



CHINESE I

CHI101A/101B — 1.0 Credit

More people speak Chinese than any other language in the world. Chinese, ancient and beautiful, gives unique insight into one of the fastest-growing, largest economies in the world. Students will get access to this magical culture and dynamic, 5000-year-old society through a revolutionary learning approach that utilizes compelling stories, adventures, games, videos, and a multimedia experience to make Chinese fun and accessible. The elegant simplicity of Chinese grammar and the mystery of Chinese pronunciations are both taught through entertaining and engaging lessons that give students a base of conversational ability and listening comprehension. This entry-level course also provides a solid foundation for reading and writing in the Chinese language.

Who Should Take This Course?

Students with little or no Mandarin-Chinese language experience.

What Will I Learn?

Phrases: You will learn how to greet another person (familiar and unfamiliar), and also how to introduce and express basic information about yourself (i.e. age, likes and dislikes, family members, etc.). You will also learn how to ask for and give directions, order food at a restaurant, and ask basic questions about locations, health, emotions, and time (both current time and the time of specific events). By the end of this course, you will have acquired basic oral and written skills with these phrases.

Vocabulary: You will learn simple adjectives to describe objects (such as “large” and “long”), basic body parts (such as “head,” “hand,” “foot,” etc.), and immediate family members. You will also learn dates of the year, as well as numbers up to one million.

Grammar: You will learn verb-object constructions; how to express past, present, and future events; how to use objects in simple sentences; simple yes/no questions; and interrogative and declarative sentences. You will also learn pinyin pronunciation and tones, as well as how to write numeric pinyin.

Culture: You will learn about various regions in China, some of the things those regions are known for, and their historical relics and significance. You will also learn about some of the habits and vocations of the Chinese people. Students will gain an understanding of Mandarin-speaking cultures, including economy, traditions, history, and political structure.