discuss the materials learned in class or just chat about what is happening in our daily lives. You will be amazed by how much you will be able to say in real life conversational situations.

Every Friday (from the second week) 12:00 pm-12:50 pm CRT 209

B. Chinese Language Partners

You are strongly encouraged to meet your Chinese partner face to face or via Skype at least once a week to practice what you have learnt that week, and help his/her English.

C. Chinese Tutor

UWM PASS provides Chinese tutor service. You are able to sign up for weekly appointments by stopping in Bolton 120 or through our website: www.uwm.edu/pass

If the hours posted do not work for you, you can fill out a special request form in BOL 180

D. Chinese Club: Be an active member of the Club founded by the students of Chinese class.

E. Language and Computer Lab

Academic Honesty:

We will spend time in class discussing academic honesty, and its converse, plagiarism, which will not be tolerated in this class. Plagiarism has serious consequences for students in the university community. The university and the program take disciplinary action when a student is discovered to have used someone else's work as their own. Refer to http://www4.uwm.edu/Acad_Aff/policy/uws14facdoc1686.pdf for more information.

Student Accessibility Center: If you work with an advisor at the Student Accessibility Center, please send your VISA to us. If you are concerned that you may have a learning disability, visit the SAC office in 112 Mitchell Hall. Computer technologies can sometimes accommodate disabilities; it is your responsibility to provide for your own equipment to meet your needs in this regard, where possible. Be sure to consult with the advisors at the Student Accessibility Center before you contact us with any related concerns.

Personal Notifications: If there is anything you feel that informing us about would make your performance in the class more comfortable and successful, please make an appointment to meet with us. However, learning about your personal situations does not mean that we will bend in implementing the course policies; however, we would be willing to talk with you and find the best way to accommodate your need.

Addendum: FLL subscribes to UWM policies on students with disabilities (ADA), accommodations for religious observances, academic misconduct, complaint procedures, grade appeals, sexual harassment, attendance and safety. A more complete description of these policies can be seen on the FLL bulletin boards in the lobby of the 8th floor of Curtin Hall.