



Bridge Across Nations Mandarin[®]

Nevada Union High School

School Year 2011-2012

Two six-week sessions of after-school Mandarin classes were held during this school year. Speaking, listening, reading and writing skills were taught in the context of dialogues based on daily greetings and commonplace events. Classes were game-based, student-centered activities. Students were introduced to Chinese culture by giving them an alliterative name in Chinese, showing the Chinese characters and the meaning of each character. Samples of student name worksheets and homework are attached.

Student participants numbered thirteen and six students completed all sessions, earning a certificate of completion.

Three native speaking students acted as assistant teachers: Xinyue, Shan Li, and Michael Oliver.

Going forward, it would be helpful if the Mandarin classes could be included in the school calendar. In addition, if the classes could be a part of an "extra credit" program for normal school classes such as history, social studies, geography and other related classes. The extra credit could be a strong incentive for students to attend all six lessons.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to participate in the school life of Nevada Union High School! I look forward to discussing the Mandarin program with you further sometime this summer.

Very truly yours,

Cynthia "Candy" Perine