

Thank you for visiting my site!

Briefly, by way of credentials, I was born and raised in Beijing, the capital of China, and graduated from Beijing Medical University, which is now affiliated with Beijing University. Although I did not practice medicine much before I immigrated to the US with my family, this training, however, has made me a passionate advocate for promoting Chinese Herbal Medicine as an alternative and/or supplementary method to healing. One of my favorite topics in Chinese Culture is “Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture”.

In my twenty years in the US, I have played several roles before teaching at Asbury. I earned a doctorate in Endocrinology from the University of Maryland at Baltimore and continued with post-doctoral training and teaching (Neuroscience) at the University of Kentucky. I left the academy to become a full time, stay-home mom in 1999. After the birth of my second child, Portia, I was no longer able to balance between family, career and church service; at that time university teaching was the only thing on the list could be sacrificed. I finally regained some free time for myself after my children went to school on a full-time schedule. Thus, I started teaching Chinese in World Languages Department, Asbury College, Wilmore, KY in 2007.

As a Chinese, I am proud of my heritage. How many countries on earth have such a rich history—more than five thousand years of culture and one of the most ancient languages, still in use today? It is very difficult to cover a few millennia in a few hours, so I often let students give input on the interesting topics (see attached course sample). To help Americans discover more about China, I started this *Chinese Culture and Language Services*. Cultural newsletters let me freely express my thoughts and share my experiences. Please send me your feedback, concerns and suggestions. Confucius said “三人行必有我师”, which literally means “when two people walk together with me, one of them may be my teacher”. Your input is valuable to me.

If I had been asked to teach Chinese culture twenty years ago, I might not have known how. I never fully appreciated my native culture until I adapted to American culture enough to distinguish the cultural differences. I like to share my personal “culture shocks” with the class because the American way of life has

acted like a mirror to reflect my Chinese culture. The Chinese mind is different from that of the American. Learning Chinese culture will help one to read and understand the Chinese mind, which is especially important for those who plan to work with Chinese in business, or perhaps engage themselves on the mission field in the future.

I know that Chinese language may seem intimidating for some of students. I remember my own struggles with learning English. After all, English and Chinese are two completely different languages. A word of encouragement for those taking Chinese language class, let me cite a Chinese proverb “熟能生巧”; its English equivalent is “practice makes perfect.” May God help you to be diligent in practicing what you have learned.

For born again Christians, our Savior has filled the giant gap between us and eternity. As His humble vessel, I like to help you fill the gap between Chinese and American cultures, and between the languages, too.

Blessings,

Aihua Yin

## Calendar of Chinese Culture (CHN151) Fall 2008

Sun.	Mon.	Wed.	Fri	
24	25 Introduction	27 Land of China	29 Chinese People	Aug
31	1 Labor Day Break	3 Chinese Language	5 Chinese Writing	Sep
7	8 Chinese Calligraphy	10 Chinese New Year	12 Holiday/Festivals	
14	15 Confucius & Confucianism	17 The Analects & Qufu Hometown of Confucius	19 1st 4-Week Test	
21	22 Chinese Traditional Art	24 Chinese Modern Art	26 Daoism	
28	29 Dao/Myth	1 Daoist Sacred Mountains Taiji, Martial Art	3 Chinese Medicine	Oct
5	6 Acupuncture	8 Buddhism/Wheel of Life	10 Buddhism/Feng Shui	
12	13 Silk Road, Ancient Trade	15 Chinese Music	17 2nd 4-Week Test	
19	20 Christianity	22 Missions	24 Fall Break	
26	27 Church in China	29 Great Wall of China	31 Grand Canal of China	
2	3 Great Emperors	5 Famous Leaders	7 Mao Zedong	Nov
9	10 Three Kingdoms	12 Journey to the West	14 3rd 4-Week Test	
16	17 Chinese Food	19 More Cuisines	21 Tea	
23	24 Ancient Capitals	26 Thanksgiving Break	28 Thanksgiving Break	
30	1 Modern China	3 Modern Travel	5 Modern Cities	Dec
7	8 Famous Tours	10 Famous Tours	12 4th 4-Week Test	