

## Why Mandarin Chinese?

- Students find China's long history and rich culture to be fascinating.
- The U.S. Department of State has identified Chinese as a "critical language" for Americans to learn. This means increased funding for:
  - special programs and opportunities to learn Chinese language and culture
  - special scholarships for students who have studied Chinese
  - career opportunities associated with fluency in the Chinese language
- With 1.4 billion people, China is the most populous nation in the world.
- One-fifth of the global population speaks Chinese, making it the most widely spoken first-language in the world.
- China has the second largest economy in the world.
- China is one of the largest trading partners of the United States.
- Many U.S. companies conduct business in China and have long-term investments there.

## OHM BOCES Provides

- Promotional material for the program
- Hiring, mentoring, training, and professional development for teachers
- Curriculum, textbooks and classroom materials
- Equipment, training and support
- An advisory board to share information with schools and receive feedback
- Communication with parents and school district stakeholders

## School District Provides

- Internal promotional efforts to increase student awareness and interest
- Recruiting and scheduling of students
- Classroom facilitators for far-site classes
- Representatives to the advisory council
- Chromebooks for each student

## What makes IVC Classrooms Different?

- In-person and/or interactive video-based instruction
- High definition video-conferencing devices
- High definition monitors and professional microphones
- Options for local and/or cloud-based video conferencing
- Document camera to show physical items/documents on display screens
- Laptop with stylus for teacher

## Technical Capabilities

- Live, interactive two-way audio and video
- Teachers can share their computer screen to remote sites
- Teacher can control configuration of screen(s)
- Teacher can record instruction, as necessary
- Buzz Learning Management System used to centralize learning content, grades, assessment, etc...
- Remote instruction and assistance available for remote students

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

**Greg Smith**

*Computer Education Coordinator*

Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES

315.223.4793

[gsmith@oneida-boces.org](mailto:gsmith@oneida-boces.org)

[www.oneida-boces.org/IVC](http://www.oneida-boces.org/IVC)



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## BACKGROUND

The Oneida-Herkimer-Madison (OHM) BOCES Chinese Language and Culture (CLC) Program was created in 2006. The Program was initially funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Foreign Language Assistance Program and is designed to provide instruction in Mandarin Chinese to students in grades 6-12 as part of our Interactive Video Courses (IVC) program. The grant ended in 2013 and our CLC Program is now fully self-sustaining. All courses derive from the New York State World Languages standards and are aligned to the national standards put forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

Currently, a partnership with the Confucius Institute of Chinese Opera at SUNY Binghamton offers our students regular opportunities for cultural enrichment. In addition, an annually provided supplemental grant from Asia Society affords our program extra opportunities to engage students, including offering the opportunity for students to join us on a partially paid trip to visit China every two years.

## SEQUENTIAL PROGRAM

*Grades 6-12*

### **Level 1: Grades 6-8 or 7-9** *Three years of instruction*

- Broken into three years of study: 1a, 1b, and 1c
- Meets all NYS World Languages Checkpoint A standards
- OHM BOCES Checkpoint A exam administered at the end of Level 1c
- Students can earn one (1) or two units of diploma credit, including satisfying the World Languages minimum requirement for New York State diploma. *Amount of diploma credit varies based on grade level.*

### **Level 2: Grades 9-10 or 10-11** *Two years of instruction*

- Prerequisite: Level 1
- Broken into two years of study: 2a and 2b
- Based on NYS World Languages Checkpoint B standards
- Students can earn one (1) unit of diploma credit *for each year of study in Level 2*

### **Level 3: Grades 11 or 12** *One year of instruction*

- Prerequisite: Level 2
- Meets all NYS World Languages Checkpoint B standards
- OHM BOCES Checkpoint B exam administered at the end of Level 3. The exam can be used as an option to meet exam requirements (4+1 Pathways) to earn a New York State diploma.
- Satisfies the World Languages requirement to earn a New York State Regents diploma with advanced designation
- Dual-credit course:
  - Six (6) tuition-free college credits - *Mohawk Valley Community College*
  - One (1) unit of diploma credit - *High School*

### **Level 4: Grade 12** *One year of instruction*

- Prerequisite: Level 3
- Based on NYS World Languages Checkpoint C standards
- Dual-credit course:
  - Six (6) tuition-free college credits - *Mohawk Valley Community College*
  - One (1) unit of diploma credit - *High School*
- Advanced Placement (AP) examination optional *Additional study requirements recommended*
- Students have the opportunity to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy *Additional requirements from New York State apply*

## UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

- One of our Chinese students was selected to participate in the "100K Strong" initiative by the United States Government. Across the United States, only 100 students were selected for this honor.
- Several CLC students have minored or majored in Chinese in college. Some students have even furthered their education through study abroad in China.



## ELECTIVE COURSES

For students wishing to study Mandarin Chinese as an elective course while enrolled in high school.

### **Elective Course I:**

Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture

- Six (6) tuition-free college credits - *Mohawk Valley Community College*
- One (1) unit of diploma credit - *High School*

### **Elective Course II:**

Intermediate Chinese Language and Culture

- Six (6) tuition-free college credits - *Mohawk Valley Community College*
- One (1) unit of diploma credit - *High School*

## BY THE NUMBERS (2021)

- 6 full-time teachers: Live instruction provided daily!
- Small class sizes: Many classes only have 8-10 students per school!
- Meet new friends: Nearly 400 students participate in our program across New York State!
- Flexible scheduling! Nearly 40 class sections are offered daily.

## RECOGNITION

In 2009, the OHM BOCES CLC was honored by Asia Society as an exemplary program in teaching Chinese language and culture. As such, our CLC Program has been recognized as an "Asian Society Confucius Classroom" since that time.

## PARTNER SCHOOL IN CHINA

Partnerships between American and Chinese schools are a unique privilege that comes with our status as a Confucius Classroom.

OHM BOCES' partner school is Chongqing Bashu Secondary School located in Chongqing, China.

- An annually funded grant from the Asia Society Confucius Classroom helps to fund the unique activities between our schools.
- Students make friends with pen-pals at our partner school
- Can include student and teacher exchanges
- OHM BOCES CLC students visited China in 2014, 2016 and 2018.
- Trips to China will continue every two years.

