

# SOAS LANGUAGE CENTRE

## Chinese Beginners 1

**Materials:** Wu, Zhongwei (Revised Edition 2014) *Contemporary Chinese* (Textbook 1). Publisher: Sinolingua Co. Ltd, Beijing, China.

<b>Overview of course contents</b>	<b>Synopsis</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to the Chinese language</li><li>• Introduction to Chinese phonetics</li><li>• Greetings and introductions</li><li>• Identifying one's name, nationality, language</li><li>• Asking the way and directions</li><li>• Numbers, phone numbers etc.</li><li>• Day, weekdays, months, daily routines</li><li>• Exchanging personal information</li><li>• Making comments</li><li>• Receiving guests</li><li>• Revision and consolidation</li></ul>	<p><b>Chinese Beginners 1</b> is designed for learners who do not have any knowledge of Chinese. It aims to build up students' confidence and interest in learning the Chinese language and acquiring learning strategies. It develops the ability to communicate and the knowledge of how to select learning resources, providing opportunities for practising the language in limited situations.</p> <p>Listening and speaking skills are developed and students participate in various interactive activities, i.e. language games, group work and role-plays. Reading and writing skills are also developed: students will be given hands-on guidance on how to recognize and write Chinese characters.</p> <p>By the end of the course, students should be familiar with how to reproduce Chinese words or sentences with correct use of tones, how to initiate a conversation, how to identify and give basic information such as name, nationality, occupation, etc. Students learn around 80 key Chinese words and will be able read very basic texts on a limited number of topics.</p>

### **Mode of Attendance:** Part-time

*Chinese Beginners* courses aim to provide students with a basic knowledge of Chinese and focuses on the acquisition of practical communicative skills. It covers basic grammar and essential vocabularies, allowing participants to communicate in Chinese on a limited range of daily topics. Participants will have opportunities to learn to recognize and write simple Chinese characters. The course runs termly and each term for 10 weeks (2 hours a week). If students wish to continue their study of Chinese after the *Beginners term 1* of study, the following term is entitled *Chinese Beginners 2*.

### **Method**

The course is taught by our very experienced native Chinese teachers in both English and Chinese. The course includes coverage of the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing and a good balance between understanding the systems of Chinese grammar and vocabulary, developing the skills of comprehension and producing Chinese in speaking and writing, guided practice in language usage. Using authentic communicative teaching approach plus various interactive activities in the class. Class size is limited to fifteen to allow intensive interactive practice with individual feedback and advice on progress.