

I have decided early on that I would be a teacher while growing up in Taiwan and I never deviated from this intention. I taught elementary schools for eight years after I graduated from Taichung Teachers College. I was asked to relocate in the U.S. to be with my husband in 1991. Thereafter, I started teaching Mandarin at a Chinese heritage school on Saturdays. I taught seventeen years before accepting a full time position, teaching Mandarin, at an independent school from grade 8 to 12 in the fall of 2010.

It brings me tremendous joy and brightens up my days to be a teacher. In order to strive to be an accomplished professional teacher, I continue to attend various teacher training programs. I am thankful and grateful for the 2011 Virginia STARTALK Chinese Teacher Academy program. It not only showed me how to use target language in class but also provided me the opportunity to put it into practice in a real class setting. This course empowered me to be a more capable teacher and strengthen my ability to adopt effective techniques in curriculum design. I know that I need to have communicative questions and meaningful tasks along with ample opportunities for students to practice speaking the target language in the class. I will apply what I learned from this program and continue finding ways to improve my instruction.