Cathedral Catholic High School
Course Catalog

Course Title: AP Chinese

Course #: 1376-1377

Course Description: The AP Chinese Language and Culture course in Mandarin Chinese emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Chinese Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Chinese. The AP Chinese Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students’ awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions). Students are strongly encouraged to take the AP exam in May.

UC/CSU Approval: “e” approved

Grade Level: 9-12

Estimated Homework Per Week: 2-3 hours

Prerequisite: B (80%) or higher in Chinese 3

Recommended Prerequisite Skills:
Students should possess the ability to:
- Show solid foundation on type and write Characters.
- Should be able to understand basic discussions in Chinese regardless of topic/theme.
- Write a 200+ character essay/response on assigned topics.
- Should be able to produce/prepare a 3 minute presentation in Chinese

Course Grade Scale:
Homework/Classwork/Projects: 40%
Tests/Quizzes: 40%
Final Exam: 20%
Major Assessments/Units/Topics:

Major Assessments:
- **Quizzes:** There will be two quizzes per lesson, one is vocabulary quiz and one is comprehensive quiz, including listening, reading, writing with the vocabulary and grammar.
- **Tests:** There will be a comprehensive test for each unit, including listening, reading, writing, grammar.
- **Project and oral presentation:** There will be six or seven projects for Chinese 3 including oral presentation. For example: Design your dream room and present it to the class; Acting out and make a movie about dining out with friends.
- **Final Exams:** There will be a final exam for each semester.

Theme 1: Families in Different Societies
- **Activities will include many of the following:**
  - Listening/Interpreting: Transportation announcement, school conversation, and instructions.
  - Writing: emails describing location, poster announcement, public sign, note, and short story, personal email response
  - Hold a conversation on a topic
  - Develop a cultural presentation
  - Written presentation of a narrative

Theme 2: The Influence of Language and Culture on Identity
- **Activities will include many of the following:**
  - Listening/Interpreting: stimulus models - rejoinder, radio report, uncontextualized dialogue
  - Writing: Stimulus models - email about sequence of events, advertisement, event brochure, pen pal letter, journalistic article, email response.
  - Hold a conversation
  - Develop a cultural presentation
  - Written Presentation of a narrative

Theme 3: Influences of Beauty and Art

● Activities will include many of the following:
  ○ Listening/Interpreting: stimulus may include - a rejoinder, transportation announcement, school conversation
  ○ Writing: tasks may include writing a public sign, poster announcement, email announcement, email describing a location, a short story, a personal email response
  ○ Hold a conversation
  ○ Develop a cultural presentation
  ○ Written Presentation of a narrative

Theme 4: How Science and Technology Affect Our Lives
● Topics: Science and Technology Effects of Technology on Self and Society, Climate and the Physical World, Global Challenges Population and Demographics, Access to Food and Water, Contemporary Life, Travel, Transportation, and Tourism, Entertainment, Sports and Leisure, Lifestyles, Personal and Public Identities, Nationalism, Patriotism, Global Identity, and Responsibility

● Activities will include many of the following:
  ○ Listening/Interpreting: rejoinder, voice message, uncontextualized dialogue
  ○ Writing: event brochure, email about a sequence of events, advertisement, journalistic article, pen pal letter, email response.
  ○ Hold a conversation
  ○ Develop a cultural presentation
  ○ Written Presentation of a narrative

Theme 5: Factors That Impact the Quality of Life
● Topics: Contemporary Life Education and Careers, Lifestyles, Holidays and Celebrations, Global Challenges Managing and Protecting Resources, Population and Demographics, International Trade, Science and Technology, Innovations and Inventions, Health Care and Medicine, Beauty and Aesthetics, Defining Beauty, Literature, Film, Traditional and Contemporary Arts and Music

● Activities will include many of the following:
  ○ Listening/Interpreting: rejoinder, school conversation, instructions.
  ○ Writing: Public sign, poster announcement, note, short story, email response, email describing a location.
  ○ Hold a conversation
  ○ Develop a cultural presentation
  ○ Written Presentation of a narrative
Theme 6: Environmental, Political, and Societal Challenges

- Topics: Global Challenges, Economic Trends, Environmental Issues, Population and Demographics, Contemporary Life Lifestyles, Travel, Leisure, Food, Science and Technology, Effects of Technology on Self and Society, Innovations, Climate and the Physical World, Families and Communities, Social Customs and Values, Relationships, Friendships, and Social Networking, Urban and Rural Communities and Their Development

- Activities will include many of the following:
  - Listening/Interpreting: stimulus models - rejoinder, radio report, uncontextualized dialogue, voice message
  - Writing: Stimulus models - email about sequence of events, advertisement, event brochure, journalistic article, personal email response.
  - Hold a conversation
  - Develop a cultural presentation
  - Written Presentation of a narrative