

**Syllabus for Chinese Level I
2016-2017**

Instructor: Ms. Xuefei Sun
Room 604
2nd period
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Materials:

Textbook: Chinese Nihao by Shumang Fredlein level I (Replacement Cost: \$46)
Chinese Nihao by Shumang Fredlein level II (Replacement Cost: \$56)
A three-ring 1.5 binder
Wide-ruled loose leaf filler paper
#2 Pencils with erasers
Highlighters
USB drive
One pack of 4 dry-erase markers for the classroom activities use

Students are responsible for the care of both textbook and workbook copies.
Lost or damaged books deemed unusable will be charged full replacement cost.
Other damaged will be charged according to its impact on the life of the book.

Course Description:

Chinese level I is an introductory course offered to all interested high school students. It teaches Mandarin Chinese, the official standard language spoken throughout mainland China and the simplified characters used as its writing system. It teaches beginning Chinese in all four domains: speaking, listening, reading, and writing, weighing more heavily on speaking and writing. Texts are built around thematic units where Chinese culture is integrated. It provides numerous opportunities for the students to practice speaking, listening, reading and writing in carefully controlled classroom activities. Students may begin formal language learning at various stages of development, the level I course focuses on development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. This course is taught over one year.

Objectives:

By the end of the year, the students enrolled in this course are expected to understand some common Chinese cultures. They are expected to master all onsets (consonants) and rimes (vowels) in the Pinyin system and to distinguish four tones in the spoken language, so as to lay a solid foundation from where they can build up the Chinese language proficiency. They will be able to recognize some of the most frequently-used characters and read and write short

paragraphs on a given topic. They will be able to communicate with each other with basic simple sentences on the theme of each unit.

Contents:

This course will cover Chinese Pinyin, the phonetic system made of Roman letters, which helps to sound out the Chinese characters. Chinese cultures: (touches on history, its people, political system, customs, current events, arts and crafts, calligraphy, and food etc.) will be taught throughout the curriculum by direct instruction, video, student- focused internet research, as well as hands-on activities, projects, and by the use of other supplemental materials. We will use the language lab frequently so that the students can practice listening and speaking skills. Differentiated instruction is celebrated in this class to accommodate all students' academic needs.

Here are some examples of how the 5C's of language teaching will be addressed during the school as a matter of course.

Communication – This aspect of language teaching is paramount and addressed by the use of the communicative method. Ideally classed designated for communication will maximize the amount of time the students use the target language in meaningful conversation.

Culture – Class materials of cultural China including pictures and *realia* such as “*hong bao*” or money pouches and calligraphy are often introduced in the classroom setting, when appropriate, to enhance the student's knowledge of the language as well as the culture.

Connections – It is mandatory that language be taught in a meaningful context. Classes and subject matter is most effective when incorporated with topics to which the students are able to relate. For example one may have a class using the target language about *how to keep track of homework assignments*. Such a class has many opportunities to teach things such as dates, numbers and time.

Comparisons – Again using the target language this is often one of the most interesting classes. There are few if any cognates from Chinese to English, however the grammatical and sentence structures are very similar. It is helpful to many beginning and intermediate students to connect the target language to similar structures within their native language. Performance improves significantly once these similarities are identified and improve the students' ability to utilize the target language in context.

Communities – There are plans in the works for a possible China trip. For a local taste, a trip to Chinatown in Atlanta is planned. This enables the student to bring all aspects of what they have learned together in recognition of the cultural aspects and the opportunity to use language in a real and meaningful context.

Grading Scale:

We comply with the Fulton County standard grading system. Parents are encouraged to view entered grades at any time by logging into the Home Access Center system via the school website. Students will receive a progress report every 6 weeks and the final report card at the end of each semester.

A =90–100

B= 80-89

C =70-79

F =<69

Grades are computed based on the following percentages:

- Major Assessments (tests, projects) - 20%
- Minor Assessments (quizzes, language lab activities)15%,
- County Performance-based Assessments - 30%
- Final Exam - 15%
- Homework -10%
- Class work (pair/partner activities, class participation, individual class work, note-taking)- 10%

Performance-based assessments are graded against the Fulton County World Language Performance-based Assessment Rubrics.

Homework will be assigned on a daily basis and will be checked for completion and correctness. It should take no longer than 10-15 minutes to complete at home each day.

WORLD LANGUAGES LATE WORK POLICY

No credit will be given for daily homework once it has been reviewed and corrected in class; however, students are encouraged to complete the work and turn it in for no credit for learning and recovery purposes. Do not ask to turn in homework at the end of the day if you left it in your locker! All late assignments will receive no more than a maximum of 80% of the earned grade. Grade will be reduced by 10% per day late until 50% is reached. This will also apply to oral assignments due to be presented in class. After that, students may turn in completed assignment for maximum 50% credit until the end of the current six-week grading period. After the six-week grading period, students are encouraged to complete the work and turn it in for no credit for learning and recovery purposes. All late work must be turned in at the latest 10 days before the end of the semester.

Behavioral Expectations: Students are expected to:

- Arrive in class on time.
- Be prepared with your textbooks, workbooks, notebooks, pens or pencils.
- Complete all your assignments on time.
- Make up missed work in a timely manner.
- Be respectful to yourself, to the teacher and to the fellow classmates and be sensitive to each other.
- Speak Chinese as much as you can.
- No chewing gum, eating or drinking allowed in the classroom.
- No using cell phone during the lessons. Unless specifically directed by the teacher.

Extra Help Sessions: Help sessions are available in the morning upon request. Students need to schedule appointments with Ms. Sun at least one day in advance.

Make-Up Work:

Remember it is your responsibility to find out what you missed during an absence, so find a class “buddy” to tell you what was covered, and make sure you collect any handouts from the absentee folder. **We will follow the school policy outlined in your student handbook.** For an excused absence, you will have as many days to catch up as the length of the absence. So if you miss 3 days, you will have the day of return plus 3 days to turn in all your work. You may make up work after an **unexcused absence** and receive a maximum grade of **80%** of the actual grade allocated.

Make-up tests will be given by arrangement with the teacher before or after school, not during class time.

Communications:

Please check your most recent grade on homework, quizzes, tests on HAC, Home Access Center or if you have any questions, please email me at sun@fultonschools.org I will reply within 24 hours.

Honor Code: Please read Syllabus Signature Sheet.

Recovery Policy: Please read Syllabus Signature Sheet.

Technology Policy: Please read Syllabus Signature Sheet.

