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Cover Letter

My name is Huayi Zhang, and I am studying as a graduate student at Asian Studies Program at the Seton Hall University.

I'm the kind of person who has always had a great interest in applying my skills while discovering new things. I was only 14 then, I had already made up my mind that teaching Chinese is the kind of job that I would like to do for the rest of my life. Language is the first step on the way to learning anything new.

After graduating from high school, I went on to Jiangxi Normal University where I had a number of excellent potential teachers and instructors as classmates. While there, I chose Chinese language and literature as my major, and I learned from a wide range of courses including: Linguistics, Chinese Literature, Western Literature, etc. I furthered my studies at Minzu University of China. I took academic courses mostly about language pedagogy. In addition, to further develop my teaching skills, I tutor an international student from Kazakhstan. In the beginning, it was a great challenge for me, because she does not speak English at all and had just began to learn Chinese and I do not speak her language. There was hardly any way to communicate with her, let alone teach her. I chose a suitable textbook for her, which contained more appropriate texts, and thus the problem was solved. She has been making dramatic progress since then, and I am currently helping her prepare for the HSK-6.

I had been encouraged by the dean and my family to apply for admission to study at Seton Hall University and work for an M.A. in Asian Studies Program. It is an ideal place for higher education because of its long history, beautiful scenery and academic achievements. I have finally made my decision to go study in Seton Hall.

Life is like a journey. My motto is "take the chance to experience new things as much as possible while you can or you'll regret it." Even though some might think it too adventurous, and though I know I will encounter many difficulties and challenges, I believe where there is a will, there is a way.

Since I got America, I have been living my life in Seton Hall to the fullest. I have been taking all the opportunities I can to improve myself to be a good Chinese language teacher. I did my intern in a variety of schools which has Chinese

program. I participated the workshops like the STARTALK Program in the University of Virginia which I learnt a lot.

Even though I might be alone away from home, I'll never be lonely, because my dream accompanies me wherever I go. I'm sure the job market of Chinese language teachers is not just in China, it's anywhere people desire to learn the language.