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Mandarin Chinese Available at Queen of Peace

With Chinese President Hu Jintao's recent visit to Chicago, the idea of teaching Chinese in American schools has been brought to the forefront. Queen of Peace, an all-girls college prep school in Burbank, has featured Mandarin Chinese as part of its curriculum for the past two years.

Course instructor Yanfei Hu, an MBA candidate at Dominican University, teaches first and second year Chinese in Queen of Peace's Media Center to more than 50 students. Consistent with the school's commitment to seamless integration of advanced instructional methods and technologies, the Mandarin Chinese classes are offered to Maria High School via Peace's videoconferencing capabilities. This allows both schools' students to learn simultaneously and discover opportunities for global collaboration and immersion.

Before Hu came to study in America she majored in Chinese Literature at Lanzhou University in Gansu Province, taught English to Chinese businessmen and served as a state licensed tour guide.

"I love the students; they are so eager to learn and speak Chinese" Hu said. "I am surprised at the number of students who sign up every year for the morning course; Queen of Peace is truly ahead of their time in offering Mandarin Chinese, which is the language in the expanding business market."

Hu is planning to bring representatives from the Chinese Consulate in Chicago to Queen of Peace to speak with students about their growing interest in China and to explain customs surrounding the upcoming Chinese New Year, which starts Feb. 3.

Photo caption:



Queen of Peace Mandarin Chinese instructor Yanfei Hu speaks to Maria High School students from the Peace Media Center via videoconferencing, while Peace students simultaneously listen to the lesson. Queen of Peace has featured Mandarin Chinese as part of its curriculum for the past two years.

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