

LCHIN1100

2013-2014

Modern Chinese - Elementary level I

9.0 credits	120.0 h	1+2q
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Teacher(s):	Du Xiaofei ;
Language :	Français
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Prerequisites :	None, as it is a course for beginners. Together with the course LCHIN1300, it makes up the elementary level of Chinese at the ILV.
Main themes :	The course covers every day and familiar topics such as: introducing oneself, talking about family, shopping, telephoning, telling the time, talking about the weather. Course activities cover the following:
	Identification and reproduction of the tones of the Chinese language and pronunciation exercises
	Introduction to pinyin and the transcription of tones
	Introduction to writing Chinese ideograms
	Learning a reasonable number of everyday words
	Construction of simple sentences (orally and in writing)
	Learning a first series of classifiers
	Question/answer exercises
	Reading short texts
	Dictation
Aims :	By the end of the course, the student should have acquired:
	the rules of Chinese writing: the direction of strokes, the roots; how to break down an unknown ideogram, determine the number of strokes and the root
	pinyin with its tones, pronunciation
	basic grammatical structures
	basic vocabulary
	comprehension of messages relating to simple and familiar situations
	the ideograms (simplified) taught during the course (+/- 300)
	the ability to construct simple sentences
	the ability to ask simple questions and answer them
	the ability to read simple sentences using the vocabulary learned The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".
Evaluation methods :	Consolidation and revision exercises.
	General revision at the end of the year
	Final exam : 50% oral, 50% written Students have to obtain 10/20 to be admitted to the elementary course level II.

Teaching methods :	Audiovisual method Each lesson comprises a mini-scenario presenting the theme of the lesson The visual support allows vocabulary to be introduced directly in Chinese, without the need to translate. Each 4-hour lesson is made up as follows: 50% oral, 50% written work. In additional, there is homework.
Content :	This course aims to teach the basics of the Chinese language: pronunciation, the tones, basic sentence structure, writing, its alphabetic transcription, called 'pinyin' (internationally recognised official transcription). Right from the first lesson, the students start to speak and interact in simple and familiar situations, and read and write ideograms Explanatory note As the Chinese language does not belong to the family of Indo-European languages, it is not easy to put the course specification information in such a way that fits into the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The learner of Chinese is confronted with a particular situation throughout the learning process: he/she is looking at a language which seldom has any equivalence with a European language as regards pronunciation 'in addition, Chinese is a tonal language' and as regards writing, which is not alphabetic but ideographic. This automatically involves learning and memorising each ideogram one by one. Learning to write is a life-long process for Chinese people too and explains why this is a slow process compared to alphabet-based writing systems. In addition, the learner is faced with a completely different type of grammar, Chinese being invariable. Its grammar, which is nevertheless complex, is unlike the grammar of any European language. These points mean that a different type of teaching and learning method is necessary to overcome the difficulties inherent in learning a language of the Sino-Tibetan family of languages.
Bibliography:	There are 2 volumes of course notes to accompany the course: one volume of the course notes contains ideogrammes; one volume of course notes, containing: Vocabulary and ideograms of the week Vocabulary exercises Grammar exercises Writing exercises Reading exercises Texts studied (simplified and non-simplified versions) Weekly homework Cultural texts Two CDs containing exercises on all the course material are available to students in the first year.
Other infos :	The teacher can be consulted during her office hours during the whole academic year Non-UCL students who take the end-of-year exam will receive an ILV certificate Level A1 or A1+ of the 'Common European Framework of Reference for Languages' Possibility to do a summer language course in Beijing (80 hours of lessons), costs to be borne by the student.

Cycle and year of study:	> Bachelor in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies > Bachelor in Ancient and Modern Languages and Literatures > Bachelor in Information and Communication > Bachelor in Philosophy > Bachelor in Pharmacy > Bachelor in Ancient languages and Literatures: Classics > Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures: German, Dutch and English > Bachelor in French and Romance Languages and Literatures: General > Bachelor in Economics and Management > Bachelor in Motor skills: General > Bachelor in Human and Social Sciences > Bachelor in Human and Social Sciences > Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures: General > Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology > Bachelor in Political Sciences: General > Bachelor in History of Art and Archaeology: General > Bachelor in History > Bachelor in Biomedicine > Bachelor in Religious Studies > Master [120] in Linguistics > Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: General > Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures: General
	> Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Classics
Faculty or entity in charge:	ILV