

Brief Course Outline

Course Title:	Chinese 1	
Course Number and Section:	CHINESE	1151 550
Instructor Name(s):	Clare Gordon	
Instructor Email(s):	cgordon@huron.uwo.ca	

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course introduces students to oral and written standard Chinese. It is designed for those with no previous knowledge of the language. The ordinary alphabet (pinyin Romanization) will be provided throughout the course and the simplified version of Chinese characters will be used. The main goal for this course is for students to acquire a culturally contextualized working knowledge of and essential skills in Chinese. The course aims at developing four basic skills - listening, speaking, reading, and writing - to build a solid introductory level of preparation for more advanced studies. Students will make use of audio-visual facilities. Special emphasis will be placed on recognition and writing of Chinese characters.

This course adopts a learner-centered teaching approach. Classes are composed of weekly mini tests (quizzes and dictations) and task-oriented activities. The instructor leads such activities and provides necessary explanations for important grammar items, sentence structures, and vocabulary. Students are expected to be prepared for each and every class by doing preview and review. They must actively participate in classroom activities.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Establish a mastery of the pinyin romanization system to pronounce and to transcribe correctly sounds used in modern standard Chinese;
2. Have a good command of basic strokes and stroke-order for writing Chinese characters;
3. Read short texts and write approximately 400 characters;
4. Master basic sentence patterns and use them to produce sentences;
5. Conduct simple conversations in Chinese;
6. Prepare for the next level Chinese course, Chinese 2250.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Required textbook: Yuehua Liu, et al., Integrated Chinese 中文听说读写 Vol.1, Fourth edition. Boston: Cheng & Tsui Company, 2009. This set consists of a Textbook, a Workbook, and a character book. The books are available to purchase at Western Bookstore:
Textbook: \$103.30 <https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/9781622917457>
Workbook: \$53.15 <https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/9781622911363>

Character book: \$44.30 <https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/9781622911370>

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation	Recorded every class	10
Quizzes	Conducted during class	20
Homework	Due as specified in class	15
Written Tests	See course schedule	20
Group Presentation	04/02/2026	10
Final Exam	TBA	25

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Saturday, August 16, 2025