Evening language programme 2023/24

Course title: Mandarin Chinese for Beginners Part I_HSK 1

Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of the course is to offer an introduction to Mandarin Chinese for a range of basic communication purposes. Therefore, by the end of the course (part I and II) participants will be able to:

- understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete typ.
- introduce themselves and others.
- ask and answer questions about personal details such as where they live, people they know and things they have.
- interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

Participants will develop some basic reading, listening, speaking and writing skills through a series of task-oriented sessions and will be provided with informal formative feedback during contact hours.

In seminars, participants will have to engage in practical exercises and group interaction in order to develop relevant language-specific learning strategies. The role of the instructor is to facilitate this process, provide useful tools and encourage participants to become independent learners and basic users of the languages too.

Language-specific information:

Mandarin Chinese boasts an incredible 1,085,000,000 speakers within China, though it is also spoken around the world. It is the second most spoken language in the world, but the first in terms of native speakers. As the main language used in China, it acts as a lingua franca for people across the Chinese provinces.

As a tonal language, very similar words in Mandarin can be differentiated through the use of specific tones. Mandarin Chinese has four tones: level, rising, departing and final. These tones can often seem daunting to new learners, but can be mastered with careful practice.

Prerequisite:

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for complete beginners who wish to explore Mandarin Chinese for the first time.

Technical requirements:

-PC, laptop or tablet with camera and microphone

-Stable internet connection

Delivery will be via Zoom or Microsoft Teams

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

HSK Standard Course 1 - Textbook (Chinese) – 1 Jan 2014 by **Jiang Liping** , Publisher: Beijing Language & Culture University Press, China; 1st edition (1 Jan. 2014)

Language: Chinese, English

ISBN-13: 978-7561937099

Please do not purchase the coursebook until the course has been confirmed.