



Department of Engineering

Centre for Languages and Inter-Communication (CLIC)

Chinese for Beginners

Prerequisites: No or very little knowledge of the language

Target level*: CEFR A1/HSK1

Approach: We follow a task-based, skills-orientated and communicative approach, fostering communicative competence in the target language with an Engineering-flavoured choice of topics to equip students with a basic command of Chinese.

Course main objectives:

- To provide an introduction to Chinese Language in the main language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing);
- To cover the basic grammatical structures and lexis;
- To encourage a positive and confident attitude towards language learning;
- To promote cultural awareness.

Teacher: Shaomian Deng(sd456@cam.ac.uk)

Course content: ["See course syllabus below"]

* For CEFR descriptors, see

<http://to.eng.cam.ac.uk/teaching/language/Courses%20Foreign%20Languages/CEFR%20grid.pdf>

Syllabus – Chinese

Discover China (Student's Book 1)

Discover China (workbook 1)

Discover China Level 1:

- [Audio Files for Student's Book Level 1](#)
- [Audio Files for Workbook Level 1](#)

More exercises for this course can be found here: [For Teachers](#)

Contents			
Title	Unit Topic	Listening and Reading	Speaking and Writing
Getting started Experiencing Chinese page 10	A brief introduction to the Chinese language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying the four tones Identifying sentences in Chinese Introduction to Chinese characters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to radicals and using the dictionary The basic strokes The seven rules of stroke order
Unit 1 你好! Hello! page 17	Greetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying people's names and greetings Identifying surnames and given names Learning about Chinese names and meanings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exchanging greetings Introducing yourself Asking people's names Writing Chinese names
Unit 2 你是哪里人? Where are you from? page 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Countries Nationalities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying someone's nationality People and their nationalities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asking for and giving information about nationalities Describing people, where they live and where they are from
Unit 3 你做什么工作? What do you do? page 37	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupations Family members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying someone's occupation Identifying information about family members A letter about one's family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asking and answering questions about occupations Asking and answering questions about family members Describing one's family members and their occupations
Unit 4 他真高! He's so tall! page 47	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People's appearances Favourites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding information about people's appearance Online profile describing favourite people and animal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describing people's appearances Writing a personal profile
Review 1 page 57			
Unit 5 这是我的电话号码。 Here's my phone number. page 61	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addresses Contact numbers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying contact numbers Identifying postal and email addresses Text messages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asking for and giving information about contact numbers and addresses Writing addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses Responding to a text message
Unit 6 今天几号? What's the date today? page 71	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birthdays Invitations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying days of the week Identifying months and dates Daily activities on a weekly planner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asking for and saying dates and days Making invitations Creating personal calendars