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Personal statement

Raised in Jilin in Northern China, where I earned my Bachelor's degree, I moved to Shenzhen in southern China where I completed a 16-year career as a newspaper reporter, editor, and columnist before relocating to the US and marrying my husband in early 2010. I obtained my Texas Teaching Certification through the University of Texas at Austin's UTeach program, and have privately tutored, taught in evening and weekend Chinese schools, and in 5 elementary schools.

I have taught in 3 Austin area high schools, including where I currently teach, in the prestigious Liberal Arts and Science Academy, or LASA, ranked the number 8 high school in the entire US. I teach all levels, from beginner through advanced, including AP. My teaching philosophy incorporates student-centered learning, and I incorporate authentic and practical cultural experiences in a fun environment whenever practical. My students have at least one major project every 6 weeks, often including preparation for and performing in one or more cultural festivals, such as Chinese New Year, or Spring, and Mid-Autumn festivals. My students have all achieved success with all who participated in the AP Chinese exams achieving a score of at least 3, and all my students have achieved a highest score of 5 in 2017 AP Chinese exams.