

Getting Started with Chinese

Lecturer: Ching-yi Amy Juan

Language

English

Course description and objectives

The course is aimed at beginners and is intended to provide the basics of the spoken standard Chinese language (Putonghua).

Native speakers cannot attend the course.

Audience

The course is open exclusively to students of the Master of Science Programs at Bocconi University and is offered as part of the **Enhancing Experience – Curricular Integrative Activities**. Upon successful completion of the course (attendance of at least 75% of the scheduled hours and passing the final exam), students will get **2 credits** and an **Open Badge**, which can be shared across the web (LinkedIn) or personal CV.

Prerequisites

A minimum entry level of Chinese is not required.

Duration

24 hours

Teaching Mode

This course will be delivered exclusively in **synchronous, in-person sessions**. Remote participation will not be available.

The **final test** of the course will take place on the **last day of the course**.

Calendar

Lecture	Date	Time	Room
1	Tue 15/09/2026	18:15 - 19:45	32 (Sarfatti)
2	Fri 18/09/2026	14:45 - 16:15	32 (Sarfatti)
3	Fri 18/09/2026	16:30 - 18:00	32 (Sarfatti)
4	Tue 22/09/2026	18:15 - 19:45	32 (Sarfatti)
5	Tue 29/09/2026	18:15 - 19:45	32 (Sarfatti)
6	Fri 02/10/2026	14:45 - 16:15	32 (Sarfatti)
7	Fri 02/10/2026	16:30 - 18:00	32 (Sarfatti)
8	Tue 06/10/2026	18:15 - 19:45	302 (Sarfatti)
9	Fri 09/10/2026	14:45 - 16:15	31 (Sarfatti)
10	Fri 09/10/2026	16:30 - 18:00	31 (Sarfatti)
11	Tue 13/10/2026	18:15 - 19:45	302 (Sarfatti)
12	Thu 15/10/2026	18:15 - 19:45	302 (Sarfatti)

Syllabus of the course

Lessons	Content
Lessons 1 - 2	Introduction: Chinese characters and phonetic transcription (pinyin and tones) Greetings (How do you do?)
Lessons 3 - 5	Practice of pronunciation, notes on pinyin spelling Using computer keyboard to write Chinese characters Greetings (How is your health? Are you busy with work?) Grammar: questions with “吗”

Lessons	Content
Lessons 6 - 8	Order of strokes in Chinese character writing; Making an acquaintance (self-introduction) Grammar: questions with interrogative pronouns
Lessons 9 -10	Introduction of Chinese culture Making an acquaintance (What is your name?) Grammar: the sentence with an adjectival predicate
Lessons 11 -12	Introduction of Chinese culture Making an acquaintance (Let me introduce...) Grammar: the sentence with a verbal predicate

Bibliography

Set textbook:

- Yuhua K., Siping L., *Conversational Chinese 301*, 3rd edition, Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2006.

Available seats

Participation in this activity is limited to **110 students** and is reserved for students enrolled in **Master of Science programs**.

Registrations will be accepted until the maximum number of participants is reached or the registration deadline expires.