Fall 2013 Chinese 110 Course Description

Instructors:

Hong Gang Jin x4778
Office: CJ216B (hjin@hamilton.edu)
Office hours: by appointment

Xiaoming Hou x4714
Office: CJ307D (xhou@hamilton.edu)
Office hours: MW3:00-4:00 or by appointment

Yan Li x4931
Office: CJ307C (yli1@hamilton.edu)
Office hours: MW10:00-11:00 or by appointment

Yang Wu x4168
Office: CJ307E (yxwu@hamilton.edu)
Office hours: TR4:00-5:00 or by appointment

Shuang Wu x4379
Office: CJ404 (swu1@hamilton.edu)
Office hours: TR11:00-12:00 or by appointment

Textbooks:

Green Book: vocabulary, sentence patterns, text, grammar $15
Yellow Book: characters $10
Blue Book: foundation work $5

Meeting Times and Classrooms:

• First class meeting: Thursday, Aug 29
  Section I: 1:00-2:15 (CJ309)
  Section II: 2:30-3:45 (CJ305)
  Section III: 1:00-2:15 (CJ305)
  Section IV: 9:00-10:15 (CJ309)

• Regular class meeting
  Section I:  M/W 12:00-12:50 (CJ 309)
               T/Th 1:00-2:15 (CJ 309)
  Section II: M/W 12:00-12:50 (CJ 308)
                 T/Th 2:30-3:45 (CJ 305)
  Section III: M/W 9:00-9:50 (CJ 309)
              T/Th 1:00-2:15 (CJ 305)
  Section IV:  M/W 1:00-1:50 (CJ 309)
             T/Th 9:00-10:15 (CJ 309)
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- Individual Session: Fridays, 8:30AM-4:00PM (LIB211/LIB213/LIB215/KJ123) 20 minutes per student, see a separate schedule
- Language Table: Tuesdays 5:30-7:00PM (Commons Dining Hall)
  Starting on Tuesday, Sep 10

Course Objectives:

This course is designed for students who want to have a basic command of Chinese language and culture. Using multimedia teaching materials, the course will help students discover a different linguistic dimension in describing human behaviors and experiences. It offers students the opportunity to gain not only the ability to use a different language, but also the perspective for appreciating a different culture in its own context.

Through classroom practice and after-class activities (lab work, tutorial), students will gain a basic command of the spoken and written language, as well as the cultural knowledge in which this living language is embedded. By the end of the semester, students are expected to be:

- Able to distinguish the tones and sounds of Chinese, to pronounce individual sounds and tones according to the Pinyin system of modern standard Chinese, to write down dictated syllables with correct tones as required;
- Able to comprehend general information and vocabulary when the communication partner uses objects, gestures, and visuals in speaking or writing;
- Able to comprehend the message or conversation using contextual clues, key words redundancy, paraphrase or restatement;
- Able to perform basic communicative functions in face-to-face social interactions using a string of short sentences;
- Able to recognize and write approximately 250 characters, to read and comprehend simple passages written in Chinese characters, to write short notes or simple messages using a mixture of Pinyin and characters.

Course Description and Requirements:

Preparation and Attendance
Students are expected to be prepared vocabulary, grammar notes, and text for each class meeting and come to the class punctually.

Daily Dictation
At the beginning of each class, students will be given a short dictation of vocabulary and sentences. More than forty dictations will be given in this semester, but only the forty best results will be eventually counted into your final grade.

Individual Session
Individual session is normally scheduled on Fridays, and it is required. As an important part of this course, attendance at the one-on-one weekly individual tutorial is mandatory. During these
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twenty-minute sessions, each student will have the opportunity to practice his/her listening and speaking skills with one of the instructors. Normally, this oral practice focuses on the material covered in class.

Homework

Doing homework and turning it in on time is essential and crucial to success in this course.

Homework is assigned on a weekly basis. It usually consists of two parts:
- Character sheets
- Daily assignments

You are allowed to discuss the problems concerning your homework with your classmates or anyone who has a better knowledge of Chinese, but when it comes to writing down on worksheet, you must do it independently. Copying other people’s work or any other form of plagiarism, however, is absolutely prohibited, and cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Honor Court. If you have any questions concerning the rules and regulations of Honor Code relating to this course, you may either ask your instructors or visit the website [http://www.hamilton.edu/college/Student_Handbook/HonorCode.html](http://www.hamilton.edu/college/Student_Handbook/HonorCode.html).

Dictation Correction

You learn through your mistakes. Therefore, you are required to make corrections on your dictation from the instructor and then hand in your correction on the next class meeting. You can earn up to 5 points by doing correction.

Language Lab

Students are required to work independently in the language lab on the tapes and/or computer programs specified or assigned by the instructor. Students must spend at least two hours each week working on these relevant materials in the lab. For the first two weeks, a 30-minute practice daily on Foundation Work ([http://www.hamilton.edu/academics/llc/chineseprimer/default.htm](http://www.hamilton.edu/academics/llc/chineseprimer/default.htm)) is mandatory. Please remember to sign in and sign out on the lab hour sheet.

Weekly Quizzes

There will be quizzes given on a weekly basis throughout the semester. These quizzes are used to check students’ knowledge of: (a) new characters from the yellow book; (b) new structures and vocabulary from the green book; and (c) listening comprehension.

Course Policies:

Preparation and Attendance

Students are expected to attend class regularly and be fully prepared for each meeting, including individual tutorial sessions. Any absence from a class and individual tutorial session must be provided with proper proof of document (from Health Center or Dean of Students Office’s notification). It is student’s responsibility to schedule a make-up session immediately with the instructor.
Students who have three absences from class (including weekly individual tutorial sessions on Friday) without legitimate reasons (such as family emergencies, serious personal sickness, or religion) and proof throughout the semester will lose all attendance points (10%). Each additional absence will reduce to a lower grade, for example, 4 absences will lower A to A-, 5 absences will lower to B+.

Weekly individual tutorial session is extremely important to start the new lesson smoothly, therefore students are expected to be fully prepared for it and be there on time. Any missed session must be rescheduled with the instructor. Those who come unprepared will be asked to make for the preparation and reschedule the session. Instructors will reserve the rights to assign additional works to those unprepared students.

Note: students are asked NOT to take an early departure before the college scheduled break.
Fall recess begins 4 PM, Wednesday, October 16th
Thanksgiving begins 4PM, Friday, November 22th

Late Homework
In order to help students learn effectively, assignments are required to be handed in at due time no matter whether students attend class or not.

Late homework due to sickness (with legitimate proof from Health Center or Dean of Students Office’s notification): Extra points will be given to assignments handed in on time even though the students are absent from class.

Late homework without reasons: 10 points will be taken off if you fail to turn in your assignments (homework sheet and character sheet) in class on the day they are due. One day late will cost you 20 points. Two days late will cost you 50 points. If you don’t hand in the homework within two days, you will lose all the points.

Make-ups
There will be no make-ups for daily dictations, weekly quizzes, or tests unless you have a legitimate reason (such as family emergency or serious personal sickness).

Tardiness
Punctuality is expected of every student. Coming to class meetings or appointments on time shows your respect for your instructor, classmates, and yourself. Therefore, fifteen minutes late for class will be counted as one absence.

Change of Appointment
For any change of a scheduled appointment, you must inform the instructor at least 24 hours ahead. Not to show up at an appointment without an acceptable excuse will also result in lowering your grade.
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Change of Exam Schedule
If there is any exam schedule conflict, you must inform the instructor One week ahead.

Grading System:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dictations</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework (daily assignment and character sheet)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 hourly exams</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral exams (Four times)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Project</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and performance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Learning Strategies Counselors:

In order to help students learn from their peers, we have 4 excellent students who volunteer to be learning strategies counselors. If you have any questions related to learning strategies, feel free to contact the following students:

Joseph Roy (jroy@hamilton.edu)
Liza Strauss (lstrauss@hamilton.edu)
Adrienne Earhart (aearhart@hamilton.edu)
Matthew Palmer (mpalmer@hamilton.edu)

How to Access Course Information on Blackboard

1. Find Blackboard website at blackboard.hamilton.edu and login with your ID and password.
2. Click on “FA2012 First term Chinese” in “My Courses”, you will see the following screen and use the menu button on the left corner to access Chinese 110 course information:
3. To access digital files of “Foundation Work” (FW) during the first two weeks, click on “Web Links”. You will find FW Lesson 1 to Lesson 5 there. You need to use them daily to practice your tones and pronunciation. In order to keep track of your listening comprehension activities, we ask you to go to the lab and use the Blackboard system there. When you are at the lab, make sure you sign your name first. We will use the tracking results to credit your lab session.

4. To access Chinese 110 course description and syllabus, click on “Course information” button, you’ll find the documents there. You can click on the link and open or save the files.

5. To access review and class materials, click on “Documents” button, you will find folders named “Class PPT”, “Answer Key”, “Sign-up Sheet”, etc. You should check these course materials daily because you will need them for class preparation, homework, and dictation/quiz/exam correction.

6. To access weekly syllabus and assignments, click on “Assignments”. All materials for the week will also be sent to you via email on previous Thursday. You must print them out from Blackboard, work on them independently, and hand in assignments in class on the due date.