

Personal Statement

I started teaching Chinese to students from different age groups since 2010. I taught middle and high school students and tutored elementary school students from Chinese immersion programs as well as working adults from diverse culture backgrounds. During the past three years, I have been teaching five different levels of Chinese courses to 9th to 12th graders in an independent school with IB diploma program. I think overall I am quite fortunate to be able to teach the grade levels I want, although with a standardized IB test in the highest level that requires much more preparation from teachers. I am glad to work with a diverse group of students recently and could teach two graduating IB classes with first year all passing and second year achieving close to full scores. In addition, I also organized two spring break China immersion programs with one IB international school in Chengdu and East China Normal University in Shanghai and was able to lead one trip with 16 students to experience the Chinese culture in limited 10 days.

During the past couple of years, my teaching philosophy focuses on using technologies (different web tools) in instructions, assessments, and class management as well as using the target language at least 90% of the time during class. What I would like to improve more are using more authentic materials, integrating more culture components, and facilitating a more learner-centered classroom. I think the challenges I encounter are first to teach higher-level students including heritage speakers, as most of my students are beginning and intermediate levels and second how to differentiate instructions in a multi-level class. Hopefully there are future opportunities for me to continue to reflect my own teaching and grow as a lifelong learner.