**Course Description**

This intensive Spoken Chinese course along with the Readings in Chinese allows motivated students to complete the second year of Chinese language courses in one semester. The class will focus on improving students’ ability of oral communication in terms of fluency, accuracy and increased complexity. Besides learning new vocabulary and sentence patterns, students will devote most of the class time to speaking practices. Class activities include dialogue-practicing, story-retelling, drills, dialogue-making, discussions, debates and presentations.

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course, students are expected to master approximately a vocabulary of 1,200 words and 160 new sentence patterns. Students should be able to initiate and hold conversations with native speakers on daily topics and some social issues clearly. In addition, students should be able to express themselves in a culturally appropriate manner in authentic Chinese situations.

**Course Prerequisites**

This course is designed for students who have studied Chinese for two semesters at U.S. universities or its equivalent. Students should have and a working vocabulary of approximately 1,000 commonly used words.

**Methods of Instruction**

Class instruction emphasizes oral communication, individual and group interaction, drilling, discussion and presentation. Peer tutoring, pronunciation tutoring and language meals outside of classroom support in class learning.

This course works in coordination with the Chinese reading 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 before class.

The first and second period of the class are Chinese reading course, as the reading course syllabus outlined. The third and fourth periods are the oral classes, which include the following...
four parts. 1) A quick review of the difficult grammar points from first and second periods. 2) Answer short questions focusing on practicing the keywords, grammar points and sentence structure. 3) Discussion on given topics. The goal is to go beyond the text and apply the vocabulary, grammar points and sentence structures in other contexts. 4) If time allows, depends on the topic of the lesson, instructors may organize small debates, role plays, interviews and group presentations.

Assessment and Grading
Grading will be based on the following:

- Participation 15%
- Homework 15%
- Oral Exams 15%
- Fieldtrip Reports 10%
- Language Commitment 5%
- Midterm 20%
- Final 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!

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.

Field Trip Report
There are five field trip reports this semester. The field trip report can be individual report or group report. Students make a presentation through visits to the places, doing interviews with locals, doing research on the places and people. Teachers will grade based on the content of the presentation, the use of new words and grammar points, and expression.

Oral Exam
An oral exam will be conducted every two weeks, altogether five times per semester. The oral exam will be in the format of oral presentation and answer questions from the group. Then there will be a one-on-one question answering section with the instructor. Students are graded based on their accurate use of new words, grammar points, sentence structures, the content of presentation, fluency of their speech, and pronunciation.

Mid-term and Final Exams
Mid-term exam will be in the seventh week and final exam in the fifteenth week. The oral exams will be in the format of oral presentation, reading texts, discussion, and one-on-one answering questions.

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 Arriving in Beijing
Content: First impression about China when they arrive. Feel so excited and tired.
Reading: pp. 1-3
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

1.2 Topic: L2 Calling my mom
Content: Telling mom about my living condition and study as well as the differences between the US.
Reading: pp. 11-14
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

1.3 Topic: L3 Living habits
Content: The difference of getting up early and morning shower between Chinese and American. Make me thing about things in a different way
Reading: pp. 24-27
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

1.4 Topic: Unit oral exam 1
Content: L1, 2, 3
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 2
2.1 Topic: L5 Illness
Content: The first time feel sick in China. Teacher come and visit me then we talk about my relationship with my Chinese roommate.
Reading: pp. 46-48
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

2.2 Topic: L6 Living habits 2
Content: Chinese people habits about taking naps and drink 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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

2.3 Topic: Review class
Content: L1, 2, 3, 5, 6
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

2.4 Topic: Fieldtrip report on Ming City Wall, Xuanwu Lake, Jiming Temple
Homework: Interview
Presentation: fieldtrip report

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 more eco-friendly
Reading: pp. 62-64
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

3.2 Topic: L8 Hair cutting
Content: The first experience in Chinese hair salon. No tips in China.
Reading: pp. 69-71
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

3.3 Topic: L11 Calls in China
Content: the changing of calls in China
Reading: pp. 100-103
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

3.4 Topic: Unit oral exam 2
Content: L 5, 6, 7, 8, 11
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 4
4.1 Topic: L12 Toilet
Content: The difference between Chinese and American toilets. Discussion about which one is more clean and eco-friendly
Reading: pp. 113-115
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

4.2 Topic: L13 Travelling by train
Content: First travelling experience by train in China
Reading: pp. 121-122
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

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

4.4 Topic: Into the community
Content: Buy train tickets in railway station
Homework: Interview

Week 5
Spring Break

Week 6
6.1 Topic: L14 Parks
Content: Chinese people’s daily leisure lives
Reading: pp. 127-129
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

6.2 Topic: L15 Night market
Content: First experience to Chinese night market
Reading: pp. 134-136
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

6.4 Topic: Unit oral exam 3
Content: L12, 13, 14, 15, 17
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

7.3 Topic: review class
Content: L14, 15, 17, 18, 19
Reading: review previous reading
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

7.4 Topic: Fieldtrip report on Ming tomb and Sun Yat-sen’s mausoleum
Homework: Interview
Presentation: fieldtrip Report

Week 8
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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

10.2 Topic: L21 Traffic in China
Content: Traffic is much more complicated here in China. Chinese people regard it as “finding order in chaos”.
Reading: pp. 192-194
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

10.4 Topic: Unit oral exam 4
Content: L20, 21, 22
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 11
11.1 Topic: L24 Made in China
Content: Analyze the influence “Made in China” products has on the world
Reading: pp. 219-221
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

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

11.4 Topic: Into the community
Content: Ordering dishes in Chinese restaurant
Homework: Interview
Week 12

12.1 Topic: L26 Chinese idiom
Content: Learn about some Chinese common says, idioms, allegorical saying
Reading: pp. 235-237
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

12.3 Topic: L29 The college entrance examination for colleges and universities
Content: analyze the advantage and disadvantage about the 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: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion;
Quiz: listening comprehension

12.4 Topic: Unit oral exam 5
Content: L24, 25, 26, 27, 29
Homework: Interview
Presentation: A report that summarizes what we learned this week

Week 13

13.1 Topic: L32 Divorce
Content: Analyze the reasons behind China’s rising divorce rate. The relationship between the rising divorce rate and women’s social status
Reading: pp. 288-290
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

13.2 Topic: L33 loss weight
Content: Obesity is getting more of a concern nowadays and more people are trying to lose weight
Reading: pp. 298-301
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your
discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

13.3 Topic: Review class
Content: L26, 27, 29, 32, 33
Reading: review previous lessons
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

13.4 Topic: Debate
Content: A debate that all students participate in
Homework: Interview

Week 14
14.1 Topic: L34 Living standard in China
Content: Analyze the process of Chinese improving living standards
Reading: pp. 308-311
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

14.2 Topic: L35 Elderly people’s lives
Content: Analyze Chinese pension plan and the differences from American’s
Reading: pp. 317-320
Homework: Discuss with Chinese students about today’s class content and record your discussion
Quiz: listening comprehension

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

14.4 Topic: Review class
Content: Lessons after mid-term
Reading: review previous lessons
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**
Audio-visual supplementary material.