

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information below is subject to change, in particular that concerning the teaching mode (presential, distance or in a comodal or hybrid format).


9 credits

120.0 h

Q1 and Q2

Teacher(s)	Du Xiaofei (coordinator) ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	<p>The course covers every day and familiar topics such as: introducing oneself, talking about family, shopping, telephoning, telling the time, talking about the weather.</p> <p>Course activities cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 learnt texts aloud • Dictation
Aims	<p>By the end of the course, the student should have acquired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 (+/- 250) • 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 <p>-----</p> <p><i>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".</i></p>
Evaluation methods	<p>Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General revision at the end of the year. 2. Q1 test (partial written exam) represents 2 points of the final mark. 3. Final exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 points (oral), 11 points (written) <p><i>Exceptional case: if the student can not take the Q1 test, with a valid justification, the written part will correspond to 11 points of the final mark.</i></p> 4. Continuous assessment : 2 points of the final mark. 5. Learners have to obtain 10/20 to be admitted to the elementary level II
Teaching methods	<p>Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change.</p> <p>Audiovisual method</p> <p>Each lesson comprises a mini-scenario presenting the theme of the lesson</p> <p>The visual support allows vocabulary to be introduced directly in Chinese, without the need to translate.</p> <p>Each 4-hour lesson is made up as follows: 40% oral, 60% written work. In addition, there is homework.</p>
Content	<p>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</p> <p>Explanatory note</p>

	<p>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.</p>
<p>Bibliography</p>	<p>Deux syllabus accompagnent le cours:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Un syllabus reprenant les idéogrammes du cours 2. Un syllabus de cours, comprenant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Le vocabulaire et les idéogrammes de la semaine</i> <i>Des exercices de vocabulaire</i> <i>Des exercices de grammaire</i> <i>Des exercices d'écriture</i> <i>Des exercices de lecture</i> <i>Les textes étudiés</i> <i>Les devoirs hebdomadaires</i> <i>Fiches culturelles</i> <p>Des exercices audio de révision sont disponibles sur Moodle.</p>
<p>Other infos</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teacher can be consulted during her office hours during the whole academic year. • Non-UCL students who take the end-of-year exam may ask for an ILV certificate. • A1 Level of the 'Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.
<p>Faculty or entity in charge</p>	<p>ILV</p>

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims
Bachelor in Information and Communication	COMU1BA	3		
Minor in Chinese studies	MINCHIN	10		