**Shanghai Normal University**

**School of Finance and Business**

**Chinese Business Program**

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**Course title**: Chinese Culture

**Credit hours**: 3 credits, 36 hours

**Semester**: Fall 2013

**Contact Information of Teachers** (教师联系信息)

**Instructor 1:**Peng Jianhui (Nina Peng)

**Office phone**: 021-64324759

**Email**: ninapjh@shnu.edu.cn

**Instructor 2:**Chen Shizhang (Poem Chen)

**Office phone**:64324861

**Email**: poemcsz@shnu.edu.cn

**Instructor 3:**Wang Xiaohua (Sandra Wang)

**Office phone**: 021-64324759

**Email**: xiaohuaw@shnu.edu.cn

**Course description**: （课程简介）

This course is intended to give students a brief introduction to different facets of Chinese culture, to acquaint them with the enduring value of Chinese cultural achievements and to enhance interaction and mutual understanding between people from different cultural background.

The course is made up of three parts. The first section covers several topics closely related to the everyday life of Chinese people, ranging from Chinese Zodiac, Chinese cuisine, Chinese festival celebrations to Chinese literature and education. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the real life of ordinary Chinese people through discussions, movie clips, reading, communication with the local people and participation in the colorful cultural activities around.

The second section isbased on the three major religions in China---Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism. They played an important role in Chinese history and have hugeimpacts on Chinese people's culture, clothes, food, festival and leisure life.The course will go through the basic belief of these three religions as well as some other religions such as Christianity and Islam.

The third section mainly focuses on the arts of China. It offers students the opportunity to explore in depth the Chinese arts from Ancient times to the present. It discusses major issuesincluding Chinese bronzeware in Shang and Zhou Dynasty, Chinese porcelain and jadeware, Chinese calligraphy and paintings, Chinese traditional music and opera and Chinese architechture. Through readings, research, slides, videos and cultural visits, students will have a good understanding of Chinese arts and learn to appreciate Chinese artworks.

**Assignments Request**（作业要求）:

Students are expected to finish reading or writing assignments in time and to get well-prepared for discussions and other classroom activities. Careful observation and frequent communication will also be highly appreciated for such a culture-related course.

**Grade Components:**

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| Attendence | 20% |
| Assignments | 20% |
| Final Exams | 60% |
| Total  | 100% |

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| **Weeks** | **Topics**  | **Content** | **Assignments or Requried readings** |
| Week 1 | Chinese Zodiac  | Auspicious animalsChinese Zodiac | Reading |
| Week 2 | Chinese Festivals | Chinese Spring Festival, Lantern Festival, Dragon-boat Festival, Mid-autumn Festival... | Reading |
| Week 3 | Chinese Cuisine | 8 Famous Chinese CuisinesHospitality & Etiquette at Dinner Table  | Practice |
| Week 4 | Chinese Education | Chinese Education System -Past and PresentEg.Imperial Examination & College Entrance Exam | Reading |
| Week 5 | Exam 1 | Oral Presentation or Research Paper |  |
| Week 6 | Chinese Ancient Worship | Common Question QuizNatural worshipAncestor Worship | Discussion |
| Week 7 | Buddhism  | Backgroud of the Foundation of BuddhismBasic ideas of Buddhism Belief | Reading |
| Week 8 | Buddhism and Confucianism  | Buddhism culture and the basic ideas of Confucianism  | Reading |
| Week 9 | Taoism | The religious aspect of Taoism and the meaning of Tao | Reading |
| Week 10 | Exam 2 | A 15-minuteoral presentation& a written report |  |
| Week 11 | Chinese Bronzeware,Porcelain and Jadeware | Introduction of Chinese arts Chinese bronzeware,porcelain,and jadeware | Reading  |
| Week 12 | Chinese Calligraphy and Paintings | Four treasures of the studyChinese calligraphy and paintingsCalligraphers,painters and masterpieces | Practice |
| Week 13 | Chinese Traditional Music and Opera | Chinese traditional music and operaTraditional music instruments Musicians and masterpieces | Practice |
| Week 14 | Chinese Architechture | Chinese architechtural stylesPalaces, gardenings and traditional residenceChinese Fengshui | Reading  |
| Week 15 | Exam 3 | Research Paper |  |

The schedule is tentative and it is subject to minor changes