Contact Information

E-mail: xlin@morganparkacademy.org
Office Location: Hansen Hall 312
Office Hours: Mon. 4th period/5th period; Wed. 5th period/9th period;
Mon-Fri. 7th period (Study Hall/Hansen Hall 310)

Students are always welcome to see me in my office during these office hours. I would highly recommend students to make appointment with me first, in case I am not in the office during these office hours.

Course Information

Class Location: Hansen Hall 310
Credits: 1.00 (Full-year course)
Meeting Days and Time: M/W/F – 45 min. classes; Thurs – 90 min block.

Required Materials:
1) Integrated Chinese Level 1 Part 1 (third edition)
2) Home access to a computer microphone (or laptop with built-in microphone)
3) Notebooks/IPads
4) Portfolio folders for collecting handouts and homework

Recommended Materials:
1) Discovering Chinese Volume 1 Student
2) Oxford Beginner’s Chinese Dictionary (available on Amazon: $10.61)
3) Other on-line dictionaries and resources provided below

Useful Website:

Pinyin Learning Tool
1) http://www.chinese-tools.com/tools/pinyin.html (pinyin tying tool)
2) http://www.chineseliteracy.net/summer/cssystem_062908.swf (Chinese sound system)

English-Chinese Dictionary
1) http://www.nciku.com/
2) http://www.mdbg.net/
Brief Course Description

Mandarin Chinese (I) is full year elective course designed for beginners. Mandarin Chinese is the official language in Mainland China. In this course, students will learn simplified Chinese characters and standard Mandarin Chinese pronunciation.

The goal of the course is to develop students’ basic Mandarin communicative skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing, with more focus on speaking and listening. Starting with pinyin, students will gradually build up their communicative competency in Mandarin Chinese. Moreover, the course will integrate Chinese culture to promote students’ cross-cultural awareness and understanding. Due to the great differences in Mandarin and English, students will also be introduced strategies and skills in learning Mandarin Chinese as a foreign language.

Content Overview & Learning Outcomes

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<td>2. Greeting and Self-Introduction</td>
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<td>11. Learning Mandarin Chinese (Comprehensive Reviewing)</td>
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After successfully completing this course, students should be able to
- Understand pinyin system and basic syllabic structure of Chinese characters.
- Use pinyin as a tool to pronounce Chinese characters.
. Understand the basic Chinese radicals and follow rules of stroke orders for writing Chinese characters.
. Have a general idea of the uniqueness of Chinese grammar (no tense, word order, measure words and etc.) and make a simple comparison between Chinese and English or other languages they have learned.
. Exchange greetings with each other and make self-introduction.
. Discuss family members and describe others in more details ways (physical appearance, age, nationality, hobbies and etc.)
. Describe their own rooms, classrooms and the neighborhood
. Count in Chinese from 1-100 or more.
. Read a calendar and tell time and days of week.
. Talk about their school subject and school schedule.
. Describe hobbies, interest, and habits.
. Make an appointment by phone and ask friends to go out for activities (dinner, shopping and etc.)
. Shopping for clothes, food and etc.
. Ask and describe someone’s favor and taste.
. Describe clothing and food.
. Order food in restaurant.
. Talk about money, price and simple bargaining.
. Ask for and give direction.
. Talk about different means of transportation.
. Simply plan a trip.
. Talk about one’s performance in an exam.
. Discuss study habits and class preparation.
. Share experiences about learning Chinese.

Class Calendar

First Marking Period
1. Introductory Introduction to Chinese (Pinyin system & Writing System)/ Basic Classroom phrases
2. Greeting and Self-Introduction
3. Family and Introduction of others

Second Marking Period
4. My place and My Community
5. Number, Time and Dates
6. Hobbies and Daily Life

Third Marking Period
7. Make an appointment
8. Shopping and Eating
9. Transportation

Fourth Marking Period
10. School Life
11. Learning Mandarin Chinese (Comprehensive Reviewing)
Course Policy

Preparation: learning any language needs effort. Please finish your assignment in time. Review what we have learned before and preview the following lessons in advance as required. When you come to class, please bring all the materials you are supposed to use. Language learning need meaningful repetition, please put all the returned homework, handouts, and your notes into your folder or portfolio.

Attendance: Attendance is an important part of your grade and class participation. Please be in class on time. Unexcused tardy and excessive absences will influence students’ grade. If you have to miss the class, please try to let me know 24 hours in advance by email, except emergence. Students who have to miss the class are responsible for making-up homework, quizzes and tests. Students who have to miss the class are responsible to talk with me about making up missed work, or requiring for learning materials and etc. If for some reasons you have to miss the course for a while, please contact me immediately after you come back, we two can try our best to send you the learning materials while you are not here and make up during these office hours and make up the assignment you miss after you come back.

Participation: active engagement and meaningful involvement in class activities are expected. Please try to use as much Mandarin Chinese as you can. If you have any question regarding learning Mandarin Chinese, please do not hesitate to ask in class.

Assignments: students should complete their assignments individually in time and with full efforts. Late assignment may result in lowering grade. If the students are absent for 1-2 days, the assignments should be made up in 2 days after returning. If you are absent for more than 2 days, students should speak with me to schedule due dates for making up your homework.

Miss quizzes/tests/presentations: students who miss a quiz, test or presents should take their test/quiz/presentation on the day they return, during class, office hour or study hall.

Academic Honesty: Morgan Park Academy believes in the integrity of its students. Therefore, cheating or plagiarism of any kind (homework, projects, tests, etc.) is a serious offense and will be treated as such. The use of electronic translators, including online “dictionaries”, is not permitted at Morgan Park Academy, and will be treated as academic dishonesty.

Quizzes, tests and projects will be sent home for a parent or legal guardian’ signature.

Tips of Learning Mandarin Chinese

1. Is Mandarin Chinese hard to learn? Depends! Any language is not easy to learn! Language acquisition takes efforts. Review news vocabulary and sentence patterns for 15-20 mins a day.
2. Learning a language is a cumulative process. Studying little by little every day is much more effective than cramming before a quiz or test.
3. Make flash cards of new vocabularies with pinyin, characters and definition. Make good use of Ipad to accumulate our electronic flash cards! Review them often and try to make up sentences on these vocabularies! New vocabularies with visual support reinforce
memorization!

4. Mandarin Chinese pronunciation is different from English. Pinyin and tones need practice. It does not matter whether you have accents or not, because even native Mandarin speakers have their own accents. Meaningful communication is more important in learning a foreign language. Practice reading out loud and exaggerate the tones for emphasis.

5. Practice writing new characters by using the correct stroke order and count the strokes out as you write them. Make connections among different characters with similar radicals. Ipad has a function that you can write in Chinese characters by hands! We will explore together at class to use Ipad to facilitate your learning of Chinese in class. Technology is not only for entertainment but also a great tool of learning.

6. Speak as much Mandarin Chinese as you can in class and outside class with your friends, your parents. Or if you have the chance to teach others to speak Mandarin Chinese, it will be great!

7. Do all your homework/assignment on time. Practice makes perfect!

8. Increase your exposure to Mandarin Chinese as much as you can, such as listen to podcasts, tv shows, Chinese songs and etc.

9. Be passionate! Be patient! Be a risk-taker! Be open-minded! Be willing to meet challenges!

10. If you have any question regarding your learning of Mandarin Chinese, please do not hesitate to ask me and your classmates!

**Grading Policy**

- Participation: 15% (class behavior, participation, efforts and preparation)
- Assignments/Homework: 25% (daily practice)
- Quizzes/Test: 45% (formative/summative assessment)
- Project: 15% (cumulative assessment of language and culture)

学而不思则罔，思而不学则殆。Learning without thinking leads to confusion; thinking without learning ends in danger.

- 孔子 by Confucius