OCH03: AP Chinese

Objectives
AP Chinese is the fourth-year Chinese class at OHS. It is intended to expand range and depth of students’ vocabulary and cultural knowledge, and to guide them to the level of quick but organized response required to be successful on the listening, speaking, and writing parts of the AP exam. Students explore a wide variety of topics that focus on contemporary Chinese society, but also consider what aspects of Chinese culture have or have not changed with modernization. The class is conducted almost entirely in Chinese.

Discussion Sessions and Lectures
Class meets three times each week, 60 minutes/session, throughout the school year. All classes are focused on giving students opportunities to speak and interact using Chinese. Discussion sessions are supplemented by 1-2 recorded lectures per week which variously are intended to provide additional listening comprehension practice, expand cultural knowledge, or to introduce more complex writing or grammar topics.

Content Areas (include but are not limited to):
- Living in a cross-cultural household
- One-child policy
- Types of residences
- Status of women
- Classmates
- Cultural symbols
- Chinese medicine
- Ethnic minorities
- Beijing and the 2008 Olympics
- Important historical figures
- Traditional arts and crafts

AP Test Preparation
Practice with simulated AP tests will begin early and be spread out throughout the year, with increasing frequency and focus in the spring semester.

Homework
Homework is usually due weekly, although students should work on some part nearly every day. It will include listening comprehension, reading comprehension, speaking, vocabulary and grammar exercises that accompany the textbooks, and will include practice AP test questions. While most homework is completed typewritten in Chinese, some will be submitted handwritten or as audio files. Students must be committed to spending significant time every week on specific assignments as well as on additional listening, speaking, and vocabulary practice.
Tests
- 4 unit tests/semester.
- One final exam/semester (proctored)
- Each unit test includes a listening component. Final exam includes listening and speaking components.

Projects
One mid-semester project each semester. Most projects will include both oral and written components in Chinese.
General topic areas include:
- current events in China and Taiwan
- contemporary Chinese culture and societal issues
- cross-cultural issues
- significant events in modern history of China

Materials
Harvest, Textbook and Workbook,
收获, Xu Jialu,

Tales and Traditions, Volumes 3,
Publisher: Cheng and Tsui 2009.

AP Chinese Language and Culture Simulated Tests,

Additional authentic materials and internet resources:
- Many online Chinese language materials are used to supplement and complement the above books. These include essays, short stories, movies, documentaries, animated video, news articles, informational websites, music, and more.

Grading
Final grades are based on the following:
- **Weekly Homework**: 35%
- **Participation**: 10%
- **Unit Tests**: 20%
- **Final Exam**: 25%
- **Project**: 10%

Class activities, weekly homework, and projects are designed to include the five goal areas (communication, cultures, comparisons, connections, community) and three modes of communication (interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational) outlined in ACTFL Standards For Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century.