

# **Confucius Institute Western Michigan University**

## **Basic Chinese Language: Fall 2011**

### ***Instructors***

Ms. Lina “Rena” Zhang and Ms. Sha “Sharon” Liu

### ***Contact Information***

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For registration questions or concerns regarding this culture class, please contact Ms. Han Zhang by phone (269-387-1416) or email ([yang.du@wmich.edu](mailto:yang.du@wmich.edu)). For registration questions or concerns regarding any other culture class, please contact Ms. Thalea Davis by phone (269-387-3784) or email ([wmu-confucius-cc@wmich.edu](mailto:wmu-confucius-cc@wmich.edu)).

### ***Location and time:***

WMU Main Campus, Kohrman Hall Room 2211

Thursdays, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

### ***Office Hours***

By appointment

### ***Target students:***

This class welcomes anyone who is interested in Chinese language and Chinese culture with very little to no Chinese language proficiency.

### ***Required materials***

Class materials will be provided during the course.

### ***Recommended Supplementary materials:***

*Great Wall Chinese: Essentials in Communication*

*New Practical Chinese Reader*

*Integrated Chinese Textbook (Simplified Characters)*

<http://www.chinese.cn/> -- Confucius Institute Online

### ***Course description***

During this Chinese Language Class, you will be engaged in the basics of the Chinese language and writing as well as experiencing a culture unlike your own and delving into many cultural exchange activities that happen throughout the community.

### ***Course objectives***

By the end of the twelve-week session, you would be able to:

1. Understand more about the Chinese language and culture
2. Get to know how to use some common expressions in daily life and could make short conversations on various topics in Chinese
3. Learn how to use a Chinese-English dictionary so as to continue learning on your own
4. Become familiar with basic Chinese pronunciation
5. Acquire some basic information about the Chinese writing system

### ***Course expectations***

In order to receive the greatest benefit from your participation in this course, you are expected to fully participate in class and learn with strong interest and enthusiasm. It would best if you also practice on your own after class. Progress really relies on the effort from both the student and the instructors.

### ***Final Project***

In order to satisfy the requirement for receipt of a Certificate of Completion, a final project presentation will be due on the 10th or 11th day of class. You can choose to: make up a small dialogue/short play with classmates and present it in front of the class, give a 5-minute presentation on a specific topic of your choice related to Chinese language or culture, make a dubbing for a Chinese movie, or sing a Chinese song and introduce it to the class.

### ***Tentative schedule***

Lesson 1 (September 22): Introduction to Chinese language (pronunciation, syllabic structure, initials, finals, and tones, writing system,)

Lesson 2 (September 29): Greetings (exchange basic greetings, asking about one's nationality)

Lesson 3 (October 6): Family (employ basic kinship terms, ask about someone's profession)

Lesson 4 (October 13): Dates and Time (count numbers in Chinese, tell about time and date)

Lesson 5 (October 20): Hobbies (terms for basic personal hobbies, ask about someone's hobbies)

Lesson 6 (October 27): Review of the previous classes, combine these contents and learn to make self-introductions, learn about some Chinese festivals)

Lesson 7 (November 4): Daily Life (terms of daily use items, describe the routine of your daily life)

Lesson 8 (November 11): Shopping (terms of clothes, speak about the color, size and price of a purchase, recognize Chinese currency)

Lesson 9 (November 18): In the hospital (terms of body part, tell about your uncomfortable feelings)

Lesson 10 (November 25): Final project presentations; Making an appointment

Lesson 11 (December 1): Final project presentations; Transportation

Lesson 12 (December 8): Review of the contents; Graduation

*Disclaimer: The instructors reserve the right to amend the syllabus at any time.*

### ***Certificate of Completion***

The Confucius Institute at Western Michigan University awards Certificates of Completion to participants who have successfully completed the course objectives specific to each Culture Class. In order to receive a Certificate of Completion:

1. Attend no less than 8 of the 12 scheduled classes.
2. Try to involve yourself into the classes
3. Successfully complete the final project.
4. Attend the graduation ceremony during the final class.