Course Description
This intensive Readings in Chinese course along with the Spoken Chinese allows motivated students to complete the second year of Chinese language courses in one semester. It develops students’ integrated skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing at the intermediate level, while placing more emphasis on reading and writing. Class time will be spent on intensive reading, vocabulary, key sentence patterns, grammar, exercises and discussions.

Learning Objectives
At the end of the course, the students are expected to increase their vocabulary to 2,000 frequently used Chinese characters. Students will demonstrate improved reading skills and a solid understanding of the aspects of Chinese society studied in class. They should also be able to compose essays between 400 to 600 characters in length.

Course Prerequisites
This course is designed for students who have studied Chinese for two semesters in U.S. universities or its equivalent. They should have a mastery of approximately 1,000 commonly-used words and basic grammar points.

Methods of Instruction
Class instruction emphasizes reading comprehension, communication, interaction and presentation. Peer tutoring, pronunciation tutoring and language meals outside of classroom support in class learning.

This course works in coordination with the Chinese speaking class using the same textbook. Teachers from both classes prepare the class together and each teacher teaches two classes per day in the hope of improving the students’ listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the same pace. The classes require students fully prepared before class. Students need to learn the vocabulary and the content of the lesson completely and mark the places that they do not understand beforehand.

The first and second period of the classes are Chinese reading course. The course will mainly focus on the content of the texts, grammar points, and sentence structures. Students are asked questions based on the texts. Important grammar points will be practiced repeatedly by given contexts. Learning the text and 15-20 grammar points will be carried out in this way in the
Assessment and Final Grade
Grading will be based on the following:

- Participation: 15%
- Quizzes & Dictation: 15%
- Homework: 10%
- Written Exams: 15%
- Language Commitment: 5%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Final Exam: 20%

Course Requirements
All course work must be submitted directly to the instructor of record, unless the student has received other explicit, documented instructions to the contrary. You are required to keep hard copies of all assignments for up to one year after the completion of the program in addition to any digital copies required by the instructor. It is your responsibility to make sure the instructor has received all your required work. Failure to do so may result in no credit for lost assignments.

Participation
Your active participation in each class is essential for successful language learning. It is important that you come to class well prepared. Participation means both physical attendance and active engagement in class. Late to class or leaving early three times will be counted as one absence. Throughout this semester, you have three excused absences, reserved for serious sickness or emergencies. In such cases, you should inform the Director and the course instructor ahead of time. You may present a note from a doctor or other supporting documentation to the Director to request the Excused Absence Form. With Director’s approval and signature, you may submit the form to the language instructor for his/her approval and signature. The form will be kept by the language instructor for records. After the three excused absence, each absence per class will reduce your final grade by 0.5% up to 15%. Therefore, use your excused absences wisely!

Dictation and Quizzes
Quizzes are given nearly every day and typically take the form of dictation, in which you are asked to write 10-20 words, phrases and sentences. Make-up quizzes are rarely given, and only in serious illness and emergencies, e.g., be hospitalized or other very special circumstances.

Homework
Homework is assigned on a daily basis. Students should spend approximately 2 hours outside class on lesson preparation and homework assignments. It is important that you hand in your homework in the beginning of the class next day. Late homework is accepted up to one week after the deadline and will be marked down 1 point (out of 10) per day on each assignment grade. Missing homework more than one week after the deadline will not be accepted and not
be given any points.

Written Exam
Every two weeks there will be a written exam covering the content of two weeks’ lessons. There are approximately five written exams a semester. The written exams include dictation, filling the blank, making sentences, reading comprehension and essay writing.

Mid-term and Final Exams
Mid-term exam will be in the seventh week and final exam in the fifteenth week. The written exams include filling the blank with grammar points, completing sentences, completing dialogues, translation, reading comprehension and essay writing.

Language Commitment
You will sign a language commitment on the first day of classes. Language commitment is worth 5% of the final grade. Speaking Chinese is required in the classroom and the designated areas in the dorm building, including study center offices, student lounge, study room, hallway and dorms. Speaking Chinese is required when interacting with Chinese roommates/host families, tutors, other CIEE students and staff on campus. Speaking languages other than Chinese in these areas or environments may reduce your final grade in Chinese class by 1-5%.

Weekly Schedule
Following is the course schedule for the semester, subject to change.

Week 1
1.1 Topic: L1 Arrive in Beijing
   Content: First impression about China when students arrive. Excited and tired.
   Reading: pp. 1-3
   Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV, V (pp. 9-10)
   Quiz: dictation

1.2 Topic: L2 Calling my mom
   Content: Telling mom about my living condition and studies as well as the differences between the U.S. and China
   Reading: pp. 11-14
   Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 22-23);
   Quiz: dictation

1.3 Topic: L3 Living habits
   Content: The difference of getting up early and morning shower between Chinese and American. Make me think about things in a different way.
   Reading: pp. 24-27
   Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 35-36);
Quiz: dictation

1.4 Topic: Audio-visual class with supplementary material.
Content: Watching videos about Chinese family daily lives
Reading: video
Homework: An essay about 300 words

Week 2
2.1 Topic: L5 Illness
Content: The first time feeling sick in China. Teacher come and visit me then we talk about my relationship with my Chinese roommate.
Reading: pp. 46-48
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (p. 53);
Quiz: dictation

2.2 Topic: L6 Living habits 2
Content: Chinese people’s habits about taking naps and drinking hot water. I gradually adapted to these local habits. I feel like it’s better to do as the locals in new environment.
Reading: pp. 54-56
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 60-61);
Quiz: dictation

2.3 Topic: Review class
Content: L1, 2, 3, 5, 6
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: prepare for Thursday's exam

2.4 Topic: Unit written exam 1
Content: L1, 2, 3, 5, 6
Reading: no reading
Homework: An essay about 300 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank; make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

Week 3
3.1 Topic: L7 Household electronic appliances
Content: electronic appliances in China are not as prevalent as those in the US. The reality turns out to be eco-friendlier.
Reading: pp. 62-64
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (pp. 67-68);
Quiz: dictation
3.2 Topic: L8 Hair cutting
   Content: The first experience in Chinese hair salon. No tips in China.
   Reading: pp. 69-71
   Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (pp. 76-77);
   Quiz: dictation

3.3 Topic: L11 Calls in China
   Content: the changing of calls in China
   Reading: pp. 100-103
   Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 110-111);
   Quiz: dictation

3.4 Topic: Audio-visual class with supplementary material.
   Content: Watching videos about Chinese family’s daily lives
   Reading: video
   Homework: An essay about 300 words

Week 4
4.1 Topic: L12 Toilet
   Content: The difference between Chinese and American toilet. Discuss about which one is more clean and eco-friendly
   Reading: pp. 113-115
   Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise III, IV (pp. 119-120);
   Quiz: dictation

4.2 Topic: L13 Travelling by train
   Content: First travelling experience by train in China
   Reading: pp. 121-122
   Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 125-126);
   Quiz: dictation

4.3 Topic: Review class
   Content: L7, 8, 11, 12, 13
   Reading: review previous reading
   Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam

4.4 Topic: Unit written exam 2
   Content: L7, 8, 11, 12, 13
   Reading: no reading
Homework: An essay about 300 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank; make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

Week 5
Fall Break

Week 6
6.1 Topic: L14 Parks
Content: Chinese people’s daily leisure lives in parks
Reading: pp. 127-129
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (p. 132);
Quiz: dictation

6.2 Topic: L15 Night market
Content: First experience to Chinese night market
Reading: pp. 134-136
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 139-141);
Quiz: dictation

6.3 Topic: L17 The Great Wall
Content: visiting China’s historical sites and learning about the history of the Great Wall
Reading: pp. 153-156
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 160-161);
Quiz: dictation

6.4 Topic: Audio-visual class with supplementary material.
Content: Watching videos about Chinese family daily lives
Reading: video
Homework: An essay about 300 words

Week 7
7.1 Topic: L18 Culture of Chinese “Mianzi ”
Content: Discuss about Chinese “Mianzi” culture and analyze about the relationship between “Mianzi” culture and honesty
Reading: pp. 162-164
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, IV (pp. 168-169);
Quiz: dictation

7.2 Topic: L19 Culture of dining table
Content: first time having meals in restaurant and discuss about Chinese dining culture
Reading: pp. 170-174
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (pp. 180-181);
Quiz: dictation

7.3 Topic: review class
Content: L14, 15, 17, 18, 19
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam

7.4 Topic: unit written exam 3
Content: L14, 15, 17, 18, 19
Homework: An essay about 300 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank; make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

Week 8
8.1 Review 15 lessons from week 1 - week 7
Midterm oral exam
Midterm written exam

Week 9
Excursion, no classes

Week 10
10.1 Topic: L20 Ordering dishes
Content: Different provinces in China have their specialties. It’s really hard to order dishes in China
Reading: pp. 182-186
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 190-191)
Quiz: dictation

10.2 Topic: L21 Traffic in China
Content: Traffic is much more complicated here in China. But Chinese people regard it as “finding order in chaos”
Reading: pp. 192-194
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 197-198)
Quiz: dictation

10.3 Topic: L22 Chinese slogan
Content: We can see a variety of slogans here in China which indicate the development in China
Reading: pp. 200-203
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 206-207);
Quiz: dictation

10.4 Topic: Audio-visual class with supplementary material.
Content: Watching videos about Chinese family’s daily lives
Reading: Video
Homework: An essay about 300 words

Week 11

11.1 Topic: L24 Made in China
Content: Analyze the influence “Made in China” products have on the world
Reading: pp. 219-221
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 224-225);
Quiz: dictation

11.2 Topic: L25 Prefer sons to daughters
Content: Analyze the reasons of Chinese tradition “prefer sons to daughters”. On the contrary, there’re also jokes about husbands afraid of their wives. Analyze the social status between man and woman.
Reading: pp. 226-228
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 233-234)
Quiz: dictation

11.3 Topic: Review class
Content: L20, 21, 22, 24, 25
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam

11.4 Topic: Unit written exam 4
Content: L20, 21, 22, 24, 25
Homework: An essay about 300 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank; make sentences; reading comprehension; writing

Week 12

12.1 Topic: L26 Chinese Idioms
Content: Learn about some Chinese common says, idioms, allegorical saying
Reading: pp. 235-237
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 241-242);
Quiz: dictation
12.2  Topic: L27 System of China’s “iron rice bowl”
Content: Job hunting rules have changed significantly in China. Nowadays, competition replace “iron rice bowl”
Reading: pp. 243-245
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV, V (pp. 247-249);
Quiz: dictation

12.3  Topic: L29 The entrance examination for colleges and universities
Content: analyze the advantage and disadvantage about entrance examination for colleges and universities as well as the differences between the education system in China and the US
Reading: pp. 260-262
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 266-267);
Quiz: dictation

12.4  Topic: Audio-visual class with supplementary material.
Content: Watching videos about Chinese family’s daily lives
Reading: video
Homework: An essay about 300 words

Week 13
13.1  Topic: L32 Divorce
Content: Analyze the reasons behind China’s rising divorce rate. And the relationship between the rising divorce rate and women’s social status
Reading: pp. 288-290
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (pp. 296-297);
Quiz: dictation

13.2  Topic: L33 loss weight
Content: Obesity is getting more concerns nowadays and more people are trying to lose weight
Reading: pp. 298-301
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise III, IV (pp. 306-307);
Quiz: dictation

13.3  Topic: Review class
Content: L26, 27, 29, 32, 33
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: prepare for Thursday’s exam

13.4  Topic: Unit written exam 5
Content: L26, 27, 29, 32, 33
Homework: An essay about 300 words
Exam: dictation; choose new words to fill in the blank; choose new grammar to fill in the blank;
make sentences; reading comprehension; writing essay

Week 14
14.1 Topic: L34 Living standard in China
Content: Analyze the process of China’s improving living standard
Reading: pp. 308-311
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III (pp. 315-316);
Quiz: dictation

14.2 Topic: L35 Elderly people’s lives
Content: Analyze Chinese pension plan and the difference from American one’s
Reading: pp. 317-320
Homework: Use new words and grammar to make new sentences; Textbook exercise II, III, IV (pp. 324-325);
Quiz: dictation

14.3 Topic: Review class
Content: Lessons before mid-term
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: prepare for final exam

14.4 Topic: Review class
Content: Lessons after mid-term
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: prepare for final exam

Week 15
15. 1 Review and answer questions

15. 2 Final oral exam

15.3 Final written exam

Course Materials
Reading and audio-visual supplementary material.