

Mandarin Chinese Level I Online Instructor

Application Deadline: **June 16, 2008**

Video Introduction to Course Project: www.marinegrafics.com/chinese/promo.htm

The North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) is currently seeking instructors for Level 1 of Mandarin Chinese Online. This course is the first in a series of courses that allows students to take levels 1-4 and Advanced Placement (AP). This course places great emphasis on the spoken language while cultivating reading and writing skills, and incorporates the following:

- Student self-reporting of proficiency and understanding through the use of LinguaFolio (<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/linguafolio/>)
- Lessons beginning with a video vignette to introduce new language structures. The videos tell the story of two young people who meet and get to know one another.
- Listening/speaking comprehension exercises to provide practice
- Weekly conversation coaches working one-on-one and in groups to assist with student pronunciation
- Skype (www.skype.com) to provide real-time conversation with conversation coaches and instructor
- Culture embedded throughout the course to reinforce language learning
- Sense of community cultivated through group activities where students share via discussion boards, internal Messages system, and Skype. Student must feel a part of the course with activities that not only engage them, but also connect them to others including the instructor.
- Blackboard (www.blackboard.com)
- The option of students learning traditional or simplified Chinese
- Course content reinforced by the text, but not dependent on a textbook; therefore, all content of the course must be developed and reside within the course.
- Students receiving individualized feedback on a **weekly** basis from the instructor.
- In addition to practicing speaking and listening with conversation coaches, the instructor speaks with students on a weekly basis to determine student oral proficiency and listening comprehension skills development.

The following information details our expectations/requirements for the instructor position. In addition, we are seeking conversation coaches to provide 2, 45-minute practice sessions with a group of 3-4 students weekly for the semester (18 weeks).

Instructor Expectations and Requirements

- Must be proficient in Mandarin Chinese
- Must be certified as a Chinese teacher with American high school teaching experience
- Must be flexible in providing instruction using both traditional and simplified characters
- Must have basic knowledge of Microsoft Word and use of Chinese characters in the electronic environment
- Must have daily, reliable Internet access
- Background in language education and second language acquisition
- Willingness to complete 2 online instructor preparation courses this summer and fall to develop and improve teaching skills online
- Willingness to become familiar with LinguaFolio, a formative assessment tool, and incorporate its use in the course

- Willingness to learn Blackboard, the course management system in which the course will be developed (LEARN NC can provide online instruction in the use of this tool)
- Must coordinate with conversation coaches (1 per 4-5 students) on a weekly basis what students should practice
- Must keep good records of students' progress and grades throughout the course
- Must communicate with NCVPS about registration and technical issues
- Must work with NCVPS to communicate with the Distance Learning Coordinators at representative high schools where students are enrolled
- Must love teaching Chinese to a range of students!
- Instructor Salary ~ \$225 per student

Application Process

The following materials must be submitted electronically no later than June 16, 2008, to Ellen Woods, Curriculum and Instruction Division Director, NC Virtual Public School, at ellen.woods@ncmail.net

1. Current resume or CV that includes:
 - a. Description of current and past teaching experience in Chinese
 - b. Statement of current certification as a Chinese teacher and in what states
 - c. Description of your use of technology and any experience in online teaching and learning
 - d. Statement to indicate you are available to begin preparing this summer
2. Contact information-telephone and email

Questions can be addressed through email or by calling 919-218-7801.