

Cover Letter

My name is Nanxi Meng, I received my M.A. degree in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language from East China Normal University in 2014. I served as a lecturer and the coordinator of Chinese at University of North Texas. I believe that this instructive experience at UNT has familiarized me with the program and its current and future needs, and will help me to develop our Chinese program further.

Working since 2014 has strengthened my skills in teaching Chinese and enhanced my coordinating at the tertiary level. I have been teaching all levels of Chinese courses including two Advanced Chinese courses. I believe that students have responded well to my teaching efforts as evidenced by my positive course evaluation scores. Working independently as the coordinator has given me a better understanding of class scheduling, curriculum development and launching a study abroad program.

To cater for the program and student needs, I have actively organized auxiliary events and activities related to the Chinese program. I have organized the weekly conversation table sessions by inviting native Chinese speakers as trainers, to facilitate language training for students from Chinese classes in a Chinese-only environment. I am also responsible for running the weekly cultural events, continuing activities like the Chinese movie screening, calligraphy, and Chinese tea ceremony, and introducing Chinese painting and Chinese music to promote familiarity with and enjoyment of Chinese culture.

I believe that interinstitutional collaborations can benefit our students and the Chinese program, raising our Chinese language program's profile in the metroplex. Inspired by the Annual Conference of Chinese Language Teachers Association of Texas (CLTA) I attended in September 2015, I have started working with the Confucius Institute at UT-Dallas to establish a HSK (Chinese proficiency test) center in UNT. It aims to provide professional Chinese language proficiency tests to UNT students and other Chinese learners in Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex.

In order to develop the Chinese program in the long term, I think that outreach activities and external resources will help recruit students to UNT in general and the Chinese program in particular. Since August 2015, I have been teaching as a volunteer for the Denton Chinese School, which offers classes of various levels to more than 30 students of various ages on Saturdays. In September 2015, I was invited to Denton High School to give a Chinese music appreciation lecture to all students in their Chinese classes, and discussed the possibility with the principal of Denton High School that the UNT Chinese program will invite students from them to the UNT campus to attend cultural events, and to invite promising students to audit Chinese classes on the UNT campus in the future.

This summer, I'm so pleased to receive the award STARTALK Chinese Teacher training program in University of Virginia specified on online teaching. Through attending a series of intensive lessons and hands-on teaching experience (Grades 9-12) and provided me with professional development of curriculum design, instruction, online interactive and

assessment. I made huge progress in teaching practices and become a good Chinese teacher with.