

**College of Humanities and Fine Arts**  
***Department of Languages and Intercultural Competency***

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**Course #** CHIN 115

**Catalog Course Title:** Chinese Studies I

**Semester/Year:** Fall 2019

**Location of Classroom:** LJSU Rm A201

**Time/Days:** 1:00-1:50 PM, MWF

**Instructor Name:** Xinyi Tan

**Office Location:** Brittain 209

**Office Phone Number:** 843-349-4165

**Email:** xtan@coastal.edu

**Office Hours:** MWF 10:00-11:00 AM, or by appointment

**Course Description:** Chinese Studies I. (5 credits) This course introduces students to the Mandarin Chinese language and the many facets of Chinese culture. This course also helps students develop the basic language skills of speaking, listening, and communicating in everyday situation in Chinese culture. As a flipped/hybrid course, three credits are delivered face-to-face and two hours via distance learning format. Semesters offered: F,S,W,M,Su.

**Course Objectives:**

CHIN 115 will

- train you to function successfully in Chinese culture using Mandarin Chinese as your primary language;
- help you develop skills in Mandarin Chinese to communicate across ethnic, cultural, ideological boundaries;
- improve your understanding of Chinese interpersonal behavioural culture and related thought patterns;
- instil a fundamental appreciation for the Chinese languages and cultures through interesting cultural events and projects;
- allow you to acquire necessary communicative skills in Mandarin Chinese to proceed into more advanced Chinese classes;

**General Student Learning Outcomes:**

After successful completion of the course, students will be able to perform the following tasks at a beginner proficiency level:

- Comprehend Mandarin Chinese with sufficient ability to grasp the main idea and supporting arguments in conversations or narrations.
- Describe, narrate, and answer questions about present, future, and past events in Mandarin Chinese.
- Read and understand the main idea and details of both edited and non-edited materials in Chinese characters.

- Write sentences, paragraphs, and short compositions on familiar topics in Chinese characters.
- Describe different aspects of Chinese culture such as etiquettes, thought patterns, and daily life of Chinese people.
- Develop appreciation for the Chinese language and cultures through interesting cultural events and group projects.
- Compare the products, practices, and perspectives of people from different parts of China using the Internet and other up-to-date, authentic sources.

### **Texts:**

Liu et al.: Integrated Chinese Level 1, Part 1 **Textbook** (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Required)

Liu et al.: Integrated Chinese Level 1, Part 1 **audio MP3** (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Required)

Liu et al.: Integrated Chinese Level 1, Part 1 Character Workbook (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Required)

Chinese Practical Dictionary (Chinese-English/ English-Chinese) (Hippocrene Books, Inc, Required)

### **Course Set-Up:**

This course has several components. We focus on communicative proficiency through a variety of activities.

#### **1. Distance Learning format (two credit hours)**

This portion of the course includes pronunciation exercises, structured-input activities (vocabulary and grammar), character practice assignments, and online cultural readings. There will be assigned tutorials and exercises for each of these aspects of your self-directed learning on a weekly basis. You will gain necessary knowledge of the language and the culture upon timely completion of these exercises.

#### **2. Face-to-face format (three credit hours)**

Three 50-minute (MWF) or two 75-minute (TTh) regular meetings per week. During these three classes with your professor, you are expected to participate in pair or group activities to apply what you have learned to a real-world situation. You will also have the opportunity to share and discuss what you have learned about certain aspects of the Chinese culture through presentations and cultural activities.

As students, your strong commitment, hard work, and consistent cooperation will be the keys to success in this course and will also contribute positively to the progress of the entire class. Since your self-directed learning has a vital impact on your in-class performance, it is crucial for you to complete your work by the deadline and **come to class prepared**. As your instructor, I will minimize vocabulary presentation and grammar explanation during our regular class meetings in order to spend the valuable time on a wide range of communicative and interactive activities.

### **Course Requirements:**

In order to ensure that your learning is enjoyable and fruitful, it is important that you meet the requirements and follow the rules outlined below.

1. **Attendance and Participation (20%).** **Class attendance and participation are crucial.** Part of your grade is based on attendance and absences count against your final grade.

You cannot participate if you are not present, so attendance counts as a prerequisite to participation. You may miss **3 classes** without it affecting your final grade. In order to progress in understanding and speaking Chinese, you must hear and speak it on a regular basis. You will receive a 15 pt. performance grade once a week (5pt per class). These scores will be averaged at the end of the semester to obtain your final participation grade.

2. Self-directed online learning assignments (20%). **Completing your daily assignments on time is essential for your success in this class.** These assignments include:
  - 1) Preview exercises: you will watch tutorials/presentations about important vocabulary and grammar made by your instructor in order to acquire necessary knowledge and skills in Mandarin Chinese. You will then complete pre-class assignments to practice what you have learned.
  - 2) Pronunciation exercises: *Pinyin* (the romanization of Chinese pronunciation) is the foundation of speaking Chinese. You will spend the entire semester learning and practicing the *pinyin* system by watching online tutorials, reading pronunciation strategies, and completing listening comprehension exercises and recording assignments.
  - 3) Practice of essential characters: 汉字(*hanzi*) or characters are the building blocks of the Chinese writing systems. Throughout the semester, you will learn approximately two hundred characters. You will watch tutorials about the stroke orders and the meanings embodied in the characters and then practice assigned characters in your workbook.
3. Preparation checks (10%). You are required to preview the materials covered in each session. There will be **approximately twelve** regular preparation checks, worth 20 pts. each, throughout the semester, as indicated on the schedule. You are allowed to drop the lowest grade at the end of the semester. The purpose of these checks is to verify that you have prepared the lesson for that day by doing the required assignments the night before. Thus, these checks are not meant to be difficult. Each check will take no more than 5 minutes of class time. At the end of the semester, you may drop your lowest grade. **Makeup checks will not be administrated.**
4. Tests and exam (15%). There will be 2 chapter tests and a final exam. The first chapter test is on introduction, lesson 1, and lesson 2; the second chapter test is on lesson 3, lesson 4, and lesson 5. The final exam will be comprehensive but will be weighted more heavily toward the last two lessons. More details will be given in class.
5. Mid-term oral exam (10%). In order to improve your speaking, you need to prepare a presentation on a given topic in Chinese. You are expected to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the Chinese language and culture in a creative way in terms of the form and content of your presentations. More details will be given in class.
6. Final oral project (10%). In this group project, you will be divided into several groups. You need to work together to make a video about a given topic. You will receive both an individual grade and a group grade.

7. Cultural Projects & Events (15%). Learning interesting facts about Chinese culture and making cultural comparisons between Chinese culture and your own is a vital part of this course. You will have the opportunity to participate in the following activities and events to deepen your understanding of Chinese culture.

- 1) Culture highlights reports (5 %): At the end of each lesson, there is a text about a specific aspect of Chinese culture such as the Chinese naming traditions and the ranking system in Chinese family. You will find related articles and videos on Moodle that supplement these texts to help you better understand the topic. You need to write your reflections on the materials that you read/watched based on the questions given by your instructor. This assignment is completed in English and will be graded based on the accuracy, the depth, and the creativity of your work.
- 2) Culture Presentation (7%): You will conduct research on selected topics about Chinese culture. The topics will be given on the first day of class and you will give a group presentation in English on the marked dates. More details will be given in class.
- 3) Cultural Activities/Events (3%): Throughout the semester, there will be several cultural events relating to Chinese customs, traditions, and arts such as Chinese holiday celebrations, Chinese film showings, and Calligraphy Night. I will announce the events at the beginning of the semester. You are encouraged to come to all of them and you need to attend at least two events to receive 3% of your final grade.

**Useful resources to learn and practice Chinese:** In addition to the aforementioned activities, you have two other options to improve your skills in Mandarin Chinese.

- **中文角 ( Chinese Conversation Table)**: the conversation table takes place every week and you are welcome to join the group to practice what you have learned in class and to learn more about Chinese society and culture.
- **FLIC**: You are encouraged to visit the Foreign Language Instructional Center (FLIC) to familiarize yourself with the resources that the language lab provides. <https://www.coastal.edu/flic/>
- Other useful online learning resources can be found on Moodle.

### **Grade Assessment:**

Attendance and Participation	20%
Self-directed Learning assignments	20%
Preparation Checks	10%
Tests (2) and Final Exam	15%
Mid-term Oral Presentation	10%
Final Oral Project	10%
Cultural Projects & Events	15%

## LIS GRADING STANDARDS

Letter Grade	CCU Standard	Low %	High %
A	Excellent	90	100
B+	Very Good	85	89
B	Good	80	84
C+	Above Average	75	79
C	Average	70	74
D+	Below Average	65	69
D	Poor	60	64
F	Fail	00	59

### Attendance Policies:

Absences will be excused only for those documented cases listed on CCU's Attendance: <https://www.coastal.edu/policies/pdf/acad-125classattendance.pdf> For absences beyond these three, they will be excused only for the documented cases listed in the current CCU catalogue. For each unexcused absence, you will lose 2% of your final grade. If you miss in excess of 25% of all class meetings (10 absences) you will receive a failing grade.

### Documentation Policy:

Documentation must be submitted directly to the professor the day the student returns to class. The professor is not required to accept any excuses after this date. All excuses are subject to verification. IF THE OFFICE OF STUDENT CONDUCT FINDS THAT YOU HAVE SUBMITTED A FAKE EXCUSE, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN "F" IN THE COURSE.

### Make-up Policy:

Only homework submitted by the deadline will receive credit. The professor is not obligated to accept **late work** of any kind. Absences, excused or not, do not absolve a student from the responsibility of completing all assigned work promptly. Students who miss assignments, quizzes, exams or other coursework obligations due to documented, excused absences will be allowed to MAKE UP THE WORK WITHIN ONE WEEK OF THEIR RETURN TO CLASS OR THE STUDENT FORFEITS THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE UP THE ASSIGNMENT. It will be the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and make arrangements at the instructor's convenience. The instructor is not obligated to allow a student to make up work missed due to an unexcused absence.

**Late Arrival, Early Departure, and Leaving Class Policy:** There are no excused late arrivals to class; nor are there excused early departures. Late arrivals and early departures affect your participation grade and contribute to absences. Any two late arrivals or early departures count as one unexcused absence. No make-ups are allowed if a student arrives late to class or leaves class early. It is your responsibility to speak with the professor after class to ensure that your name and time of arrival are entered on the roll sheet. Additionally, if a student leaves class, depending on the situation, length of time, and/or frequency, the professor reserves the right to assign unexcused absence penalties.

**Policy on Leaving Class During Exams:** You may NOT leave the classroom during quizzes or exams unless you have the instructor's permission. In this case, you must leave your quiz/exam with the professor and leave your electronic devices with the professor. You may not have any extra items on your desk or wear hats/caps during exams. Cheating will result in enforcement of

the Academic Integrity Code. For more details, please see <http://www.coastal.edu/academicintegrity/code/>.

**Disability Service:**

Coastal Carolina University is committed to equitable access and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Individuals seeking reasonable accommodations should contact Accessibility & Disability Services (843-349-2503 or <https://www.coastal.edu/disabilityservices/>).

**Code of Student Conduct:**

Plagiarism, cheating, attempted cheating and all other forms of academic dishonesty is prohibited. The Code of Student Conduct or the Academic Integrity Code [<https://www.coastal.edu/academicintegrity/code/>](https://www.coastal.edu/academicintegrity/code/) provides further information, including other examples of cheating and the list of possible sanctions. In essence, academic dishonesty is pretending someone else's work is your own. **All academic dishonesty violations will be reported.**