

JLHS (中文) Honors Chinese 4 & AP Chinese

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Classroom: 313

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Office Hours: 3:30 pm ~4:30 pm, on Tuesdays or by appointment

Course Overview:

The main goals of **AP Chinese Language and Culture** course are to deepen students' immersion into the Chinese language and culture, and to help students master the ability to use the language in linguistically, culturally, and socially appropriate way. This course prepares students to demonstrate their level of Chinese proficiency across the three communicative modes: interpersonal, interpretative, and presentational. It also helps students broaden their world view by comparing Chinese cultural products, practices, and perspectives with those of their own society. This course is organized around the six thematic units: School & family, Festival & Customs, Travel & Transportation, People & Society, Famous People & History, and Literature & Arts.

Since AP Chinese is often combined with Honors Chinese 4 class, students are required to do independent study and independent reading. So having a strong independent study skill is very important for student to be successful in this class.

Supplies/Materials:

You are expected to come to class each day prepared with: covered textbook, covered workbook, a composition notebook for class journal, a pen, a red pen, an eraser, and a sharpened pencil.

Recommended Prep Book: Barron's AP Chinese Language and Culture, can be purchased online.

Classroom expectations:

1. We observe all school rules (Respect YES and Off & Away).
2. Be on time and come prepared to class every day.
3. Raise hands to be recognized before speaking.
4. Work hard and **STAY SEATED** until the teacher dismisses you.
5. **Do our best to say what we want to say in Mandarin at all times.**

Consequences:

1. Warning (either verbally and/or by writing a reflective memo)
2. Loss of participation points
3. Teacher-student conference
4. Parent-teacher conference
5. All of the above plus a referral to your house principal.

Awards:

1. Immediate praise in class
2. Written praise on assignments
3. Positive e-mails / phone calls home

Grading Policy:

Your grade will be computed as follows:		90 – 100% = A
Tests & Quizzes	30%	80 – 89% = B
Class participation	30%	70 – 79% = C
Homework	25%	60 – 69% = D
Semester final	15%	0 – 59% = F

Class/Oral

Participation: You are expected to keep a class journal for all the work we do during class. You will receive character stamps whenever you are actively speaking Chinese and doing all your oral/ written work in class and a heart stamp will be given for any non-engagement activities and using English/any other languages during class. Participation points will be calculated based on the numbers of character stamps and heart stamps you get by the end of each grading period.

Heading: All assignments must include date, name, period, title, & **SEAT** number in the heading.

Homework: There will be oral or written homework. It is due at the **BEGINNING** of the class period. NO late homework will be accepted unless with a late pass. If one day late without a pass, HALF credit will be given. All late work must be completed within the period of covering that lesson/unit theme. One late homework pass per semester is granted for turning-in homework late to get full credit.

Late work:

Make-up work is accepted ONLY after an excused absence or by prior arrangement with Laoshi. Usually the number of days of absence will be the number of days allowed to complete the assignment. After that, you will get 0 for any incomplete assignments.

Tests/Quizzes:

There will be one or two vocabulary quizzes in each unit. There will be a unit test every time we reach the end of a lesson in the textbook. Study and review daily, not just the night before a test. Teach someone else what you have just learned.

Projects: You will have special group or individual project assignment each quarter. The project could be a unit-theme or cultural related. You will receive rubric for each project.

Tardy: Be on time! You will be marked tardy if you are not in your seat when the bell rings. All tardy students must quietly fill out and sign the tardy sheet located by the door. Unexcused absences and tardy will lower your participation grade.

Absences: When you have been absent, it is **YOUR responsibility** to find out and make up what you missed, including homework, class work, quizzes, and tests. Show up in class every day! Absences will impede your progress. Many classroom activities that require your active participation cannot be made up. Make-up work will NOT be given when your absence is UNEXCUSED. Absences and cuts will lower your participation grade. Please check with your trusted classmates first for missing assignments before checking with me.

Bathroom passes: Each student will be allowed two emergency bathroom passes per semester. After the two, your bathroom requests will be counted as tardy which will lower your participation grade. If you have any medical problems, I would appreciate a note from your parent or doctor.

Academic Honesty: Copying other student's homework, paper, quiz, test or project is considered academic dishonesty. Allowing other students to copy yours will result the same penalty. During the test, please cover up your answers. If I suspect anyone is cheating, I won't say anything during the test. When you get your paper back with a ZERO, you'll know why. **You will get ZERO for any machine translated writing assignments.** Please also remember to give credit for all sources used.

Mandarin Chinese Class Procedures

Entering the class Enter the classroom courteously, showing respect to your classmates and the classroom environment – that means no loud talking or yelling. Upon entering you should seat at your assigned seat and begin working on the daily warm-up. If you are late, please quietly sign the tardy log by the door. Please keep in mind that every tardy will lower your participation grade.

Keeping a class journal You are expected to keep a class journal for all the work we do in class. It includes the daily agenda, warm-up, daily expressions, and various in-class works such as dictation, class survey, class notes etc. Every day I will have an agenda on the board, you should copy the daily agenda on your class journal and begin do your daily warm-up. At the end of each unit, you will turn in your class journal for credit. You must make up all the in-class work when you are absent.

Giving me your attention When I require your attention you will see me stand in front of the class with one hand up or I may call for your attention if we are doing group work. When you see or hear the signal you will: (1) stop what you are doing (2) look at me; (3) listen and be ready to receive instructions.

Getting help When you need help, you classmates are your best resource. If every question comes to me first, we would never accomplish anything! So, please ask at least two classmates before asking the teacher. If no one knows the answer to your question, then I need to explain or re-explain to the whole class. You can also get help by coming for the tutoring on Tuesdays at Room 313.

Turning in work Most assignments are due at the beginning of the period. Please be sure to include all the required information in the heading. Please pass your assignment to your left and place your work on the top facing the same direction.

Leaving your seat Leave your seat only when given permission by me. Things like sharpening your pencil, throwing away trash should really be done before class begins. However if you must get up to do something, make sure you ask for my permission.

Distracting others Everyone is here to learn. Such distractions as talking, tapping, crumpling paper, singing, etc., interfere with the learning of others. Please be considerate and allow the people around you to focus on the task at hand.

Throwing things It is never a good idea to throw anything to another student; it is too easy for injuries to occur. Please hand items to one another directly, or pass items on to one another.

Going to the bathroom Please sign the log every time you use the bathroom. Two bathroom passes are given each semester. After the two, every additional bathroom requests will be counted as tardy which will lower your participation grade.

Leaving the class You are to remain in your seat until I dismiss the class. The teacher brings the class to an end, not the bell!

Cooperative Learning

You will be working in Xiǎozǔ groups of 3+ students. Each group will have a Leader, a Recorder, a Reporter, and a Runner.

- **Xiǎozǔ zhǎng** (小组长) is the Leader who is responsible for reading and explaining the assignments to the group, helping to keep the group organized and on-task.
- **Jìlù yuán** (记录员) is the Recorder who is responsible for keeping accurate records and scores of the group's activities.
- **Bàogào yuán** (报告员) is the Reporter who is responsible for reporting the group's activities to the class.
- **Pǎo tuǐ'rde** (跑腿儿的) is the Runner is responsible for picking up and handing in materials for the group. The Runner is the only student who should be out of his/her seat on a regular basis on group business.

The groups are given full scores for: their ability to cooperate to complete assignments with everyone's participation, effort in communicating in Chinese, being in their Xiǎozǔ group, keeping orderly records, and working together.

Although all scores are not group scores (quizzes, tests, assignments sheets and individual assignments are given individual scores), many scores reflect the group's ability to work together for the common good to accumulate full scores.

Tips on learning Chinese

There's no doubt about it, learning any language requires a commitment of time and effort, even more so when there's a great difference between one's native language and the new one. Here are some suggestions to maximize your effectiveness, minimize the time spent, and make learning Chinese easier.

- Have a positive and can-do attitude.
- Be in class on time, be prepared, and participate actively.
- Preview by reading out aloud.
- Review with the first 15 minutes after class daily
- Make vocabulary flash cards and index cards for sentence patterns
- Practice with a study partner
- The only way to learn Chinese characters is to memorize them. Writing will enable you to use motor memory for recall, otherwise characters can be quickly forgotten. Rather than writing one word many times before doing the next one, write each word once or twice then go through the whole list again until you've done the required number of repetitions. This will put the new words more firmly in your memory.
- To prepare for vocabulary quizzes, make a 3-column vocabulary sheet with characters, pinyin, and English definitions. Fold the paper so only one or two columns are showing and take practice written quizzes.
- Relate new information to materials already learned.