

Course Syllabus
CHI 111-(R) 90: Elementary Chinese I (Spring 2025)
Class Time: Mon. & Wed. (2:00-3:20 pm), Mon. (1:00-1:55 pm)
Classroom: B313



Professor: Mengyang Jia 贾梦阳

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Office Location: A622

Office Hours: Tue. 9:00-10:30; Wed. 10:30-12:00; Thu. 9:00-9:30, 14:00-15:00; Fri. 13:00-15:00
(or by appointment)

COURSE IDENTIFICATION

CH111-90 (Elementary Chinese 1): 4 Credits (3 hours lecture, 1-hour recitation)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is the first half of a one-year introductory course to Mandarin Chinese designed for students with no prior knowledge of the language. It provides foundational knowledge and skills, including pronunciation, basic everyday conversational proficiency, principles of character formation, basic grammatical rules, and basic cultural norms and preferences that govern language use. Drawing upon a communicative approach, this course situates oral and written language in real-life contexts and promotes learner-centered, interactive classroom activities.

Lecture sessions will include the presentation of new material, grammar, drills, and exercises, which include individual work, group work, and role-play. Recitation hour will include question-and-answer sessions, drills, exercises, and student presentations.

No student with any Chinese background or who has otherwise acquired an equivalent proficiency will be permitted to enroll in CHI 111 without written permission from the course supervisor.

COURSE PREREQUISITE: None

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following at a novice mid to novice high level of proficiency in Chinese.

- Comprehend short dialogues and passages read or spoken by Chinese natives at normal speed with familiar vocabulary.
- Talk about simple everyday activities and be able to handle survival situations (exchanging greetings, self-introduction, discussing times and dates, making plans and arranging a date, visiting friends, etc.).
- Comprehend short written dialogues and read passages in pinyin or characters with familiar vocabulary.

- Write Chinese phonetic symbols (pinyin), be knowledgeable of the principles of writing Chinese characters (stroke orders, basic radicals, etc.), and be able to write sentences and paragraphs.
- Learn how to input Chinese by using pinyin.
- Recognize approximately 500 and command 400 Chinese characters.
- Compare and contrast different global cultural practices and perspectives (Chinese, American, Korean, and other cultures) through discussions and presentations in Chinese.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Integrated Chinese Level 1 Part 1, Simplified Character, 4th Edition, by Tao-chung Yao et al, Cheng & Tsui Company, 2017.

- i. Textbook. Simplified character version. (required)
- ii. Character Workbook (optional)
- iii. Other handouts

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING SCALE

Attendance and participation 10%

Vocabulary quizzes 10%

Presentations 5%

Homework assignments 10%

Writing assignments 5%

Chapter tests & Oral Final 60%

► Attendance & Participation (10%)

1. Punctuality and regular attendance are essential.
2. Being late to class (including recitation) or leaving before class ends will lose a 1% grade, and being absent will lose a 2% grade each time. Being late to class (including recitation) or leaving before class ends two (2) times will count as one (1) absence. Students with 5 or more absences will fail the course automatically.
3. Up to two absences are allowed if the assigned tasks from the missed class are completed and presented to the instructor during the next session. Full attendance will result in a 2% grade bonus for the semester.
4. The instructor may excuse the absence if the submitted documentation fulfills the conditions below:
 - A. Extreme emergencies (e.g., death in the family)
 - B. Major medical reasons with doctor's note (not minor ailments). Submitting a doctor's note does not mean your absence will be automatically excused. Only a doctor's note that specifies "you cannot attend the class due to your illness" will be accepted.
 - C. Very important events (e.g., national conferences, official school events)

The instructor reserves the right to excuse absences retroactively on a case-by-case basis.
5. Class participation is a must. Participation is very important in language learning; it may help you to master a language and use it frequently. You will answer 2~3 questions each lecture (it

will be more in recitation), please be prepared to answer the questions and participate in the activities.

► **Vocabulary Quizzes (10%)**

1. There will be a total of five vocabulary quizzes.
2. We will have a vocabulary quiz right after learning each lesson.
3. No make-up will be provided. Make-up quizzes will be provided only in the extreme case, you must provide the official documents and contact me previously to get permission.

► **Presentations (5%)**

1. There will be one presentation this semester. You will present a topic we learned this semester by yourself or with your partner.
2. No makeup presentation will be provided!
3. Presentation scoring criteria are shown below:
 - A. Deliver content logically and clearly.
 - B. Speak at an appropriate pace, volume, and length with correct pronunciation.
 - C. Use proper vocabulary, grammar, and visual aids effectively.
 - D. Avoid reading directly from your presentation.

► **Homework Assignments (10%)**

Homework will be given according to the contents of each lesson. There will be four kinds of homework:

1. Chinese Character Writing Exercise: A Chinese character writing exercise sheet will be provided to support character writing practice. The completed exercises will be reviewed at the end of each lesson.
2. Voice Recording: You will send me a voice recording of vocabulary, dialogue, poem, or song, and get feedback from me to improve your Chinese pronunciation.
3. Sentence Writing: The sentence writing exercise is designed to help review and reinforce grammar and structures learned in class. Feedback will be thoughtfully provided to support grammar learning and is recommended to be reviewed carefully.

► **Writing assignments (5%)**

1. The topic will be what we have learned in class, like self-introduction, friends, families, hobbies, invitation letters, my one-day, traveling plan, my timetable, etc.
2. Any plagiarism behavior, like copying another student's work, copying the materials on the textbook and internet, using a translator, or other kinds of copying, will result in a 0 grade.
3. Under no circumstances will late assignments be accepted.
 - A. **Relevance to the Topic:** The content is directly related to the assigned topic.
 - B. **Content, Logic, and Organization:** Ideas are presented in a logical and well-organized manner.
 - C. **Vocabulary and Grammar:** Appropriate vocabulary and correct grammar are used throughout.
 - D. **Format and Length:** The assignment follows the correct format and meets the required length.

► **Chapter tests & Oral Final (60%)**

1. There will be a mid-term exam (25%), a final exam (25%) and an oral final (10%) this semester.
2. There is no make-up exam! An unexcused absence from the exam will result in a 0 grade!
3. Make-up tests will be provided only in the extreme case. You must provide the official documents and contact your instructor beforehand before the exam to get permission.
4. Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. You will get a 0 if you represent another person's work as your own.
5. Academic dishonesty includes not only plagiarizing classmates' work but also other behaviors like plagiarizing content on the Internet or in textbooks, using translators to make sentences, etc.

► **Grading Scale:**

A: 93-100%	A-: 90-92%	B+: 87-89%	B: 83-86%	B-: 80-82%	
C+: 77-79%	C: 73-76%	C-: 70-72%	D+: 66-69%	D: 60-65%	F: <60%

OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

Differential learning: Since students' linguistic backgrounds vary greatly, please be prepared that the instructor may assign different learning tasks and assessments to different students.

Cell phone: Please turn off and put away your cell phone and all other electronic devices during class. If your phone is seen during a test, you will receive a 0 for that test and be reported to the Academic Judiciary.

Food or drink: As per university policy, no food or drink (except water) is allowed in the classroom. You may lose 1 participation point if found eating or drinking in class.

Disabilities Act: If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact the Department of Student Affairs, Campus Building A, Room 207, (032) 626-1190. They will determine with you what accommodation, if any, is necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation are confidential.

Academic Integrity: Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty members are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary Committee or the Department of Academic Affairs, Campus Building A, Room 201, (032) 626-1121.

Critical Incident Management: SUNY Korea expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Department of Academic Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE (subject to change)

	DATE	SCHEDULE
1	2.24R	Introduction of the course
2	2.26	Pinyin (Pronunciation 1)
3	3.3R	No class in session
4	3.5	Pinyin (Pronunciation 2)
5	3.10R	Lesson 1 Dialogue 1
6	3.12	Lesson 1 Dialogue 1
7	3.17R	Lesson 1 Dialogue 2
8	3.19	Lesson 1 Dialogue 2
9	3.24R	Lesson 2 Dialogue 1
10	3.26	Lesson 2 Dialogue 1
11	3.31R	Lesson 2 Dialogue 2
12	4.2	Lesson 2 Dialogue 2
13	4.7R	Unit Test 1
14	4.9	Lesson 3 Dialogue 1
15	4.14R	Lesson 3 Dialogue 1
16	4.16	Lesson 3 Dialogue 1
17	4.21R	Lesson 3 Dialogue 2
18	4.23	Lesson 3 Dialogue 2
19	4.28R	Lesson 4 Dialogue 1
20	4.30	Lesson 4 Dialogue 1
21	5.5R	No class in session
22	5.7	Lesson 4 Dialogue 1
23	5.12R	Lesson 4 Dialogue 2
24	5.14	Lesson 4 Dialogue 2
25	5.19R	Lesson 5 Dialogue 1
26	5.21	Lesson 5 Dialogue 1
27	5.26R	Lesson 5 Dialogue 2
28	5.28	Lesson 5 Dialogue 2
29	5.30R follow Monday's schedule	Review of this semester
30	6.2R	Unit Test 2
31	6.4	No class in session
32	6.9 (12:30~3:00 pm)	Oral Final