

Conversation Coaches Needed for Online Mandarin Chinese I

The North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) is offering a series of online Chinese language courses supported by a grant received by the NC Department of Public Instruction.

Chinese language speakers are needed to serve as conversation coaches for high school students enrolled in the Online Mandarin Chinese Level I course for Fall 2008.

Conversation coaches provide two, 45-minute practice sessions with a group of 3-4 students weekly for the semester (18 weeks).

Coaches are expected:

- To spend approximately 1.5 hours per week, during (8 a.m.-3 p.m. Eastern) and outside of school hours, conducting online conversations with 3-4 students for a period of one semester or 18 weeks. Skype technology will be used for the conversation sessions.
- To listen and provide feedback to students so that they are actively using Chinese and become comfortable with spoken communication in order to work and converse with other Chinese speakers (fellow students, instructors, native speakers, etc.).
- To answer questions related to assignments and help students review.
- To provide information weekly to the instructor about the students' progress.
- To implement the weekly meetings based on the instructor's plan and directions. (Coaches are not responsible for the design of weekly meetings.)

Coaches should be fluent in Mandarin Chinese. Some background in teaching or tutoring is desirable.

The course will begin August 25, 2008 and will end January 15, 2009. Conversation coaches will be paid \$1,000 for the semester's work and will be expected to attend an online training session before classes begin.

If you are interested in serving as a conversation coach, please contact:

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