MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE CHINESE SCHOOL 2015
ARRIVAL & SESSION INFORMATION

LANGUAGE PLEDGE

In signing this Language Pledge, I agree to use Chinese as my only language of communication while attending the Middlebury Language Schools. I understand that failure to comply with this Pledge may result in my expulsion from the School without credit or refund.

By committing to live by the Language Pledge, you will be using the Chinese language as your only mode of communication for the duration of the session. While attending the Language Schools, you will be living in a community of dedicated language students who selected this program with the expectation that full immersion is the optimal environment for their language acquisition. Commitment to the Pledge will enhance your learning and that of your peers. Please respect their commitment, and your own, throughout the session from the moment you sign your name to the Language Pledge. While the Language Pledge is more lenient for Level I students during the first few weeks, they should be courteous to those in the higher levels. Please keep your non-target language communications with family and friends to a minimum and beyond the listening range of other language students.

ARRIVAL DAY

All 8-week students must arrive to the Axinn Arrival Center on the Middlebury College campus on Friday, June 19, 2015 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. You will meet with various campus departments, and receive your room assignment and student I.D card. Students arriving after 8:00 p.m. must check in at the Department of Public Safety.

PLACEMENT EXAMS

Students tentatively placed in Levels 2 - 4 are required to take three placement exams:
1. Computer-Adaptive Online Reading Exam – Must be completed by June 14
2. Written Placement Exam - Saturday, June 20, 8:00-10:00 a.m. Location TBA.
   This exam is offered in either simplified or traditional characters.
3. Oral Proficiency Interview (15 minutes) - Saturday, June 20. Time and Location TBA.

PLACEMENT LEVEL

Acceptance into the Chinese School does not assume or guarantee placement into a particular level of instruction. Our main goal is to help all students increase their ability to use Chinese as much as possible within an eight-week period. As students come from many different backgrounds and various instructional programs, students may find themselves placed at a level below or above what they may have expected. In enrolling in the Chinese School, you indicate your willingness to accept guidance from the School as to your placement in the course (level) most appropriate to your needs and current proficiency.

COURSE REGISTRATION AND BOOKS

Students in the 8-week session will be registered automatically for classes according to their placement. Graduate students will register for classes upon campus arrival. Classes are taught using both simplified and traditional characters, although, as a majority of our teachers are from China, simplified characters are used more predominantly. Please do not purchase required textbooks until you receive the results of your level placement. The College Store will be open Sunday, June 21st, from 10:00-4:00 p.m. Course descriptions and textbook titles are available online:
http://www.middlebury.edu/ls/chinese/curriculum

WITHDRAWAL

Students who decide to leave before the end of the fifth day of classes for any reason will, in addition to forfeiting the nonrefundable deposit, be assessed a withdrawal fee. There are no tuition refunds if a student withdraws after the end of the fifth day of classes. A student who is forced to withdraw after the fifth day of classes for a documented health or family emergency should contact the Chinese School Coordinator.

CHINESE SCHOOL OFFICES

The offices for the staff of the Chinese School will be located on the first floor of Forest Hall, and open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with a break for lunch, from Monday through Friday. Please do not hesitate to visit the office during these times. Faculty will post their office hours and locations at the start of the session.
ORIENTATION and CONVOCATION
- An anti-harassment training session for all students will be held in Mead Chapel on Sunday, June 21 at 4:30 p.m. Attendance is required.
- Convocation for all Language Schools will be held in Mead Chapel on Sunday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m. Formal attire recommended. Attendance is required.
- Orientation for the Chinese School will be held all day on Monday, June 22 starting at 8:30 a.m. in Dana Auditorium of the Sunderland Language Center. Attendance is required.

ARRIVAL TRANSPORTATION – BY AIR
Albany International Airport (ALB) and Burlington International Airport (BTV) are the closest airports to Middlebury, as well as the smaller Rutland Airport (RUT). Several transportation options between the Burlington airport and campus are available, including a Middlebury College airport shuttle on June 19 only. View transportation options online: http://www.middlebury.edu/system/files/xportation_hotels_2015.pdf
You can reserve a seat on the Middlebury airport June 19 shuttle online: https://sa1.seatadvisor.com/sabo/servlets/TicketRequest?eventId=843826&presenter=MIDDLEBURY&venue=&event=&version=

ARRIVAL TRANSPORTATION – BY CAR
Driving directions, campus parking, and a campus map are available online. If you are using a GPS to navigate your way to campus, use 15 Old Chapel Rd., 05753.

PHOTO ID CARDS
All Language students are required to have a photo ID card. If you attended the Language Schools last year, please bring the ID card that you were issued then, and it will be re-activated on Arrival Day. All other students must submit a photo prior to arrival so that ID cards are processed prior to your arrival on campus. Please follow the directions available on the Accepted Students website.

HOUSING
Students in the Chinese School will be assigned to Forest Hall, Painter Hall, and Voter Hall. All rooms are singles, with shared gender-specific washrooms. Laundry facilities are available Forest and Painter for use with a pre-purchased card. More information is available here: http://www.middlebury.edu/offices/business/bsnsvcs/laundry

PACKING LIST
Students must provide their own bed and bath linens. Weather in Vermont varies from hot temperatures, high humidity, and rain showers so pack accordingly. Language School students will have full access to the campus athletic facilities during free times. For the Chinese School talent show, please consider bringing a musical instrument, dance shoes (tap, ballet, etc.), and your special skills to share during this wonderful event. A suggested list of what to bring is available online at: http://www.middlebury.edu/system/files/what_to_bring.pdf

SCHEDULE
Classes for the eight-week session are scheduled for Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m. Co-curricular activities and workshops, such as calligraphy, cooking, taichi, go until 5:00 p.m. Films, hikes, performances, and social gatherings are scheduled for the weekends. Students are free to explore downtown Middlebury, and expected to live on campus for the duration of the session. Permission to leave campus for an extended time is granted by the Director in very extreme cases. Chinese School faculty and students will dine together in the Ross Dining Hall at the following times: Breakfast: 6:30 – 9:00 a.m; Lunch: 12:50 – 1:40 p.m; Dinner: 6:50 – 7:40 p.m. The Chinese School’s talent show China Night is scheduled for Saturday night, August 1.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS
This year the Middlebury Language Schools will celebrate its 100th anniversary with various events in July. The Chinese School will sponsor two events: pianist Wen-yee Ho on July 10, and banjoist/singer Abigail Washburn on July 19. Chinese School students will be expected to assist with and attend these events. A full list of Centennial events is available online.

PUBLIC SAFETY
The Public Safety office is open 24 hours a day and can be reached at 802-443-5911 for medical emergencies as well as lock-outs. The Public Safety office is located at 125 South Main Street (VT Route 30).