New Concept of Chinese Language Class

Chinese is spoken by approximately one billion people today, in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Macau, Malaysia and various Chinese communities around the world. More than one quarter of the world's population speaks Chinese. English, the next most widely spoken language, has half as many speakers.

China has the fastest growing economy in the world. It is poised to become a major economic power in the next few decades. Three of Asia's four dragons (economically strong regions in Asia), Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore, are also Chinese speaking. The roles that these economies play in the world cannot be overlooked.

More and more American companies are venturing into China. The business interaction between the United States and China has been increased greatly in the last a few years, and it will likely be pushed enormously further in the next ten or twenty years. This translates into thousands of potential opportunities for Americans knowing the Chinese language and the culture would put them in a leading advantage.

It is important to learn Chinese language and culture in order to understand Chinese arts and festivals, customs and traditions, and ways of thinking.

The class is designed to help American or American born Chinese to learn the Chinese language and to provide certain exposure to the Chinese culture for non-native speakers. The emphasis is on communicative rather than written competence. Mandarin will be taught as the spoken form, with the *pinyin* system of romanization used to guide in the pronunciation.

The class is for adults only.

For questions or any inquiries, please contact Dr. Jia Wang, Principal of the Tampa Bay Chinese School by e-mail at jiawang2000@yahoo.com, or phone at (813)786-8210.

Location of class: Russell M. Cooper Hall, USF Tampa campus, see USF Tampa campus map at http://usfweb2.usf.edu/campus_map

Class time: 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM each Sunday afternoon,

Cost of class: \$450.00 per person for a total of 30 hours, textbook not included.

Class Schedule:

```
8/19/2007, 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM, first class, registration day (starting at 12:00 PM)
8/26/2007, 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM
9/2/2007, No school, observation of Labor Day on 9/3
9/9/2007, 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM
9/16/2007, 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM
```

```
9/23/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}
9/30/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}
10/7/2007,
                  4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
10/14/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}
10/21/2007,
                  4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
10/28/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}
11/4/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}
11/11/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}
11/18/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}
11/25/2007,
                  No school, observation of Thanksgiving Day on 11/22
12/2/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}
12/9/2007,
                  4:30 \text{ PM} - 6:30 \text{ PM}, last class
```