

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

MODERN CHINESE FOR BEGINNERS-PART A - 46107

Last update 19-10-2017

HU Credits: 6

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: asian studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages:

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Lin Qian

Coordinator Email: lin.kumar@gmail.com

Coordinator Office Hours: on demand

Teaching Staff:

Mr. Gad Eimerl
Ms. Tzain Lin

Course/Module description:

The course is aimed at students who have no prior knowledge of Chinese language, and is intended to develop in the student the 4 language skills: speaking, listening, reading, writing. Each class revolves around a daily theme, through which the student will get acquainted with the relevant vocabulary and grammar. As part of the course, students will also learn how to read and write Chinese characters - starting with simple strokes and understanding of the Chinese writing system, and progressing to reading and writing of simple texts.

Course/Module aims:

Developing a working knowledge of Chinese at A1.1 level according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
Developing the ability to use the language according to different needs in authentic context.

Standardization and globalization: on successful completion of the course, students will be able to continue their studies in the successive module, or to participate in student exchange programs overseas.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Interact in a simply way on a variety of daily topics covered during the course
- Understand native speakers speaking in slow standard mandarin on the same topics
- Use Pinyin fluently to write using electronic media
- Read and Write simple texts using the vocabulary and characters from the textbook

(for a full list see relevant parts of the following - <http://ebcl.eu.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/EBCL-A1-A2+-Can-do-Statements-Oct-2012.pdf>)

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Classes revolve around an active dialogue between teachers and students. Students are expected to actively participate in class activities, and to prepare all texts and exercises at home.

Course/Module Content:

Weeks 1-2: introduction, Pinyin (initials, finals, tones, writing rules, pronunciation), basic strokes of Chinese characters, first-time encounters.

Weeks 2-3: Chapter 1 - greetings at first encounters and while meeting friends, self-introduction; simple yes/no questions, adverbs, word order in a Chinese sentence.

Weeks 4-5: Chapter 2 - introducing others, asking surname in a polite way, talking about nationality, saying goodbye, identifying items, talking about likes and dislikes; use of copula, use of question pronouns "what" and "which", the conjunction "and", the adverb "all".

Weeks 6-7: Chapter 3 - family members, professions, entertaining guests, asking age (1); use of the verb "to have", expressing possession, measure words, use of question pronouns "who" and "how many".

Weeks 8-9: Chapter 4 - talking about studies, making a date, days of the week, times of the day, talking about one's major; numbers 11-100, time words and telling time, more sentence structures.

Weeks 10-11: Chapter 5 - dates, birthdays, asking about one's age (2), expressing regret or congratulating someone; sentences with nominal predicates, two-object verbal predicate, summary of grammar so far.

Weeks 12-13: Chapter 6 - asking for directions, describing locations, taking actions for or with someone else, expressing communication problems, asking for approval or opinion; nouns of locality, verbs indicating location or movement, prepositions and their place in the sentence.

Week 14: Summary; introducing HSK and HSKK exams.

Required Reading:

Liu Xun, New Practical Chinese Reader (3rd Edition) Vol 1 - Textbook (Beijing: Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2015).

Liu Xun, New Practical Chinese Reader (3rd Edition) Vol 1 - Workbook (Beijing: Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2015).

Liu Xun, New Practical Chinese Reader (3rd Edition) Vol 1 - Companion Reader (Beijing: Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2015).

Additional Reading Material:

See course site on Moodle.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 25 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 25 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 50 %
Other 0 %
Oral exam and listening comprehension

Additional information:

Grade components:
Active participation 25%
Ongoing assignments 25%
Oral quizzes 20%
Listening comprehension quizzes 20%
Writing quizzes 10%

During the second semester, students will take the HSK+HSKK exam, Level 2, the standardized Chinese proficiency exam of the Chinese Ministry of Education.*

A passing grade awards formal HSK level 2 certification, recognized internationally in academic and other contexts. All students registered for course 46007 must take the exam (at no additional cost).

** Subject to final approval of the Chinese authorities.*