

CONCEPT NOTE

**Confucius Institute at University of Colombo
Faculty of Arts
University of Colombo**

Certificate Course in Chinese Language for Beginners

1. Introduction

Confucius Institute at University of Colombo seeks the permission of the Senate of the University of Colombo to offer a Certificate Course in Chinese Language for Beginners. The course is expected to commence in 2022.

2. The Need

Certificate Course in Chinese Language for Beginners facilitates the listening, speaking, reading comprehension and writing abilities of students who are willing to start learning Chinese. Since Chinese Language is widely used all over the world, it will provide sufficient contribution to upgrade the understanding level of Chinese and Chinese culture.

3. Objectives

The objectives of this Certificate Course are as follows:

- To provide basic awareness of Chinese language
- To improve verbal communication skills which can meet the communication needs of daily life, study and general social occasions.
- To understand certain Chinese culture related to Chinese names, ways of addressing, cuisine, traditional Chinese Medicine, currency and cities, etc.
- To cultivate general sense of Chinese language sound system, elements of Chinese characters and combination rules of words, sentence.

4. Target Groups

This course is designed for those who has the willingness to learn and master Chinese language.

Template approved and confirmed at the 390th Faculty Board (07.01.2020) and approved at the 447th Senate (29.01.2020)

5. Admission Requirements

To be admitted as a student of this course, a candidate should possess any one of the following qualifications:

- a) Grade NINE school leaving certificate
OR
a) Completion of primary education and certified work experience equivalent to a minimum of two years
AND
b) be at least 16 years of age

AND/OR, WHERE NECESSARY

- c) Passing the admission/selection test and/or interview

6. **Medium of Instruction:** English/Chinese/Sinhala

7. **Course Fee:** Rs. 20,000

8. **Course Duration:** 6 months duration / 60 contact hours

9. Teaching Methodology

- Lectures – online/offline
- Group discussion
- home assignments
- Lecturer guided self-studies

10. Evaluation

The evaluation system of the course is made up of four parts: classroom assignments, class attendance, end semester examination and task-oriented activities.

The grading scales of the Faculty of Arts shall apply to this course:

Range of Marks	Grade
80% +	A+
75% - 79%	A
70% - 74%	A-
65% - 69%	B+

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60% - 64%	B
55% - 59%	B-
50% - 54%	C+
45% - 49%	C*
40% - 44%	C- (fail)
35% - 39%	D+ (fail)
30% - 34%	D (fail)
0% - 29%	E (fail)

*Notes: * - minimum performance for a pass.*

The achievement structure will be as follows:

45% -69% of total marks - Pass

70% -79% of total marks - Merit Pass

80% - of total marks or above - Distinction Pass

Candidate should be completed the course within three years and three attempts.

11. Course Content

- i. General ideas of components of Chinese language
- ii. Initials, finals, tones, tone sandhi, retroflex of tones, and combinations in the Chinese sound system
- iii. Basic and combined strokes, rules of order, character components, structure, and ways of consulting a Chinese dictionary
- iv. Question sentences with 吗 *ma* (a yes/no question indicator), 呢 *ne* (and...?), 有 *yǒu* (there be/have), 几 *jǐ* (several), 多少 *duōshǎo* (how many/much), 好吗 *hǎo ma?* (is it ok)
- v. Sentences with an adjectival predicate, verbal predicate, nominal predicate, 是 *shì* (be verb), double objects, the optative verbs, serial verb phrases, subject-predicate phrase as a predicate
- vi. Attributive expressing possession, the particle 了 *le* (indicating having done something), the position of adverb 也 *yě* (also, too), 都 *dōu* (both, all), and pivotal sentences, numbers from 0-100 and expressions of time
- vii. Topics related to greetings, names, nationalities, professions, age, likes and dislikes, invitation and refusal, location, time and date, shopping, daily activities, etc.
- viii. Chinese culture related to Chinese names, ways of addressing, cuisine, Traditional Chinese Medicine, currency and cities, etc.