STARTALK was launched in January of 2006 as a component of the National Security Language Initiative. The initiative seeks to expand and improve the teaching and learning of strategically important world languages that are not widely taught in the United States.

Our Plan
Day 1: Opening ceremony and portfolio design
Day 2: Teaching Chinese in USA vs. teaching Chinese in China
Day 3: International curriculum for Chinese language education
Day 4: Evaluations of Chinese language testing and teaching
Day 5: Classroom management
Day 6: How to prepare teaching plans
Day 7: What makes a good textbook?
Day 8: Strategies for quality Chinese language instruction and classroom teaching
Day 9: Field trip
Day 10: Chinese cultural activities—traditional Chinese knot, paper-cut, and paper-folding
Day 11: Case studies on teaching Chinese learners in USA
Day 12: How to teach Chinese characters
Day 13: Think, Speak, Write, Hear, Read, Dream L2; Four skills or six?
Day 14: Teaching Chinese is not learning English
Day 15: Graduation ceremony
Partipants:

• Will engage in a professional development program covering Second Language Acquisition (SLA) theory, language and culture instructional methods and assessments, curriculum design, language assessment, Chinese language structure and selection of learning resources. Integral to this process will be the development of a professional learning community that will support the participants as they return to their schools and take on the responsibility and challenges of Chinese language teaching.

• Either beginning or experienced Chinese language teachers will benefit from the program in their teaching of the Chinese language regarding classroom management and selection and evaluation of teaching resources.

Courses

• Courses offered in the program are free for all participants, and the participants will receive a certificate upon completion of the program. Inquire about continuing education credits.

What can I expect?

• The program’s goal is to develop a cadre of teachers of Mandarin with the dispositions, knowledge and skills needed to create and support a new generation of highly effective world language educators.
• The program will enroll 25 participants including instructional supervisors, methods instructors and potential master teachers.
• This training program is designed to solve the problem of the shortage of qualified and professionally trained Chinese language teachers in Alabama and surrounding areas.

How can I participate?

• Participants must hold an undergraduate degree and be teaching in, or seeking to teach in, a K-12 Mandarin Chinese program.

July 8-July 22, 2012

Please contact the StarTalk Program: startalk@troy.edu or call 334.808.6348