

ACSGD Chinese Language Course

Instructor: Peng Xiao

Course Goals:

- Teach how to master tones, simple or compound vowels of Mandarin, the phonetic variations in the language flow.
- Teach the basic strokes, components and proper writing of Chinese characters.
- Teach how to utilize learned Chinese characters to build multiple words.
- Teach how to use learned knowledge to find Chinese characters in dictionary.
- Teach daily conversation.
- Introduce China.

Course Contents:

1. System of the phonetic structures
 - a. Simple vowels
 - b. Compound vowels
 - c. Pronunciation of initials
 - d. Master tones
 - e. Phonetic variations in the language flow
2. Daily spoken Chinese
 - a. Frequently used words
 - b. Daily conversation
3. Basic knowledge of Chinese characters
 - a. Basic strokes
 - b. Typical structure of Chinese characters
4. Traveling in China
 - a. Introduce provinces and cities, as well as well-known places in there
 - b. Chinese culture
 - c. Traditional holidays

Course Focus:

- Phonetics and drills

This part shows the initials and finals of the lesson. Individual drills of the static initials, finals and tones are an indispensable part to master phonemes and tones.

It also introduces the essentials of pronunciation and compares the similarities and dissimilarities of the articulation points and methods in groups.

The exercises on tones, disyllables and multisyllables, combined with the new words and phrases of the lesson, lay a foundation for the transition to sentences.

- Frequently used words and sentences

It presents daily conversations, whose new words cover the initials, finals and tones of the lesson. Through the conversation part, the final transition from monosyllables to language flow has been realized.

- Structure of Chinese characters and exercises

This part introduces the strokes, stroke orders, components and their combination methods. You will learn to recognize and read all the Chinese characters of the lesson at three levels – the strokes, components and whole characters, and master the “four basic elements” mentioned above.

I will do structural analyses of the components, together with the classification and exemplification of the characters sharing the identical components to help you master the structural rules of Chinese characters.