

Orange Unified School District
AP Chinese Language and Culture
Year Course

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisites: C or better in Chinese III or Teacher Recommendation

Introduction to the subject:

AP Chinese Language and Culture will bring the students an opportunity to further develop their four language proficiency skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing in the intermediate to Advanced-level range across the three communicative modes (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) and the five Cs (communication, culture, connections, comparisons and communities) as defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The course provides the students an opportunity to totally immerse in the richness of Chinese Language and Culture by introducing varied aspects of both contemporary and historical Chinese culture. The class is conducted almost exclusively in Mandarin Chinese; the students are required to speak in Chinese as much as possible.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course the student will:

- have grasped all the basic structures of Chinese grammar and have the ability to expand their knowledge through reading and listening activities
- have expanded and have the ability to increase their Chinese vocabulary through reading and listening activities
- have improved their reading comprehension ability by reading from articles and authentic reading materials, such as advertisements, signs, newspaper, internet material, movie subtitle, etc.
- have further developed their Chinese handwriting skills through daily assignments and class work.
- have improved writing skills by demonstrating an ability to write on selected topics of general interest and in response to reading selections
- have improved listening comprehension skills through daily instruction and discussion in Chinese through the use of audios, videos, websites, etc.
- have improved speaking ability through daily discussions and other speaking activities, such as debates, skits, interpersonal Q-A activities, etc.
- have improved problem-solving skills and social skills through pairs and group activities
- have expanded their knowledge and understanding of Chinese culture through reading, discussion, activities, music, art, computer programs, movies, etc

Recommended text(s):

1. Integrated Chinese, Level 2 Part 1 & Part 2 Textbook, 3rd Edition (Simplified & Traditional) Hardcover by CHENG & TSUI COMPANY (Boston)
2. Integrated Chinese, Level 2 Part 1 & Part 2 Workbook, 3rd Edition (Simplified & Traditional)
3. Integrated Chinese Internet Website <http://eastasia.hawaii.edu/yao/icusers/default.htm>
4. Level 2 Part 1 & Level 2 Part 2 audio CDs

Supplemental Text/Materials:

1. Teacher Resource Books and Reference

- <<Chinese Companion: expressive literacy through reading and composition>> (Compiled by Qin-Hong Anderson)
- <<Life in Beijing>> (by Qingsheng Ma, Chinese Bridge Publishing Ltd)
- <<Chinese Traditions and Festivals>> (by Regina Hsueh & Wen-Bin Wu, Chinese Bridge Publishing Ltd.)
- <<Chinese Traditions and Festivals>> (Jian Zhu, Chinese Bridge Publishing Ltd.)
- World Daily News (local Chinese newspaper)
- Supplementary authentic materials from magazines, flyers, advertisement

2. Internet

Major on-line resources:

- <http://eastasia.hawaii.edu/vao/icusers/icweb.htm>
- www.usc.edu/dept/ealc/chinese/newweb/reading_page.htm
- http://faculty.virginia.edu/cll/chinese_reading/
- www.zhongwen.com
- www.wellesley.edu/Chinese/Chinese Fables/title/title_page.html
- www.echineselearning.com

3. Films

- 走進中國百姓生活(Reality Chinese-A Multi-skill Chinese Course for Intermediate and Advanced Students, by Yehau Liu, Xianmin Liu & Jinyu Li, International Publishing in Beijing)
- Exploring Chinese Culture Volume 1 & 2 (Multimedia Press China Central Radio & TV University)
- Journey Through China I (Multimedia Press China Central Radio & TV University)
- Magical Chinese Culture (Better Chinese Ltd.)

Course overview and approximate unit time allotments:**First semester****Weeks**

Review

1

I. Boyfriends and Girlfriends

2

A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to

- Say if you have an upbeat personality;
- State if you share the same interests or hobbies with others;
- Inquire if everything is OK and find out what has happened;
- Describe typical behaviors of a forgetful person;
- Give a simple description of what you look for in a boyfriend/girlfriend.
- Tell what makes you anxious or angry.

B. Culture Highlights

- Dating and Marriage in China
- Chinese Valentine's Day
- Supplemental folk stories and news clips

II. Computer and Internet

3

A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to

- Find out if others are angry with you and apologize if so
- Reduce potential tension in a conversation by changing the subject;
- Let people know about the trouble you had to go through because of their thoughtlessness or carelessness;
- Name your activities on the internet and discuss how you make use of the internet;
- Discuss the pros and the cons of using the internet.

B. Culture Highlights

- Trendy new words in China
- Instant messaging in China

C. In your own culture/community:

- Do people have easy access to the internet?
- What consumer habits have changed because of the internet?
- What impact has the internet had on society as a whole?

III. Working Part-Time

2

A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to

- Review your monthly income and spending patterns
- Talk about how you balance your personal budget
- Name some possible reasons to work part-time while in school
- Discuss the pros and cons of working part-time while in school
- Describe what you dislike or what bothers you

B. Culture Highlights

- Educational expenses in China
- Part-time jobs for college students in China.

C. In your own culture/community:

- Are parents expected to provide their children with financial support for college?
- Do teenagers and college students often take on part-time jobs?
- Do people generally have savings in the bank?
- Is it easy to apply for student loans?

IV. Education

3

A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to

- Comment if you have a stress-free childhood
- Name some typical classes offered in after-school programs
- Indicate agreement or disagreement
- Present your opinions
- Talk about parents' aspirations for their children

B. Culture Highlights

- A Chinese model for friendship and mutual appreciation
- Dragon and phoenix as metaphors

C. In your own culture/community:

- Is it common for parents to enroll their children in after-school programs?
- Do many people pursue graduate degrees?
- Do children have a say in family decisions?
- Is it common for both parents to be equally involved in their children's upbringing?

V. Geography of China

3

A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to

- Locate major Chinese cities, provinces, and rivers on the map
- Give a brief introduction to the geographic features of China
- Compare some basic geographic aspects of China and the United States
- Describe features that may attract you to or deter you from visiting a tourist site
- Plan a trip to China

B. Culture Highlights

- The City of Harbin
- The Yellow River
- The Yangtse River
- Yunnan Province
- Nationalities in China
- Administrative divisions in China
- and phoenix as metaphors

C. In your own culture/community:

- Can you name the major rivers and mountain ranges in your country?
- Do you know where your country's major cities are located, along the coasts or mostly inland?
- Can you give an account of the population and geographic location of your town/city?
- Do people consider your local town/city to be popular with tourists?

VI. Chinese Festivals

3

A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to

- Name the major traditional Chinese holidays and explain when they occur
- Name the food that is most associated with each of the major traditional Chinese holidays
- Express New Year's wishes
- Describe the festivities during the Chinese New Year period
- Wish others success or good health

B. Culture Highlights

- The Spring Festival
- The Lantern Festival
- The Qingming Festival
- The Dragon Boat Festival
- The Mid-Autumn Festival

C. In your own culture/community:

- What are the major traditional holidays?
- How do people celebrate these holidays?
- What do people customarily eat during these holidays?
- Which holiday is associated with family reunions?

Second semester**Weeks**

VII. Changes in China

2

- A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to
- Describe the sights and sounds of a major city
 - Describe in basic terms some features of a historic tourist site
 - Give a simple account of the growth of a city from the past to the present
 - Express surprise at an unforeseen turn of events
- B. Culture Highlights
- High-Speed Rail in China
 - The City of Nanjing
 - Temples of Confucius
- C. In your own culture/community:
- What major changes have you seen in your city/town over the past few years?
 - Is there any local landmark that has been demolished or transformed?
 - Are there many tourists visiting your city/town?
 - What places have remained unchanged and retained their local charm?

VIII. Travel

2

- A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to
- Describe what costs may be covered in a package tour
 - Give a brief description of a Chinese sleeper car
 - Describe natural objects such as mountains, rivers, trees, and rocks
 - Discuss some things that tourists may expect to see or experience at a tourist site
- B. Culture Highlights
- The Stone Forest near Kunming
 - Famous Sights of Dli
 - The Old Town of Lijing
 - Ethnic Diversity in Yunnan
- C. In your own culture/community:
- Do tourists prefer to travel by airplane, car, bus, or train?
 - Do many people like to keep a journal when they travel and post it on their blogs?
 - Do people prefer to plan their own travel itinerary or join a tour group?
 - What kinds of hotel accommodations are there? How do they vary?

IX. Life and Wellness

2

- A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to
- Talk about your exercise routine
 - Outline some healthy eating habits
 - Describe habits that could make you age prematurely or harm your health
- B. Culture Highlights
- Housing in Beijing
 - Smoking in China
 - Morning Exercises in Chinese Cities
- C. In your own culture/community:
- Do many people exercise in the morning in parks?
 - Do people go the gym to exercise?
 - Are people conscientious about health and fitness?
 - Are many people concerned about their weight?

X. Gender Equality

2

- A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to
- Talk about how couples treat each other as equals
 - Discuss gender equality in the workplace
 - Summarize briefly the changes in Chinese women's social status in the twentieth century
 - Report the score and results of a sports game
- B. Culture Highlights
- China's Economic Reform
 - Traditional Preference for Boys
 - China's Women Athletes
 - Nuances of Various Gender Terms
 - Terms for Husband and Wife
- C. In your own culture/community:
- Do men and women both do chores at home?
 - Do people tease men who are overly deferential to their wives?
 - Do male and female athletes receive equal pay in professional sports?

XI. Environmental Protection and Energy Conservation

2

- A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to
- Describe a scene in which people are busily engaged in all kinds of activities
 - Talk about indicators of a clean environment
 - List some green energy sources
 - Give examples of practices that are environmentally friendly
- B. Culture Highlights
- Ban on Plastic Shopping Bags
 - Green Power
 - Regulating Air-Conditioning Temperature
- C. In your own culture/community:
- How has pollution affected your immediate environment?
 - In what ways do you see green power being put to use in your community?
 - How have people changed their behavior to consume less energy?

XII. Chinese History

2

- A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to
- Name some of the most important dynasties in Chinese history
 - Describe briefly the historical significance of some major Chinese dynasties
 - Talk in basic terms about some of China's important historical figures
- B. Culture Highlights
- Confucius
 - The Analects
 - The Silk Road
 - Sun Yat-sen
 - The Revolution of 1911 – China's Four Great Inventions
 - The Terracotta Army
 - Table of Chinese Dynasties
- C. In your own culture/community:
- Is there a history museum?
 - Are people familiar with the events that led to the founding of their country?
 - Do people know any great inventions their country has given to the world?

XIII. Review and AP Exam	1
XIV. Money Management and Investing	3
A. In this lesson, students will learn to use Chinese to	
• Describe if you're a saver or a spender	
• Identify ways to invest money	
• Talk about ways to purchase a big-ticket item	
• Describe your spending habits	
• Describe in basic terms the ups and downs of the stock market	
B. Culture Highlights	
• The concept of saving in Chinese community	
• The residential housing tax in China	
• The two stock exchanges in mainland China	
C. In your own culture/community:	
• Do many people save?	
• Do many people invest in the stock market or the housing market?	
• Do people get a mortgage or pay cash when purchasing a house?	
XV. Wrap Up	2
XVI. Semester Review and Exam	1

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