

**MVLA
2024-25
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**

Course Title: Mandarin I

School: Los Altos High School

UC/CSU requirement: Yes

Textbook and/or other learning resources: Integrated Chinese Level 1 Part 1 and other authentic sources

Course Description/Student Learning Outcomes:

Mandarin I is designed to provide the basic communicative skills in Mandarin, Chinese culture and history. Students will develop a basic mastery of the four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students will learn Hanyu pinyin, radicals, word usages, sentence patterns, basic dialogues and short sentences in real life situations. The course also presents an introduction to the culture/history of the Mandarin/Chinese-speaking world. The students are able to use formulaic language to engage in conversations and appropriate responses in a culturally authentic way. This course is for beginning students or non-native speakers only. Specifically, students will be able to:

- Use the Pinyin Romanization system to pronounce Chinese correctly with the appropriate tone.
- Understand the basic Chinese radicals and follow the rules of stroke orders for writing Chinese characters
- Have a general idea of the uniqueness of Chinese grammar (word order, measure words and etc.);
- Apply a basic working Chinese vocabulary, visually recognize 350 Chinese terms, and write about 200 characters.
- Conduct a beginning level conversation in Chinese. Topics include exchange of personal information, family structure, profession, place and time, hobbies, scheduling appointments.
- Write simple, fixed expressions and short sentences on topics given above.

Course Outline/Units of Study:

As we follow the [ACTFL](#) standards, each level is a progression and continuation of the next. These are the units of study this course:

Semester I	Semester II
<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learn about the Chinese language ● Become familiar with basic Chinese pronunciation ● Know basic information about the Chinese writing system ● Use common expressions in the classroom and daily life 	<p>Unit 4: Hobbies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Say and write the terms for basic personal hobbies ● Ask about someone's hobbies ● Set up plans for the weekend ● Learn about Chinese pastimes
<p>Unit 1: Greetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exchange basic greetings ● Request a person's last name and full name, and provide your own ● Ask about someone's nationality ● Learn about Chinese names 	<p>Unit 5: Visiting Friends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduce one person to another ● Ask for beverages/food as a guest at someone else's place ● Briefly describe a visit to a friend's place ● Learn about Chinese tea culture
<p>Unit 2: Family</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Employ basic kinship terms ● Describe a family photo ● Ask about someone's profession ● Learn about the Chinese education system 	<p>Unit 6: Making Appointments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Answer a phone call and initiate a phone conversation ● Set up an appointment on the phone ● Ask for a favor ● Learn about Chinese phone etiquette

Unit 3: Dates & Time

- Tell and speak about time and dates
- Talk about someone's age and birthday
- Invite someone to dinner
- Learn about the Chinese calendar, zodiac signs, and manner of counting age

Review:

- Word order in Chinese
- Simple present, past, and future tense
- Interrogative pronouns
- Functional expressions from Unit 1-6

Assessment and Grading ([BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#)): To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories and their percentage weights:

Formative Activities and Summative Activities that help move our students through the [ACTFL proficiency](#) scale at a pace that takes into account each student's individual learning style.

20% Homework: You should expect **1-2 hours of weekly homework** for the purpose of review, preparation, or extension. Sample daily activities include but are not limited to studying vocab and grammar concepts, writing and speaking practices, and cultural studies.

40% Engagement & Interactions: You should expect to speak in the target language daily. Oral presentations will be assigned individually and/or as a group. Prior to evaluation, students will know the kind of evaluation and grading procedure. This category includes spontaneous and prepared speaking opportunities, projects, and daily use of target language and engagement in class. Refer to [class participation rubric](#) to assist you with engagement. You should demonstrate excellent preparation, participation, collaboration, respect and great efforts to use Chinese in class.

30% Assessments: Although there are daily informal assessments based on your use of the target language and class interactions, you can expect to have formal assessments (quizzes, tests and/or projects). These assessments will include a variety of skills, including but not limited to presentations, listening and reading comprehension, writing cohesively in target language, vocabulary use, recognition and mastery and correct use of grammatical concepts. You can also expect to have more informal/impromptu speaking opportunities in daily class. Prior to evaluation, students will know the kind of evaluation and the grading procedure.

10% Final: The final exam will be comprehensive. It will include all areas of the language - reading, writing, listening and speaking. The activity will serve as an opportunity for you to show mastery in areas of vocabulary, grammatical and language concepts that you have learned.

2. Achievement evidence collected within each grading category:

Students will be informed of the aligned quantity, weight, and due dates of assignments/assessments in each grading category as much in advance as possible.

3. Grading scales:

A+ 100%	A 92.50 to 99.99%	A- 89.50 to 92.49%
B+ 86.50 to 89.49%	B 82.50 to 86.49%	B- 79.50 to 82.49%
C+ 76.50 to 79.49%	C 72.50 to 76.49%	C- 69.50 to 72.49%
D+ 66.50 to 69.49%	D 62.5 to 66.49%	D- 59.50 to 62.49%
F 50 to 59.49%		

4. Homework/outside of class practices ([AR 6154](#)):

About 1-2 hours of work may be assigned weekly. Homework should include daily review and preparation for future assessments. Students should use Canvas (unless otherwise specified) to complete assigned activities as well as review previously done activities prior to testing. Homework on the Workbook needs to be handwritten.

All homework **must** be completed **prior to the following class**. When required, you need to take clear photos of your work and submit them to Canvas. Late work will generally not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances that **YOU** clarify with your teacher in **advance**. It is a World Language department policy to not accept late work without penalty. To get full credit, your homework is expected to demonstrate your efforts and good quality.

5. Excused absence make-up practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)):

Absent students are expected to contact their teacher **within 48 hours of absence** to arrange any make-up work.

The Departmental Make-Up policy for missed assessments due to an excused absence will be enforced. You will have **7 school** days to make up missed assessments.

6. Academic integrity violation practices ([LAHS Academic Integrity Policy](#) / [MVHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)):

Violations of Academic Integrity will be dealt with in a manner consistent with the MVLA-LAHS Academic Integrity Policy. If a violation of the academic integrity policy occurs, you will not receive credit and have no opportunity for a retake. Please keep in mind that inappropriate use of Google Translate, Chat GPT, or other online tools that are also considered academic dishonesty and cheating. Forms of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to plagiarism, copy and paste of web resources or documents owned by others, use of prohibited texts, cellphones/devices or resources during an assessment, and/or identity misrepresentation. Please refer to [this document](#) for additional information.

7. Late work practices:

No late homework or projects will be accepted after the due date. This includes long-term presentations and/or written homework assignments. Students with extenuating circumstances **must** speak with/email the teacher immediately.

8. Revision practices:

Per department policy we do not allow retakes or revisions for a higher grade. The assessments are revised in class for learning purposes only. Please contact your teacher if you have extenuating circumstances. Each student will have the **1 lowest assessment score dropped** from the assessment category at the end of each semester.

9. Extra credit practices: Refer to [BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#).

10. Additional grading practices:

Grades will be posted on the Aeries Student Information System. If at any time you have a question regarding your grade, please ask your teacher and we can clarify the situation. If you do not turn in an assignment or have an excused absence you may have a **blank** for a particular test and/or assignment. **Blanks are filled in as work is assessed.** It is your responsibility to keep track of your grade. An organized binder with all assignments/quizzes can be a great way to help clarify a mistake in the grade book.

11. LMS Used: Canvas

Instructor' email address:

Ms.Connie Chen: connie.chen@mvla.net

Available during ACT (Academic Collaboration Time) and by appointment.