



SAMPLE SYLLABUS #1

AP[®] Chinese Language and Culture

Curricular Requirements

CR1	The teacher uses Chinese almost exclusively in class and encourages students to do likewise.	<i>See page:</i> 2
CR2	The course provides opportunities for students to engage in interdisciplinary course content and develop skills through the six required units: Families and Communities, Language and Culture, Art and Creativity, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, and Global Contexts.	<i>See pages:</i> 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
CR3	Instructional materials include a variety of authentic audio, visual, and audiovisual sources and authentic written texts.	<i>See pages:</i> 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10
CR4	The course provides opportunities for students to practice and develop the skills in Skill Category 1: Comprehend written texts, audio, and visualizations of data, as outlined in the AP Course and Exam Description (CED). (Interpretive Mode)	<i>See pages:</i> 2, 5
CR5	The course provides opportunities for students to practice and develop the skills in Skill Category 2: Speak and write in interpersonal and presentational contexts, as outlined in the Course and Exam Description (CED). (Interpersonal and Presentational Modes)	<i>See pages:</i> 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
CR6	The course provides opportunities for students to practice and develop the skills in Skill Category 3: Demonstrate cultural understanding, as outlined in the Course and Exam Description (CED). (Interpersonal and Presentational Modes)	<i>See pages:</i> 4, 5, 7
CR7	The course prepares students to use Chinese in real-life situations.	<i>See pages:</i> 3, 7, 9
CR8	The course provides students with opportunities to develop skills in handwriting Chinese characters and using a selected writing system (simplified or traditional characters) consistently in their writing.	<i>See pages:</i> 7
CR9	The course provides students with opportunities to develop keyboarding skills in Pinyin or Bopomofo.	<i>See pages:</i> 6, 8
CR10	The course dedicates time and support to help students build analytical, research, presentation, and interpersonal skills necessary to complete the course project.	<i>See pages:</i> 2, 7

AP Chinese Language and Culture Sample Syllabus #1

Course Description

The AP® Chinese Language and Culture course develops students' proficiency across interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational communication modes, while fostering deep cultural understanding. Lessons are drawn from authentic materials, including the textbook, Chinese newspapers, websites, videos, and literary works. Students explore multiple AP units, often integrating content from more than one unit to reflect the interdisciplinary nature of language learning. The course uses Chinese almost exclusively for instruction, and students are expected to use Chinese for speaking, listening, reading, and writing every day. **CR1** The course dedicates instructional time (fifteen 45-minute class periods) and resources, and helps students develop analytical, research, presentational, and interpersonal skills to complete the course project. **CR10**

CR1

The syllabus must explicitly state that the course is conducted almost exclusively in Chinese.

AP Chinese Weekly Syllabus (32 Instructional Weeks)

Week 1

Unit 5: Contemporary Life **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 1: Families and Communities**

Topic: Summer Vacation and Part-Time Jobs—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Warm-up: describe pictures of summer activities, follow-up interview **CR5**
Whole-class bar graph showing popular activities **CR3**
- Pair-read short paragraphs about different summer experiences (China vs. U.S.), comprehension checks **CR4**
- Interview three classmates about summer jobs/experiences, report findings
- Homework: vocabulary practice, short reflection in Chinese (typed or handwritten)
- Assessments: 2014 AP Chinese email response

Week 2

Unit 5: Contemporary Life **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 1: Families and Communities**

Topic: Summer Vacation and Part-Time Jobs—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Story narration using picture prompts **CR5** – present a mini-story
- Dialogue reading + T/F statements game from text details
- Conversation relay, authentic reading, quick close read
- Culture focus: mid-autumn festival, mini-project and share

CR10

The syllabus must include an explicit statement confirming that at least fifteen 45-minute class periods, or their equivalent, are dedicated to the course project (as outlined in the Course Project Manual). In particular, time must be specifically dedicated to research, guiding students through creating a written reflection, completing a Personalized Project Reference, and practice of the Project Presentation and Project Q&A.

CR2

The syllabus must explicitly list the six required course units and describe one or more sample activities and authentic sources per unit.

CR5

The syllabus must describe at least one spoken and one written activity, or a series of activities, to address learning objectives within Skill Category 2

Week 3

Unit 5: Contemporary Life **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 3: Art and Creativity**

Topic: Relationships—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Famous people photo warm-up, appearance/personality talk, create questions for peers to recap the famous people's profiles
- Partner interview form on friendships, practice 是 . . . 的 pattern, oral report
- Small-group reading, poster share opinions about dating
- Homework: profile a favorite singer/actor as a mini-poster (handwritten)

Week 4

Unit 2: Language and Culture **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 3: Art and Creativity**

Topic: Relationships—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Speaking tasks (appearance/personality), interpersonal reports
- Conversation relay, authentic reading, quick close read
- Culture story: Monkey King (孙悟空)—read the stories **CR3** – print literary], watch video clips **CR3** – video], perform a short scene **CR5**, introduce Monkey King's personal traits, appearance, and story **CR5**

Week 5

Unit 2: Language and Culture **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 5: Contemporary Life**

Topic: Learning and School Culture—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Warm-up: Chinese courses and Chinese culture clubs pictures and depiction, pair different students with their unique daily schedules, question-slips on interests
- Read three student profiles, comparison chart, act out school-life dialogues
- Presentational tasks: present your Chinese culture club's mini-pitch and interview native speakers about an event-plan of this club in a community event **CR7**

Week 6

Unit 2: Language and Culture **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 4: Science and Technology**

Unit 5: Contemporary Life

Unit 3: Art and Creativity

Topic: Learning and School Culture—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Conversation relay, authentic reading, quick close read
- Culture unit: education systems (China vs. U.S.), interview-skit
- Storytelling; plan an “ideal PROM” (register and pragmatics)

CR3

The syllabus includes at least one example of authentic materials from each of the following types of sources:

1. Audio
2. Visual
3. Audiovisual
4. Written/Print Literary
5. Written/Print Non-Literary

CR7

The syllabus demonstrates that students use Chinese in the classroom or beyond in real-life situations. Simply stating a list of real-life situations is not sufficient.

Week 7

Unit 5: Contemporary Life **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 4: Science and Technology**
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: Work and Hobbies—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Occupations picture talk, pair tasks on responsibilities and interests
- Read short bios [**CR3** – print/non-literary], Q&A, family and famous-person job talk
- 2016 AP Chinese email response
- 2023 AP Chinese conversations

Week 8

Unit 5: Contemporary Life **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 4: Science and Technology**
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: Work and Hobbies—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Dialogue creation from prompts, vocabulary review via card-draw Qs
- Conversation relay, authentic reading, quick close read
Culture mini-project: “In 20 years. . .” (future roles)
- 2024 AP Chinese test email response (robot and job in 10 years)

Week 9

Unit 5: Contemporary Life **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 4: Science and Technology**
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: Sports—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Sports picture talk, class survey on favorite athletes and sports, chalkboard graph (survey favorite sports)
- Dialogue reading with comp-checks, small-group discussions, school sport facilities renovation suggestions

Week 10

Unit 5: Contemporary Life **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 4: Science and Technology**
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: Sports—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Sentence-pattern and vocabulary practice 受欢迎, 连 . . . 都, 擅长, conversation relay, authentic reading, quick close read
- Culture presentation: describe the basic concepts of Go围棋/Taichi太极拳, yin-yang, historical background, and how yin-yang appears in the practicing of Go or Taichi in speaking and writing. Compare Chinese leisure activities with your own favorite activity and share your experience and reflections. **CR5 CR6**

CR6

The syllabus must describe one or more activities to demonstrate how each learning objective in Skill Category 3 is addressed.

Week 11

Unit 5: Contemporary Life CR2

Other Relevant Unit(s): Unit 4: Science and Technology
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: College Apps and College Life—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Four-corners: types of colleges, vocabulary walkabout 推荐信 私立大学 州立大学 申请材料 专业 期望
- Peer interviews about applications, whole-class findings
- Read an authentic article from the webpage of Duke Kunshan University student dorm about living on campus pros/cons, then type a paragraph CR3

Week 12

Unit 5: Contemporary Life CR2

Other Relevant Unit(s): Unit 4: Science and Technology
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: College Apps and College Life—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Sentence-building game, reading and discussion CR4
- Conversation relay, authentic reading (study abroad diary in China), quick close read
- Interpersonal email response: adapting to a Chinese host family's lifestyle (dryer, AC, slippers) with a sample host message and clear requirements. CR5
- Presentational writing: Students write about the host family's lifestyle, compare it with their own, and then reflect CR5
- Chinese calligraphy intro, hands-on work, and mini-presentation

Week 13

Unit 1: Families and Communities CR2

Other Relevant Unit(s): Unit 2: Language and Culture
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: Two Generations—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Discuss “multiple generations under one roof” through the terms of 三代同堂、四世同堂、尊老爱幼、敬老尊贤、望子成龙、望女成凤、代沟, etc., interview invited native speakers to understand their values and perspectives, and compare preferences of family structure in Chinese and American cultures CR6
- Cartoon analysis of two generations, report out CR4
- Listen to podcast on the changing structures of the Chinese family [audio] and watch a vlog before engaging in an online forum-board discussion activity CR3

CR4

The syllabus must describe at least two activities designed to address at least one learning objective within Skill Category 1 using an authentic source.

Week 14

Unit 2: Language and Culture **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 1: Families and Communities**
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: Two Generations—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Quick close read and conversation relay
- Culture unit: Confucius research share “诲人不倦, 有教无类, 知之为知之, 不知为不知” and social change performance
- 2012 and 2021 AP Chinese storytelling

Week 15

Unit 2: Language and Culture **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 1: Families and Communities**
Unit 6: Global Contexts

Topic: Youth and the Internet

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Online-life matching and discussion, class survey chart
- Reading about four teens’ online habits, reason analysis
- Story narrations: and 2024 AP Chinese Story-telling, how to persuade or urge somebody, how to depict the clothes, prices, quality, size and online shopping activities.

Week 16

Topic: Midterm Review and AP Practice

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Spiral review via photo prompts and sentence patterns
- Mock test: 2016 AP Chinese Exam

Week 17

Unit 2: Language and Culture **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 4: Science and Technology**
Unit 3: Art and Creativity
Unit 1: Families and Communities

Topic: Festivals and Traditions—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Spring-festival images/video, expressions and cultural Qs, dialogue reading
- Matching activities with photos 办年货, 发红包, 压岁钱, 放鞭炮, 包饺子, 大扫除, 拜年, 贴春联, 祭祖 . . .
- Writing project (typed): Reply to local Chinese school invitation email with clarifying questions and logistics **CR9**

CR9

The syllabus must include at least one example describing how students use a standard keyboard to type Chinese characters and create text in Chinese. Students must be able to identify the desired character after typing a phonetic transcription of the text using the selected input method (Input Method Editor).

Week 18

Unit 2: Language and Culture **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 4: Science and Technology**
Unit 3: Art and Creativity
Unit 1: Families and Communities

Topic: Festivals and Traditions—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Read an article and watch a video on 春运、高铁, 微信红包 **CR3** – video], discuss how Chinese people celebrate Chinese Lunar New Year, and how technology changes the ways of celebration nowadays
- Compare with how Americans celebrate Christmas and share personal experiences and perspectives **CR6 CR7**
- Compare Qixi and Thanksgiving, plan and rehearse skits on Chang'e 2015 AP Chinese storytelling
- Skit performances: The story of 年, handwritten characters with brief notes and create a pair of 春联 **CR8**

Week 19

Unit 4: Science and Technology **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 2: Language and Culture**
Unit 3: Art and Creativity
Unit 1: Families and Communities

Topic: From Courtyard House to Skyscrapers—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Role-play interview: 四合院 vs. 摩天楼居民—生活/社区/设施/交通(AI, 地铁, 共享单车等)
- Watch clip “胡同里的四合院” and read article on preservation, synthesize in a short paragraph

Week 20

Unit 2: Language and Culture **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 3: Art and Creativity**
Unit 1: Families and Communities
Unit 4: Science and Technology

AP Course Project **CR10**

Topic: From Courtyard House to Skyscrapers—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Model review, select topic, write research questions in Chinese (typed)
- Source hunt: ≥3 authentic sources (news/ads/infographics)
- Partner elevator-pitch and Q&A
- Storytelling in AP Classroom: 大卫在北京过春节 (depicting 四合院, 春联, 包饺子, 年夜饭, 红包)

CR8

The syllabus must include at least one example describing how students practice writing Chinese characters on a regular basis, using a selected writing system consistently in their writing.

Week 21

AP Course Project

Topic: AP Course Project—Inquiry and Notes

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Close-read sources, vocab-in-context and idioms
- Map products–practices–perspectives
- Peer interviews on findings
- Annotated bibliographies

Week 22

Unit 6: Global Contexts **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 3: Art and Creativity**
Unit 4: Science and Technology
Unit 5: Contemporary Life

AP Course Project

Topic: Travel in China—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Close-read sources, vocab-in-context and idioms
- Map products–practices–perspectives
- Peer interviews on findings
- Annotated bibliographies
- Authentic resource: virtual tour/article on the Summer Palace (颐和园)—History and culture significance of a Chinese tourist site, compare public transportation, plan the best travel route and schedule

Week 23

Unit 6: Global Contexts **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 3: Art and Creativity**
Unit 4: Science and Technology
Unit 5: Contemporary Life

AP Course Project

Topic: Travel in China—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Outline and script for 3-min talk, integrate evidence (typed) **CR9**
- Timed practice with feedback
- Practice answering four conversation prompts
- Lexical consolidation from sources
- Research major Arizona destinations (Grand Canyon or Sedona for example), compare transportation options (car, bus, train, plane) and pros/cons, learn how to express seasons and climate suitability for visiting certain sites, generate questions and interview each other
- Authentic Resources: *Official Arizona Travel Guide*, Chinese Edition
- Storytelling of 2011 and 2022, use the key words of “travel”

Week 24

Unit 6: Global Contexts **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 3: Art and Creativity**
Unit 4: Science and Technology
Unit 5: Contemporary Life

AP Course Project

Topic: Overseas Chinese— Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Outline and script for 3-min talk, integrate evidence (typed)
- Timed practice with feedback
- Conversation prompt practice
- Lexical consolidation

Week 25

Unit 6: Global Contexts **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 3: Art and Creativity**
Unit 4: Science and Technology
Unit 5: Contemporary Life

AP Course Project

Topic: Overseas Chinese—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Role-play interview to become a volunteer teacher at local Chinese school **CR7**
- Follow-up thank-you email and availability note (typed) **CR5**
- 2014 AP Chinese conversations
- Authentic reading: the tour guides for San Francisco's or New York's Chinatowns, do a 2-minute presentation **CR7**

Week 26

Unit 3: Art and Creativity **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 2: Language and Culture**

AP Course Project

Topic: Chinese Traditional Arts—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Mock: 3-min presentation and examiner questions
- Forum-style peer feedback
- Cultural comparison linking findings to home culture
- Learn modern Chinese history through film “To Live” [**CR3** – video]
《活着》背景关键词与简介(组内分工:书面摘要+口头导览), also learn the Chinese shadow puppetry

Week 27

Unit 3: Art and Creativity CR2

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 2: Language and Culture**

AP Course Project

Topic: Chinese Traditional Arts—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Watch paper-cutting tutorial [CR3 – visual], create a design, describe the procedure and write it down
- Q&A project—practice asking and answering questions by asking about the course project process

Week 28

Unit 6: Global Contexts CR2

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 5: Contemporary Life**
Unit 4: Science and Technology

AP Course Project

Topic: Life in a Globalized Age—Week A

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Read 2–3 stories about Chinese workers who moved from the countryside to large cities
- Understand the positives and negatives of the location change
- Design an interview of one of the workers

Week 29

Unit 6: Global Contexts CR2

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 5: Contemporary Life**
Unit 4: Science and Technology

AP Course Project

Topic: Life in a Globalized Age—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Present what you learned about one worker
- Act out the prepared interview with a partner
- Handwrite selected interview questions and answers from classmates
- Ask classmates questions based the role play of the interview

Week 30

Unit 6: Global Contexts **CR2**

Other Relevant Unit(s): **Unit 5: Contemporary Life**
Unit 4: Science and Technology

AP Course Project

Topic: Life in a Globalized Age—Week B

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Interpret graphic about population trends in China, practice inferring terms
- Present your findings to the group and include 2 questions or more
- Write an email to the worker you interviewed and ask the drafted questions

Week 31

AP Course Project

Topic: AP Course Project

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Finalize 1-page project reference
- Timed 3-minute Chinese project presentation

Week 32

AP Unit(s): All Units

Topic: Free Response Mock and Feedback (Email and Story)

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- FRQ practice: Email reply and story narration with post-response review

Week 33

Topic: Free Response Mock and Feedback (Conversation)

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- FRQ practice: conversation (4 prompts) and targeted feedback

Week 34

Topic: Full Mock Test 2 and Feedback

Planned Activities and Fulfilled CR

- Full exam simulation (L/R/W/S) and debrief

References

AP Chinese Classroom, College Board.

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Shen and Shang. *AP Chinese Language and Culture* (4th edition). Barron's, 2024.