

Course report of Kin101 and Kin102

- Course code: Kin101 & Kin102
- course name: Chinese 101 & Chinese 102
- time: 10:15 to 12:00 each weekdays; and 12:15 to 14:00 Tuesdays
- Name of course instructor: Qianli Chen

Introduction

These two courses of Chinese were conducted quite well in the Spring 2013, with a substantial foundation laid down gradually from previous semesters, including a comprehensive set of materials built up gradually, and a proper course plan that suits the students progression.

The students' evaluation result in Spring 2012 has shown that the courses progressed a bit too fast, as Chinese is a bit hard for them and takes more time to learn. Therefore, the course plan was adjusted and the progression slowed down. Since then, following evaluations showed that students were very happy with the progression.

In addition, more measures were applied to help students' learning, both in the classes and after classes. Details see below "Teaching Methods".

The outcome is satisfying, which is confirmed by exam results, details see below "Student statistics".
- Students can carry out the conversations learnt fluently, with correct tones, which are normally regarded as very hard. They can also recognise characters learnt without much difficulty.

The course instructor's evaluation of:

Teaching methods:

1. Well-designed PPT course wares were made with suitable pictures and texts to help students' understanding and memorizing, as well as help increasing the efficiency of teaching and learning in the class room.
2. Sufficient trainings were carried out to ensure students to master the language skills.
3. Difficult tasks were broken down into smaller and easier ones, to help students achieve the goals step by step.
4. Tasks were designed in various ways to keep students interested.
5. More multimedia materials were provided to students for revision and self-studying, e.g. animated material showing how to write characters; video materials showing both texts and pronunciations, even the scenarios where conversations happen; etc.
6. Students were encouraged to join a study group, communicating with each others and studying together; to join the local Chinese community, in order to use what they learnt from the classes in the reality.

The curriculum:

Goals set up in the curriculum were met. Students were able to talk quite well on the topics learnt, to recognize and type almost all characters learnt, and to write short texts.

Student statistics

K101

The number of students signed up for the exam: 21

The number of students failed or no show: 2

Grade: 14A; 2B; 3C; 2F.

K102

The number of students signed up for the exam: 11.

The number of students failed or no show: 1

Grade: 6A; 3B; 1D; 1F.

Conditions

The condition of classrooms is good.

But it would be even better if there's a remote controller to control the PPT, so that the teacher can get closer to students and also control the PPT.

Student evaluations

Method:

The teacher leaves the evaluation forms at a desk at the waiting area of the oral exam, tells students that they are expected to fill them; and collects the filled forms from the desk after the exam. Thus, the forms are filled with plenty of time and confidentially.

Students evaluations and feedback :

75% students chose "Very content" to the course in general for K101, and 80% students chose "Very content" for K102.

In 2012 Spring, many students thought that "the workload was too much"; so the teaching plan was adjusted accordingly. In 2012 Fall all students thought "the workload was suitable". Now in 2013 Spring most students thought it was "suitable" and 1 or 2 students thought it "not enough". – I think this is a good sign showing the students studied the course better.

Course instructor's comments

According to the latest feedback, more supplementary materials will be provided to students in the future, in order to fulfil the needs of those who want to and are able to learn more.

The course instructor's total evaluation and possible suggestions for improvements or changes.

The course in 2013 Spring was conducted very well based on good materials and experience accumulated from previous semesters. Thus it received very good feedback from students, and their exam results were excellent!

Since students are able to learn the contents from the textbooks so well, then in the future more relevant contents outside the textbooks could be provided to them for them to learn more.