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Personal statement

With both bachelor and master degrees from East China Normal University, I am working on the doctoral degree on Curriculum and Instructions at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Starting from the fall of 2017, I will work at University of Chicago as a Chinese lecturer. Before that, I have worked at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as a lecturer and later a senior lecturer from 2010 to 2017.

As the coordinator of Chinese program at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee from 2013 to 2017, I have made great effort and contribution in promoting and directing the whole program.

Meanwhile, I am also ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Certified Tester in Chinese and the ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) Rater in Chinese. With a thorough understanding of 5C's and American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI), my teaching is both effective and enjoyable.

To me, teaching is a marvelous adventure. Before it begins, I must plan the itinerary, prepare luggage, and anticipate any possible difficulties I might encounter. During the adventure, I must make necessary adjustments and confront unexpected difficulties. At the end, I will meet either fortune or failure, the latter being a good lesson to learn from before I start next adventure.

An adventure is a journey that requires sufficient mental and physical capabilities. The preparation should be extensive and continuous. My teaching adventures include both language and culture courses. These experiences expand my capabilities in curriculum design and instructional pedagogy.

The adventure is for both my students and me. As the leader of this journey, I design tasks and challenges for my passengers. Students are led into this adventure with an inviting and approachable style.

I love this adventure. As a Chinese teacher, I know well the difference between a Chinese teacher and a teacher who teaches any other subject. Behind me, there is a whole background of Chinese language, culture, and upbringing. It is an honor to share the beauty of the Chinese language and the glory of Chinese culture to my students. Seeing students' accomplishments is the most satisfying part of being a Chinese teacher.