

**MVLA**  
**2024-2025**  
**COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**



**Course Title:** Mandarin 4 Honors

**School:** Los Altos High School

**UC/CSU requirement:** Yes/Yes

**Textbook and/or other learning resources:** Integrated Chinese (IC) Level 2 Part 1, and other supplemental resources as assigned by teacher

**Student Learning Contents and Outcomes:**

Mandarin 4H is a continuation of Mandarin 3 and it follows the [ACTFL](#) standards. This class is a challenging, rigorous class that will require time and dedication on the part of the student since it is an honors class. Mandarin 4H is designed to enable the students to participate extensively in the life of Chinese society. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- manipulate most social situations and casual conversations regarding current events
- discuss, compare and contrast, support or persuade an opinion on various topics
- demonstrate understanding of the main idea and details in authentic texts
- give oral presentations on various cultural topics such as Chinese foods, school life, education system, cities, Chinese social media, Chinese values, geographic features, etc.

**Course Outline/Units of Study:**

These are the units of study for Mandarin 4H:

Semester I	Semester II
<b>Review IC Level 1 Lesson 13 to Lesson 20</b>	<b>Review IC Level 2 Lesson 1 to Lesson 5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Vocabulary</li> <li>● Functional expressions</li> <li>● Grammar</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 1: Vocabulary: School starts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain how to write your Chinese name or the meaning of your Chinese name;</li> <li>● Say where you were born and grew up; (是...的; 来自+place)</li> <li>● Discuss the pros and cons of living on and off-campus;</li> <li>● Express politely a dissenting opinion;</li> <li>● Compare and contrast the ways the parents name their children in US and China.;</li> <li>● Retell the legend of Moon Festival;</li> <li>● Describe how to make moon cakes</li> </ul>	<b>Lesson 6: Vocabulary: Dating</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe your personality;</li> <li>● State if you share the same interests or hobbies with others;</li> <li>● Inquire if everything is OK and find out what has happened;</li> <li>● Describe typical behaviors of a forgetful person.</li> <li>● Give a simple description of what you look for in a boyfriend/girlfriend.</li> <li>● Tell what makes you anxious or angry;</li> <li>● Narrate orally the legend of the Cowboy and the Weave girl</li> <li>● Describe your ideal boyfriend or girlfriend.</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 2: Vocabulary: Living in the Dorm</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Name basic pieces of furniture in a house;</li> <li>● Describe your living place;</li> <li>● Comment on someone's living quarters;</li> <li>● Disagree tactfully</li> <li>● Comprehend rental ads in Chinese and choose a rental property in a Chinese-speaking community</li> <li>● Compare and contrast a Siheyuan with a regular</li> </ul>	<b>Lesson 7: Vocabulary: PC and the Internet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Find out if others are angry with you and apologize if so</li> <li>● Reduce potential tension in a conversation by changing the subject</li> </ul>

<p>residential unit/hotel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Let people know about the trouble you had to go through because of their thoughtlessness or carelessness</li> <li>● Name your activities on the internet and discuss how you make use of the internet</li> <li>● Discuss the pros and the cons of using the internet</li> <li>● Describe the key features of WeChat and its impact on people</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 3: Vocabulary: Dining out</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Name four/eight principal regional Chinese cuisines;</li> <li>● Order food and drinks;</li> <li>● Talk about what flavors you like or dislikes;</li> <li>● Talk about your dietary restrictions or preferences known</li> <li>● Name Common seasoning/spices and methods of cooking</li> <li>● Present orally the different regional cuisines and their characteristics</li> <li>● Settle the bill in a restaurant</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lesson 8: Vocabulary: Part-time Jobs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review your monthly income and spending patterns;</li> <li>● Talk about how you balance your personal budget;</li> <li>● Name some possible reasons to work part-time while in school;</li> <li>● Discuss the pros and cons of working part-time while in school;</li> <li>● Describe what you dislike and what bothers you.</li> <li>● Understand job opportunities for high school students in China and America;</li> <li>● Describe the life of the migrant workers and the social challenges it has brought about</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 4: Vocabulary: Shopping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Name basic clothing, bedding, and bath items</li> <li>● Describe your shopping preferences and criteria</li> <li>● Disagree with others tactfully</li> <li>● Present your arguments with rhetorical questions</li> <li>● Comprehend merchandise descriptions on the Chinese websites</li> <li>● “Buy” gifts after comparing and contrasting the quality, price and styles within the budget</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lesson 9: Vocabulary: Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Talk about whether I had a carefree childhood</li> <li>● List some commonly offered classes in after-school programs and how well you did them</li> <li>● State whether I agree or disagree with other’s point of view</li> <li>● Begin presenting my viewpoints with appropriate wording</li> <li>● Discuss parents’ hopes and expectations for their children</li> <li>● Present orally on the differences of the educational system in the us and china</li> <li>● Tell the symbolic meaning of Dragon and phoenix</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 5: Vocabulary: Selecting courses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● State your favorite class, interests, major area of study or future career path</li> <li>● Talk about what you plan to do after graduating</li> <li>● Explore what will enhance your future job opportunities</li> <li>● Explain whether your family members have an influence on your choice of major or career path</li> <li>● Compare and contrast the educational systems in China and America in high school and at college;</li> <li>● Describe campus life, ECs, college applications, overseas study, and job interviews</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lesson 10: Vocabulary: Geography</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe the basic information of China;</li> <li>● Name some Chinese cities located in the North, Southeast, and South of China, and give a brief introduction to major cities.</li> <li>● Describe the similarities and differences between China and the United States in terms of territorial size, population, and terrain</li> <li>● Plan a trip to China, and talk about the factors that help you select a travel destination</li> <li>● Use percentage, fraction, digital, and big numbers;</li> </ul>

**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:**

☐ **20% Homework:** You should expect 3-4 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, studying for assessments, writing and speaking practices, and cultural studies. Assignments are graded on both completion and quality of work.

☐ **30% Engagement & Interactions:** This category includes spontaneous and prepared speaking opportunities, daily use of target language, and virtual engagement. You should expect to speak in the target language daily. Oral presentations will be assigned individually and/or as a group. Refer to [Class Participation Rubric](#) to assist you with engagement. You should demonstrate excellent preparation, participation, collaboration, respect and great efforts to use Chinese only in class.

☐ **40% 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 weekly (quizzes, tests and/or projects). These assessments will include a variety of skills, including but not limited to listening and reading comprehension, writing cohesively in target language, vocabulary use, recognition and mastery and correct use of grammatical concepts. You can also expect 3 formal cultural presentations and 2-3 projects each semester and you will be given multiple opportunities to practice your language skills per week. Prior to evaluation, students will know the kind of evaluation and the grading rubrics.

☐ **10% Final:** Final exam activities will assess writing, reading, listening, and speaking. The exam will serve as an opportunity for you to show mastery in areas of vocabulary, grammatical and language concepts that you have learned during the semester/year.

**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% and above	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- 59.5 to 62.49%
F 50 to 59.49%		

**4. Homework/outside of class practices (AR 6154):**

**About 3-4 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. All homework **must** be completed **prior to 8am on the day of the following class**. Students with extenuating circumstances **must** speak/email with the teacher immediately. When required, you need to take clear photos of your hand written work and **submit them to Canvas**.

**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. With a verified absence, it is your responsibility to contact your teacher on the day you return to make arrangements for missed homework. 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**. Students **MAY** complete past due assignments, with a 15% deduction daily. It is also the student's responsibility to send

the teacher a note by email once the make-up work is done in order to get credits on a timely basis.

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, other online translators, internet websites and/or resources such as ChatGPT may be considered academic dishonesty and considered 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.

7. **Late work practices:**

Late work will be accepted if turned in within 1 week of the due date. LATE homework turned in within 1 week of the due date gets 50% of the credit. No homework will be accepted after the 1 week grace period without prior approval by the teacher. Students with extenuating circumstances **must** speak with / email the teacher immediately.

8. **Revision practices:**

There are no retakes or revisions for assessments. Each student will have the **1 lowest assessment score dropped** from the assessment category at the end of each semester. Any and all assessments missed due to an excused absence **must** be completed in the presence of the teacher within 7 school days of absences. It is the student's responsibility to follow the classroom make-up timeline and procedures.

9. **Extra credit practices:**

Extra credit opportunities will be given on certain major assignments such as projects or cultural events. Individual extra credit is not provided.

10. **Additional grading practices:**

The lowest assessment score will be dropped at the end of the semester. (No grades will be dropped at the quarter). Grades will be posted on Canvas and the Aeries Student Information System at least every 2 weeks. In case of discrepancy between Canvas and Aeries gradebook due to synching problems, always refer to Canvas for more accurate reflection of your grade.

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 if you have an unexcused absence, you may have a **zero** for a particular test and/or assignment. **Zeros are filled in as class work is assessed.** Once you submit the evidence of completion and notify the teacher by email, your work will be re-graded within one week. It is your responsibility to keep track of your grade, an organized notebook/binder with all assignments/quizzes/etc.

**Additional information:**

1. **Guest teacher agreement**

Occasionally I will be unable to be in the classroom and you will have a guest teacher/substitute. It is expected and required that you show any guest the same level of respect that you would show me or any other staff member. You will also be expected to use your time wisely and work on the assignments given for the day. Not completing or turning in work when required will result in a "0" and cannot be made up for any kind of credit.

2. **Class expectations**

**☐ Be Prompt and Ready**

Arrive on time, enter the classroom quietly and immediately go to your assigned seat. Take out your pen(cil), class materials and laptop right away. Bathroom use is for emergency purposes only. Make sure you go before the tardy bell rings. There is no bathroom pass during the first and last ten minutes of class, each student pass sign out in a bathroom log (hence the photo in this article) and they must carry the teacher's official pass.

**❑ Be Prepared and stay organized**

Bring all required materials and assignments daily. Bring your notebook and binder every day and keep up with all assignments. Maintain your notebook and binder organized and neat with an updated table of contents or binder section dividers and index tabs.

**❑ Be Productive**

Maximize learning time from bell to bell by staying on task, following directions, and remaining seated. Engage in classroom discussion and activities!

**❑ Be Polite, Helpful and Kind**

Show RESPECT to everyone and everything. Use appropriate and positive language at all times. Give encouragement and kindness to everyone. Maintain our classroom clean and organized. Food, sugary/colored beverages, and gum are NOT allowed.

**❑ Be Positive**

Be open to ideas different from your own. Refrain from making negative comments or showing body language that may cause discouragement. Be patient and open to mistakes. Mistakes help us learn and grow.

**❑ Appropriate use of technology when allowed**

Electronic devices should remain turned off and are only allowed during lessons as instructed by your teacher. All cell phones must stay in your **backpack** unless you get permission from the teacher.

**❑ Speaking Chinese only**

Speak Chinese only to your teacher and classmates during class time.

**\*\*\*ALWAYS FOLLOW ALL SCHOOL RULES AND POLICIES\*\*\***

**Instructors' email addresses & office hours:**

Ms. Wei is available during ACT on Wed/Fri and by appointment. She can be reached via [bernice.wei@mvla.net](mailto:bernice.wei@mvla.net).

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**Acknowledgement (P.\_\_)**

Each student and his/her parent or guardian must sign acknowledging they have read and understand the Mandarin 4H course information sheet (CIS). Please return by August 17, 2023.

Student full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Homework Partners:**

We all need to work together and support each other. If you were absent, please contact your homework partners first to obtain class information. If your partner is absent, please contact him/her to provide class information.

	<b>#1</b>	<b>#2</b>	<b>#3</b>
<b>Name</b>			
<b>Phone(s)</b>			
<b>Email</b>			
<b>Additional contact info</b>			