

Why study Chinese?

Spring 2016

CHI 101

Elementary Chinese I *5 credits* M-F (MWF 9:00-9:50am & Tues/Thur. 9:30am-10:20am)

* 1/5 of the world's population speaks Mandarin Chinese. More people than any other language speak Mandarin Chinese.

*One word: Business - Most people will agree that there is money to be made from doing business in China or by working with Chinese companies, exporting goods and services across the World. China has 189 billionaires, 1.17 billion mobile phone users, 591 million Internet users and a population of 1.35 billion... all of which are the highest statistics of their kind in the World!

*Renewable energy technologies – If going green is your thing, then China is the place to watch and the place to work. In 2012 China led the world by investing over \$65billion (US) in Renewable Energy and is now the largest producer of Solar panels and the largest producer of Wind Turbines.

*Chinese is not as difficult as people automatically

presume and Chinese grammar can be summarized as follows:

*No conjugations: each verb only has one form, and for that matter: no irregular verbs

*No tenses: use of particles to express if an action takes place in the past, present or future. Again, the verb form never changes in function of the tense

*No articles: no such thing as 'the' and 'a'

*No plurals: quantifiers before the noun, or simply the context, will make clear whether we are talking in singular or in plural

*No gender: no masculine, feminine or neuter words

*No cases: since articles don't exist, and nouns can't be changed anyway

*No declinations of adjectives by number or gender: just like nouns, adjectives never change

*Fixed sentence patterns, no inversion: fixed pattern of subject - verb - object