

Student Name (Print): _____

AP Chinese – Language and Culture

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Goals of the Course

You will be learning Mandarin through the perspectives of the Chinese speaking world. Since language is but a mode of communication reflecting the culture of the speaker, it is an absolute necessity to use language in a culturally appropriate manner. It is not nearly enough to understand basic cultural expectations but *why* it exists so you can hypothesize and avoid situations of unease even in contexts we have not studied in class.

Expectations

- (1) Be respectful to everyone and his or her properties.
- (2) Be On Task.
- (3) Follow Directions.
- (4) Use Mandarin 100% of the time.

Follow-Ups

Positive	Negative
1. High citizenship grade.	1. Low citizenship grade.
2. Class recognition.	2. Student-Teacher conference.
3. Positive communication with parents.	3. High-Level parent involvement.
4. Higher level recognition.	4. Referral.

Resources

Textbooks:

[Jia You! Chinese for the Global Community: Volumes 1 and 2](#)

Class Website:

http://flap.smusd.us/introductory_mandarin.html. There are resources such as homework, this syllabus, and links to class assignments. To access the links, click “Links” on the bottom of the page, which gives you access to:

Textbook Online Assignments:

Our online homework is located at <http://jiayou.cengageasia.com>, each student will be given a log-in and password.

Language Exchange:

<http://www.ealic.net/mandarinexchange>, this is where you post your work, including all audio-visuals and projects.

Curriculum

Note: Each unit corresponds to approximately two weeks of instruction.

Semester 1: Jia You! Chinese for the Global Community: Volume 1
Unit 1: Sports and Fitness
Lesson 1: Shaolin Kung Fu: The origin of Chinese Kung Fu and its role in health and fitness in the Chinese culture.
Lesson 2: What's Your Favorite Sport?: Popular sports amongst youths in China including ping pong, basketball, and so forth.
Unit 2: Food and Fashion
Lesson 3: The Beijing Teahouse: Chinese tea and teahouses and activities related to drinking tea at tea houses, such as serving snacks, minor theatrical performances, playing Chinese chess, and tea making. The supplemental section discusses Chinese cuisine on an actual Chinese restaurant menu.
Lesson 4: What should a Bridesmaid Wear?: Comparing modern and traditional Chinese weddings and its associated fashions. Traditional Chinese dress for both men and women. The supplemental section discusses modern Chinese fashion amongst youths.
Unit 3: School and Family:
Lesson 5: Chinese is Fun!: Discusses an actual foreign student's experience learning Mandarin Chinese and her visit to China. The supplemental section has an actual pen pal letter written by a student's pen pal who lives in Beijing.
Lesson 6: My Father, Lao She: Modern day familial relations in China, including families with cross-cultural family relations, ie: a child with an Chinese mother and an American father.
Unit 4: Festivals and Customs
Lesson 7: Celebrating Chinese New Year: Chinese New Year festivities, making dumplings, eating as a family, money for children inside red envelopes, etc. Also includes the last day of the new year celebration - the lantern festival. The supplemental text discusses the Chinese Lover's Day on July 7 of the lunar calendar.
Lesson 8: Moon Festival: Eating of mooncakes, family gatherings in the yard, fire dragon dance, special celebrations of Chinese minority groups. The supplemental text discusses the Dragon Boat Festival.
Unit 5: Travel and Transportation
Lesson 9: Planning a Trip to China: Major historical sites such as the Forbidden City in Beijing, points of interest, and modes of transportation and other details on trip planning in China.
Lesson 10: I Climbed the Great Wall: History of the Great Wall of China including times of construction throughout Chinese history. Visits from international leaders and celebrities. Special events held at the Great Wall.

<p>Semester 2:</p> <p>Jia You! Chinese for the Global Community: Volume 2</p>
<p>Unit 6: Man and Nature</p>
<p>Lesson 11: When a Tsunami Hits: Current events describing a natural disaster in southeast Asia in the form of a newspaper article.</p>
<p>Lesson 12: Where Will We Live Tomorrow?: Current social issues such as the over populated areas of Earth, global warming, and possible solutions to the issue. Supplemental text details the beautiful landscape of Tibet, and the preservation efforts of wildlife during the railway construction completed and open to the public in 2006.</p>
<p>Unit 7: People and Society</p>
<p>Lesson 13: The Hospitable Southwest: The customs and cultures of southwest China spanning several ethnic minority groups, such as dress, guest-greeting customs, and weddings.</p>
<p>Lesson 14: Moving into a Modern Apartment: Comparing the big city residences of China to the traditional four-sided yard residences, where multiple families were able to gather more frequently. Also discusses the challenges Chinese parents face when the younger generation studying abroad wed foreign spouses with different cultural perspectives.</p>
<p>Unit 8: Chinese Language and Characters</p>
<p>Lesson 15: Characters Relating to Animals: Evolution of Chinese character writing from oracle bones to the modern day system, using animal characters to describe the different types of characters such as phonetic symbols and pictographs.</p>
<p>Lesson 16: "Prosperity Has Arrived!": Homonyms in the Chinese language and their relationship to the Chinese culture. For example, the pronunciation of the number "8" is similar to the word for "getting rich", therefore, many Chinese prefer having the number 8 in their personal lives as much as possible, for example in their home or cellular phone numbers.</p>
<p>Unit 9: Famous People and History</p>
<p>Lesson 17: Who was Confucius?: The life of Confucius, some of his famous quotes, and his approach to education. The supplemental text introduces Sun Yat-sen, Father of the Nation of Republic of China, founded in 1911 after the revolution overthrowing the final imperial dynasty.</p>
<p>Lesson 18: China Highlights: Introduces cultural features of China including rivers, classical literature, cuisine, mountains, and the arts.</p>
<p>Unit 10: Literature and Arts</p>
<p>Lesson 19: "To Borrow Arrows with Thatched Boats": Introduces stories from the wildly famous novel "The Three Kingdoms" about the military strategist Zhu Ge Liang and how he outmaneuvers opponents with significantly greater military might. The supplemental text introduces a poem from Tang Dynasty poetry and gives a translation in vernacular Chinese.</p>
<p>Lesson 20: Chinese Papercutting: The popular art of papercutting and its role amongst women in the agricultural society of China. Details different ways of creating papercutting art and the customs associated with papercutting.</p>

Grades

Grades are determined by homework, quizzes, tests, projects, and the final exam. The weight of each category is roughly 20% each, though homework generally ends up being around 10% with quizzes, tests, and the final exam carrying more weight. Grades are broken down as follows:

A+ 101%	A 94-100%	A- 90-93.9%
B+ 87-89.9%	B 83-87.9%	B- 80-83.9%
C+ 77-79.9%	C 73-76.9%	C- 70-73.9%
D+ 67-69.9%	D 63-66.9%	D- 60-62.9%
F Under 60%		

SMHS World Languages Department Academic Honesty Policy:

First incident of academic dishonesty = zero points on the test and an F in citizenship.
Second incident of academic dishonesty = drop & fail from the class and F citizenship.

Cultural Visit

All SMHS Mandarin classes will make a cultural visit to a teacher-approved culture site for a class assignment, due May 25, 2010. Students may visit a restaurant, shopping plaza, or another approved culture site. The assignment is:

- (1) Take pictures or video of the travel area, you must be in the picture.
- (2) A typed or handwritten recollection of at least two conversations you had with one or more native speakers.

Extra Credit: You may make a video instead of a typed conversation for extra credit. *You **must** ask for and receive approval from the native speaker **before** you record them.*

Some topics you may include are:

- (a) Asking for directions (Where is the _____ shop in the area?)
- (b) Eating at a Restaurant (Chinese Foods Only)(Include drinks: soda/tea/coffee)
- (c) Shopping (Fruits/Cakes/Snacks: Coffee, etc/Classroom Items/Pets/Furniture/Textbooks/Snacks/Festival Items: Lanterns/Mooncakes/Dumplings, etc/Clothing Item & Seasonal Items/Chinese Medicine (Do NOT buy)/Sports Items)
***Include Colors **Include Comparisons**
- (d) Asking about festival items (during Chinese festival days)

You are not limited to these topics above, you may choose another topic, but you must receive approval from the teacher first.

An example of an approved site is (this is also closest one to our school):



San Gabriel Square
140 West Valley Blvd.
San Gabriel, Ca 91776

Tests and Quizzes

At the end of each unit, there will be quizzes that include short answer or short essay questions which are open-ended and require critical thinking (we will go over what this means). At the end of each quarter, you will participate in a live online web camera video session with a native speaker in China which is recorded online. This question and answering session is related to both Chinese language and culture, and will be graded as a quarter final. The skills required for this session include negotiating for understanding, interpreting higher level input, and using guessing and prediction skills. The final exam is the AP test, which include a conversation with listening and speaking, reading passages, and writing in both formal and informal settings. Vocabulary pop quizzes are given at least once a week.

Consumables

It is the policy of the SMHS world languages department to charge for consumable materials*. This includes Mandarin, Japanese, French, and Spanish. The cost for Mandarin is \$20 per semester, or \$40 for the school year (2 semesters). The cost includes online homework subscription and technology maintenance costs. Please make checks out to “*San Marino High School*”; cash is also accepted. A financial waiver form is available on the back of this form to assist students/parents fulfill the consumables request.

Technology

Each student is responsible for his/her assigned equipment. Do not trade or share your equipment, especially laptops.

Helpful Hints

You will be working in a small group for a substantial amount of the time in class. You will always be completing a task that will help you uncover the knowledge I would like you to learn. Your team members will have a significant role in your learning, so always communicate with each other and with me if there is an issue.

Privacy

Parents: If for any reason you have a concern for the display of pictures or videos of your child in school domains, including class websites, please inform the teacher via email or telephone. My contact information is on the top of the first page of this syllabus.

Acknowledgement: I have read and understood all above policies.

Student Name (Please Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name (Please Print): _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

**San Marino Unified School District
Financial Waiver – Mandarin Program**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

It is the policy of the world languages department to charge for consumable materials in all world language programs. This includes Mandarin, Japanese, French, and Spanish.

The annual online textbook subscription, field trip costs, and related workbook materials are considered consumables since the students retain privileges to such materials and the school does not.

However, our department also realizes there are times when financial constraints may be a burden, and will grant financial waivers based on these real issues at appropriate times. Please indicate below if you would like to apply for this financial waiver.

Yes, I would like to apply for this financial waiver (Please give brief reason(s) below):

No, I do not wish to apply for this financial waiver, and will pay the sum of

\$20 for the semester 1 (this form will be sent again at the beginning of semester 2)

\$40 for both semesters

(Please check one)

A check payable to *San Marino USD* or cash is accepted.

Signed: _____

Date: _____