HS Chinese II

Curriculum Guide (including Course Objectives, Weekly Content, and Scope and Sequence)

Course Description

Students continue their introduction to Chinese with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The course consists of 180 lesson days formatted in an intuitive calendar view, which can be divided into two 90-day semesters. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each week consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Chinese-speaking countries. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Course length: Two semesters

Materials: though not required, students may wish to purchase a Chinese-English dictionary

Prerequisites: WLG140: Chinese I, Middle School Chinese 1 and 2, or equivalent

Overall Course Objectives

The High School Chinese II course helps students:

- Engage in language learning
- Master common and some specialized vocabulary terms and phrases (in both Pinyin and Chinese characters)
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
- Instigate and continue simple conversations, and respond appropriately to increasingly nuanced conversational prompts
- Generate language incorporating basic and some specialized vocabulary and a range of grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in Chinese (including Pinyin and Chinese characters)
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking countries
- Write and input Chinese characters
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions
Recurring Content

- **Thematic Adventure Story**
  - Each week students will read a different chapter to an adventure story that helps to introduce new language and themes into their weekly vocabulary and grammatical modules. This story provides a narrative for the entire course and is about a treasure hunt involving a family secret in modern China.

- **Vocabulary Theme**
  - Each week presents a new set of vocabulary words through various self-correcting activities. A printable vocabulary list, which includes pronunciation, is also provided.

- **Grammar Concept**
  - Each week introduces a new grammatical pattern. The concept is introduced through sentence comparisons and presented in a printable explanation of the pattern.

- **Character Demonstrations**
  - An animated drawing of a single character appears each week. This helps teach stroke order and radicals for characters.

- **Reinforcement Activities**
  - A range of interactive games (incrementally increasing in challenge) helps students reinforce vocabulary and grammar concepts. These activities may be completed multiple times so that students can better retain and apply the new information. Students accumulate “Avatar bucks” by performing well on these and other interactive challenges.

- **“Stretch” Activities**
  - Each week students work through an inventive and challenging activity to comprehend involved passages in Chinese, or to generate their own sentences in Chinese. Stretch activities include zany performances, core content-based instruction, familiar folktales presented in Chinese, simple narratives that students string together from basic building blocks, and many more. These activities help students work creatively in Chinese to communicate and make meaning.

- **Presentation of Culture through CultureGrams™, Culture Lessons, and Culture Videos**
  - Each week students learn about various cultural aspects (e.g. practices, products, and perspectives) of a Chinese-speaking country. CultureGrams™ are multi-media cultural presentations that cover a wide range of topics such as gestures, etiquette, history, food, and more. Culture Lessons focus in depth on a particular product or practice of Chinese culture. Culture videos present students with short video explanations about cultural aspects of various Chinese-speaking countries from a native of that country.

- **“Gameshow” Review**
  - Each week students review material from the week’s content in a “Gameshow” that builds on the motivations and friendly competition of familiar television game shows. Students are pitted against a virtual opponent and earn “Avatar bucks” as they demonstrate their mastery of the week’s material. The burden of review for the weekly assessment is thus transformed to a fun and engaging game.
• **“Out of Seat” Activities**
  - Several times during the year, students are given opportunities to use the language “outside” the course. These are specific assignments directing students to interact in a genuine way with the Chinese language or Chinese-speaking cultures.

• **Oral and Written Activities**
  - Each week, students complete oral and written activities. These activities give students a chance to become more familiar with the speaking and writing patterns of Chinese by applying them in communicative situations.

• **Assessments**
  - Culture comprehension quizzes verify that students have captured facts and understandings from the cultural presentations.
  - End-of-week quizzes assess students’ mastery of the vocabulary words and grammar concept presented that week, and include an oral or written assessment.
  - Midterm and Semester Exams assess students’ mastery of the semester’s contents up to their current place on the calendar, and include oral and written assessments.

**Course Scope and Sequence**

**Semester 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Vocabulary Topic</th>
<th>Grammar Pattern/Language Point</th>
<th>Culture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td>Simple words and phrases (review from Chinese I)</td>
<td>Introduction to pinyin and Chinese characters. Inputting character instruction.</td>
<td>Welcome to China 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td>Counting (review from Chinese I)</td>
<td>Measure words</td>
<td>Royal architecture in Beijing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>Body parts and adjectives</td>
<td>Describing differences / Common mistakes that occur while learning Chinese</td>
<td>China CultureGrams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td>Sports / Olympics</td>
<td>Ordinal numbers / Choosing the right verb for the right sport</td>
<td>2008 Beijing Olympics</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td>Seasons and activities</td>
<td>Making comparisons</td>
<td>Chinese seasonal holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td>Feelings and emotions</td>
<td>How to express feelings in Chinese / The fable of the snow doll</td>
<td>The family in China</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td>Internet, TV, and gaming</td>
<td>Grammar points from the dialogue bored Saturday (a little...to hold etc.)</td>
<td>Chinese TV shows</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Week 8
**Places in a city / What to do in a city**
expressing arriving with *dao*
*Out of seat activity: describe where you live*

### Week 9
**Midterm Review and Test - no topics**

### Week 10
**Hobbies**
Using different buts

**Weather**
Talking about weather / Weather report for the summer and winter / learning a poem about weather

### Week 11
**Chinese animals**
More measure words

**Weather**
Talking about weather / Weather report for the summer and winter / learning a poem about weather

**Hong Kong CultureGram**

### Week 12
**Foreign Countries**
Reading Chinese aloud (making foreign names from Chinese characters)

**The Great Wall**

### Week 13
**International Cities**
Using “if...”

**Overseas Chinese**

### Week 14
**Professions**
Professions character study

**Four great inventions**

### Week 15
**Air travel**
Using when...

**Tips for traveling in China**

### Week 16
**Transportation**
Using superlatives

**Taiwan CultureGram**

### Week 17
**Final Review and Test - no topics**

### Week 18
**Final Review and Test - no topics**
## Semester 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Vocabulary Topic</th>
<th>Grammar Pattern</th>
<th>Culture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Festival / Gong xi fa cai</td>
<td>How to express spending time / Celebrating Chinese New Year</td>
<td>Chinese New Year riddles</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Music and instruments</td>
<td>Making Poetry / Singing the song Beautiful Jasmine</td>
<td>Chinese folk songs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Holidays</td>
<td>Expressing understanding</td>
<td>National holidays</td>
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</table>

<p>| Week 4 | Chinese cooking | Expressing what you can do | Dim Sum |
| Week 5 | Utensils / Eating in a restaurant | Talking about food / Compliments descriptions | Dumplings won tons and buns |
| Week 6 | Chinese love story | Expressing before and after / The Chinese Romeo and Juliet | Women and society |
| Week 7 | Marriage | Expressing the common phrase “and with me go..” | Wedding customs |
| Week 8 | Extended Family | Using fillers | China CultureGram |
| Week 9 | Midterm Review and Test - no topics | | |
| Week 10 | Common verbs | Using verbs / Sample sentences with different verbs | Hong Kong CultureGram |
| Week 11 | Common verbs II | Using verbs II / More sample sentences | Taiwan CultureGram |
| Week 12 | A dairymaid’s dream | Expressing passives | Agriculture in China |
| Week 13 | The price of beauty | Grammar points for the price of beauty (phrases used for compliments and how to use them) | Chinese concept of beauty |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Week 14</th>
<th>The most beautiful thing in the world</th>
<th>Expressing “this way...that way...”</th>
<th>The four gentlemen (plants in paintings)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Cognates / Shared English Chinese Words</td>
<td>The many meanings of “xiang”</td>
<td>Gong fu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>Dialects / Colloquialisms</td>
<td>Using metaphors</td>
<td>Auspicious expressions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 17</td>
<td>Idioms and philosophy</td>
<td>Giving advice / Chinese philosophers</td>
<td>The bamboo painter (idiom)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 18</td>
<td>Final Review and Test- no topics</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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