CHN 332 Syllabus

Goals & objectives:

Students will gain reading and writing skills in standard (Mandarin) Chinese, dealing with intermediate to advanced texts. Specifically, students will, as a result of this course:

1. Become aware of the skills and strategies available for improving reading ability in Chinese.
2. Be able to understand main ideas and most supporting details in descriptions, factual narration, news events, or other non-technical texts.
4. Become acquainted with aspects of Chinese culture and social behavior that relate to the readings.
5. Develop the ability to compose grammatical and organized essays in Chinese related to the above topics.

Texts & Materials:

The required material will be a CD-ROM for Macintosh, titled "Kàn Na! Authentic Chinese Reading and Video," developed by the University of Hawai'i National Foreign Language Resource Center. The CD-ROM will be distributed at a substantial student discount. <back to top>

Student responsibilities:

1. Participation and Punctuality: Visit our class site at least 5 times a week, ready to communicate in both reading and writing. The student should read the instructions for each unit thoroughly and be prepared to interact with classmates. The class will progress through a series of task-based activities and punctuality in submitting assignments is of vital importance. Points will be deducted from late assignments.

2. Quizzes: All quizzes are listed in the unit assignments. They will be made available at a certain time. Quizzes cannot be made up unless arrangements are made a week BEFORE the quiz date. (Quizzes do not count heavily toward the course grade, however. See below.)<back to top>

Grading:

Criteria differ from unit to unit, depending on the items there are to complete in the unit. Generally speaking, the most important criterion for receiving points is whether or not there is ample evidence of student participation, without reference to accuracy. Accuracy develops over time in the course, and improvement, rather than high accuracy at any given point, is the goal. Quizzes are given minimal importance, counting for approximately 10% of a student's grade. Points will be assigned for all activities, and a student's final total will roughly determine his or her course grade, using the following formula:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74-76</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>64-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-63</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B+  87-89   C+  77-79   D+  67-69   F  0-59
B    84-86   C    74-76   D    64-66
A-   90-93   B-   80-83   C-   70-73   D-   60-63
For those students who have chosen the CR/NC grading option, work that would receive a grade of "C" or better is needed to receive credit.<back to top>

Technical Requirements

Students should have basic knowledge of how to use a computer with Chinese language applications, including how to surf the Web and how to input Chinese text.

Hardware: a Pentium PC or a PowerMac with at least 32 MB of RAM (64 MB is preferable)

Software:

1. Operating System: Windows 95 (late release) or Mac OS 7.6 and above
2. Chinese viewing and inputting capabilities: PC software such as the Global IMEs built into Windows XP; Mac software such as Apple's Chinese Language Kit.
3. Web browsers: Netscape 4.0 or Internet Explorer 4.0 and above
4. Internet Connection: direct or via PPP (not via proprietary browsers such as the AOL browser)

Networked computers are available in the College of Language, Linguistics, and Literature's Multimedia Computer Lab during open hours in Moore 155B (Mac Lab) and Moore 153 (PC Lab), as long as no class is scheduled. Computers in both locations have the requisite software.<back to top>

Prerequisites

Students must have earned credits in CHN201 or 202 (or equivalent) and taken the screening test. Please contact the instructor, Stephen Tschudi (sfleming@hawaii.edu), if you have questions.

Student conduct is governed by the Student Conduct Code (http://www.hawaii.edu/student/conduct/). Misconduct, including plagiarism, will be referred to the Dean of Students for action.

NOTES ON THE UHM BACK CREDIT POLICY

1. A maximum of 16 back credits (101, 102, 201 and 202) may be earned for any ONE second language (you can't receive back credits for more than one language).

2. Only the first language course taken at the university level may be used for back credits. So if the first Chinese course you take after high school is taken at a college or university outside of the UH system and is transferred to your UHM transcript, you will not be eligible to receive back credits here for Chinese even if you subsequently take courses from us.

3. Only your first attempt at a language may be used to receive back credits, and it must be taken for a letter grade (not CR/NC) and passed with at least a ‘C’. So if you take, say, Chinese 331 as your first Chinese class at UHM and receive less than a ‘C’ for it (even a ‘C-’), you will never receive back credits in Chinese, even if you take the course again and get a ‘C’ or higher.
4. Back credits are not automatically awarded—they must be applied for. You can apply for back credits in Chinese by going to Moore Hall, room 378. You must wait until your course grade is officially entered into your records before applying.