

Professional Goal

My professional goal is to be an effective Chinese teacher who knows how to successfully manage classrooms and who knows how to use different teaching methods in order to fit students' needs.

As an ESL person, I must admit that I seem to lack of successful classroom management skills, maybe because of cross-cultural issues between my students and me. Creating an engaging learning environment is always my goal, but some of my students do not always cooperate in class. Sometimes I wonder if different approaches would motivate my students to learn the language in the classroom. After attending a Chinese-teacher training program at the University of Virginia (UVa) this summer, I realize that I should let my students "perform" more often so that their oral skills in Chinese would improve eventually. I, of course, can continually share computer-based programs with my students who are familiar with using technology, but I should focus on my students' spoken skills as well.

I used to think I should "control" my classrooms or my students would take over. I liked to employ computer-based programs to keep my students busy. I thought they would behave well when they were busying working on their computer-based assignments. However, after attending the teacher training program at UVa, I wonder if my students who perform or "use" the language more would behave in the classroom. I would like to try some new approaches which I learned from UVa in my classroom. Perhaps my classroom atmosphere would become more positive.

Not only should I try these new ideas which I learned, but I should also continually study latest and effective teaching methods. Studying updated teaching theories builds up my knowledge in teaching; while applying the information I have learned into practice will help me become a more successful teacher.

I like to work with students and enjoy teaching. I will do my very best to help more people learn the Chinese language and hope that these people will appreciate the target culture as well.