

Chinese calligraphy for beginners

Course description: Calligraphy (书法) is the traditional art of writing Chinese characters, and a fundamental part of Chinese culture. After centuries of evolution, calligraphy has developed into a truly unique art form.

This course will focus on learning how to control Chinese brushes with ink when writing calligraphy, mastering strokes that underpin Chinese writing, understanding the structure of Chinese characters. You will be introduced to Regular Script and practice writing calligraphy in this style.

You will learn to write about 30 characters. By the end of the course you will be able to create four calligraphy works.

This course is for learners who never learned calligraphy.

Week 1

Introduction

1. To learn the history of Chinese calligraphy and characters.
2. To learn tools and gesture of writing Calligraphy.
3. To learn basic techniques of Calligraphy
4. To learn horizontal and vertical stroke.
5. To learn to write characters 一, 二, 三, 十 (means number 1, 2, 3, 10).

Week 2

Strokes

1. To learn “Eight Major Strokes” in Calligraphy.

Dot (2 types), Cross (2 types), Hook (2 types), Right-rising stroke, Left-falling stroke (2 types), Right-falling stroke (2 types)

2. To learn to write the character 永 (means forever).
3. To learn about the seal script.

Week 3

Structure

1. To learn to write characters 一, 二, 三, 四, 五, 六, 七, 八, 九, 十 (means number 1 to 10).
2. To learn four structures of Chinese characters.
3. To learn to write characters 中, 英, 国 (means China, UK, country).
4. To learn about the clerical script.

Week 4

Complete work

1. To learn about the traditional and simplified form of Chinese characters.

2. To learn about the philosophy of “義” and “仁”.
3. To learn to write these two characters and a complete work “仁義”.
4. To learn about the regular script.

Week 5

Complete work

1. To learn to write your name in traditional form of Chinese characters.
2. To learn to write the character “書” (means book; to write).
3. To write a complete work with your name.
4. To learn about the running script.

Week 6

Complete work

1. To learn about the philosophy of “上善若水”.
2. To learn to write these two characters.
3. To write a complete work “上善若水”.
4. To learn about the cursive script.

Week 7

Complete work

1. To learn about the philosophy of “诚” and “信”.
2. To learn two radicals “亻” and “讠”.
3. To write these two character.
4. To write a complete work “诚信”.

Week 8

Complete work

1. To learn about the philosophy of “海纳百川”.
2. To learn two radicals “氵” and “彳”.
3. To write these four characters.
4. To write a complete work “海纳百川”.