

Hua Ma

Cover Letter

In 2009, I was offered an opportunity to teach Chinese Mandarin at two high schools in Yorktown, Virginia. This experience opened doors for me to learn from educators in the United States, to experience the latest technologies and some of the most advanced strategies in education and management. In 2010-2011 school year, I was teaching three high school in York County School Division due to the resignation of a teacher at the third school. It is also in that school year that I joined the virtual learning team at York County School Division. I participated in the construction of the Survey of World Languages online courses, and created the whole online course for Chinese Mandarin, providing all York County middle schools with the opportunity to explore the language and culture in an engaging virtual environment. Upon the completion of the construction of the project, I have been teaching the course. At the same time, I am working as a mentor for Virtual Virginia courses at Grafton High school. Throughout my teaching experience at York County School Division, I often find myself one the first to introduce new educational technology (building my own online resources and using school-based technologies like Quizdom, Ipads, Smartboard, etc.) to classrooms. It has been quite clear to me that the overall student participation and achievement are increased with the implement of these technologies.

Besides teaching language and exploring more possibilities of educational technologies at work, I also attend conferences, seminars and online professional training and classes to keep myself updated with the latest education strategies and technologies. In 2010, I started a M.A. in Education at Wake Forest University School of Education. This 36-credit-hour graduate program

in education enables me to better understand the fundamental principles and laws of the American education system; it helps me build a solid foundation in educational theories, researches and practice; it provides me with the opportunity to learn, explore and implement the world's latest technology in the field of education. With all these course work in education history, research, theory, practice, technology, laws, leadership, management and etc., I find myself growing tremendously professionally and personally.

At present, I am teaching upper-intermediate level Chinese Mandarin at the College of William & Mary.