

Course Syllabus

Standards for Enrollment

Chinese E-1 is designed for students with **no significant** background in the Chinese language.

Objectives

The goal of this course is to acquire the following competencies:

- 1) Ability to distinguish by ear, to write, and to pronounce all the individual syllables in the phonetic system of Modern Standard Chinese (Mandarin).
- 2) Ability to use actively the forms of basic Chinese grammar contained in the textbook.
- 3) Ability to converse in simple sentences.
- 4) Ability to recognize approximately 350 characters in the **simplified** written form.
- 5) Ability to write approximately 350 characters in the **simplified** written form.
- 6) Ability to speak in Chinese about simple topics of everyday life.

Workload

The basic commitment of time will be 4 hours per week in class. Outside of class, an average of 8 hours of preparation time per week should be anticipated, comprised of a variety of study activities. It is most effective to spend at least one hour each day. There will be four character exercises, five review tests of one hour each, and there is no final examination.

Teaching Staff

Instructor: Miranda Chen-Cristoforo
Email: ChineseE1@gmail.com; nchen@fas.harvard.edu
Website: TBA

Class Meetings

Monday, Thursday 5:35 -7:35 PM
Class Room: Vanserg 25B

Students are required to attend all class throughout the semester, unless excused by advance arrangements made with instructor. More than three unexcused absences will affect the course grade.

Textbook

Textbook and workbook are available at the Harvard COOP bookstore; they are also available online through amazon.com.

Integrated Chinese Level I, Part I, Simplified Characters, Textbook ISBN: 978-0-88727-638-5
Integrated Chinese Level I, Part I, Simplified Characters, Workbook ISBN: 978-0-88727-640-8
Integrated Chinese Level I, Part I, Character Workbook ISBN: 978-0-88727-648-4

Evaluation

The course grade will consist of the following components:

Class Participation and Quizzes (0.5%x30)	15%
Homework (2%x8)	16%
Review Tests (7%x5)	35%
Character Exercises (6%x4)	24%
Oral Presentation (5%x2)	10%

Course Procedures

The course will begin with pronunciation, and then move into study of sentence patterns, as well as the recognition and writing of Chinese characters. The application of vocabulary and sentence patterns is carried out through conversation and translation from English to Chinese.

It will be essential to prepare for each class **in advance**, particularly by reading and comprehending the grammar explanation in each lesson. All classes will assume **prior study** of the assigned material.

Homework turned in late will be marked down on degree (i.e. from A to A-, from A- to B+, etc.) for every day of lateness; homework more than one week overdue will **NOT** be accepted.

Each Lesson will be covered in two classes. Each class will have a dictation quiz. The dictation quizzes are as follows: class I – from the first dialogue’s vocabulary; class II – from the second dialogue’s vocabulary. Quizzes can **NOT** be made up.

It will also be extremely important to keep up with the work as it is assigned on a **daily basis**. Making up work in a language course is very difficult, because of the cumulative nature of the language process in this subject. If you have any difficulties keeping up, be sure to discuss the situation with the instructor immediately, to avoid larger problems later.

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