Houston Academy for International Studies

2013-2014

Syllabus for Chinese I

**Instructor**: **Ms. Sophia Baltz**

**Email: SBALTZ@Houstonisd.org**

**Room: 114**

**Phone: 832-866-2693**

***“****Anyone who has ever made a resolution discovers that the strength of their determination fades with time. The important thing is not that your resolve never wavers, but that you don’t get down on yourself when it does and throw in the towel. “~ Daisaku Ikeda 池田大作*

*“Just as cherry, plum, peach and damson blossoms all possess their own unique qualities, each person is unique. We cannot become someone else. The important thing is that we live true to ourselves and cause the great flower of our lives to blossom.” “~ Daisaku Ikeda池田大作*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introductory class to the basic sounds and structure of Chinese language and the culture of Chinese speaking countries. Listening and speaking skills, as well as the knowledge of approximately 100 Chinese characters, are emphasized.

**PRIMARY SOURCE:**

Online Program of Discovering Chinese 奇妙中文 and Ni Hao你好

Students will also be given instructor-made handouts and worksheets. Students are responsible for on-line homework and material provided by the teacher.

**EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS:**

* Respect everyone and everything in our classroom at all times .
* Be prepared for class and complete your work on time.
* Actively participate in class.
* Follow school and district guidelines listed in the Student Handbook .
* Become an indispensable first-class individual wherever you are.
* Talk in Chinese. (NO ENGLISH)

**GOALS FOR THE CLASS**

1. Use the Chinese phonetic system (pinyin) to pronounce Chinese characters.

2.      Greet people, introduce yourself to others.

3.      Exchange personal information, such as telephone number and email address.

4.      Talk about family members’ age, occupations, and friends’ personal interests.

5.      Ask Who? Where? and What? and questions.

6.      Talk about birthdays, daily activities, weekend plans.

7.      Tell time, date, and day of the week.

8.      Talk about classes taken in school.

9.      Make a phone call; write a letter or an email.

10.    Follow basic rules of stroke order to write Chinese characters.

11. Report to Lingofolio biweekly to self-evaluate their improvement.

To progress in Chinese it is necessary to:

* Listen attentively in class
* Speak Chinese as often as possible
* Participate actively in class
* Take notes to better learn concepts covered in class
* Use classroom time effectively
* Complete homework on time
  + Homework should be labeled with your name, period, and date on the top right hand corner of each page.
  + HOMEWORK, TURNED IN AFTER IT HAS BEEN COLLECTED IN CLASS, WILL BE CONSIDERED LATE (See grading policy)
* MAKE-UP & RETAKES:
  + If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get makeup work from me upon returning to class/school..
  + If you turned in your assignment on time and are unsatisfied with your homework grade, you have the opportunity to retake the assignment by turning in your re-do stapled on top of the original work at the following class.

**CLASS RULES**

1. Wait your turn to talk.
2. No eating, sleeping, and using any electrical devices without permission.
3. Destroy nothing.
4. Use only school appropriate language.
5. Stay within your seat.
6. Complete mobility log before and after excusing yourself from class.

**CONSEQUENCES**

1. Verbal warning
2. Name and rule # recorded in conduct book & call home
3. Parent conference
4. Office referral

**GRADING POLICY**

* **Classwork/Class Participation = 25%**
* **Projects = 20%**
* **Quizzes = 20%**
* **Homework = 10%**
* **Test = 25%**
* **Late Work: 10 points off per day**

**\*\*\*Cheating will not be tolerated. A grade of zero will be given for cheating on homework, class work, quizzes, and/or exams\*\*\***

* All work turned in should be labeled with your name, period, and date on top right corner. 10 points will be taken off if any of these is missing.
* Homework turned in after it has been collected in class will be considered late. Late work will result in 10 points off per day.
* If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to get makeup work from me upon the returning day and check for new due day.

These percentages are in accordance with HAIS policy and those set by the district. **Bonus Points** may be given for attendance, participation, or extra efforts performed without prior notification. These points cannot be made up for any reason. They serve to reward students who came and participated in class, rather than to punish those who did not.

**QUIZZES AND TESTS**

There will be a quiz at the end of each Lesson.  Tests will be given at the end of each unit.  Students who are absent during a quiz or test need to be ready to make up the quiz or test on the day they return to school

**SUPPLIES:**

**AVID Binder:**

Maintaining an AVID binder is a central requirement for all HAIS students. Warm-Up’s activities, Cornell note-taking, and the Document Notebook will be kept in the AVID binder. The ideal binder size is two or three inches so that all student work for each class can be stored in one single binder. The AVID binder may also be kept electronically (using Evernote/Penultimate).

Each section in the binder should have these parts in this order:

A. Divider (labeled by subject name)

B. Calendar/assignment log

C. Current Cornell notes

D. Learning logs

E. Handouts

F. Tests

G. Older notes and learning logs

H. Blank paper

Complete student information sheet and bring all supplies and signed syllabus on the following class to earn your first 100 homework grade!

**------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Please sign and date the appropriate fields below to show that you and your guardian understand the information explained in the syllabus. The syllabus should be kept in your Chinese class daily binder at all times.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone / Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Thanks and looking forward to a great year!!! ☺**