## Teaching Philosophy Wei-Li Huang (Winnie)

I expect my students have the enjoyment of learning and they can be well prepared for the future with adequate knowledge and skill. With a substitute teaching job in teaching Mandarin, inspires me to choose Mandarin as my teaching subject in high school. I teach elementary level students in a Chinese heritage language school. I find that keeping heritage language in a mainstream environment in the U.S. is not easy. Besides, there are more non-heritage students learning this target language. There is a great deal of needs of qualified language teachers. I decided to choose this subject for my teaching content. I expect myself to introduce my culture to young learners who share the same culture as I do and extend the culture to more people who want to know about Chinese language and culture.

First, I believe everyone wants to learn but not everyone knows how to learn and what to learn. As a teacher, I desire to help each student in my classroom enjoy learning and develop the interest and find her potential in the subject. I need to know what my students are and what their background is as well as their learning styles to help and effective lesson planning and instruction. In this century, teachers are required to know multicultural student boy and how to fulfill their needs in learning. Differentiated lesson plans are always necessary. Every student deserves an equal opportunity to learn well.

Second, a trusting relationship between students and me is a conducive to a positive learning outcome. I think it is important to get to know my students about their learning background and motivation to learn. To provide a no-fear and openminded learning environment is good for anyone with different background and different academic levels. I believe students learn best with their unique interest and inquiries.

Third, a well-structured learning setting is cardinal to provide the equity of learning. I insist my students learn in an enjoyable learning climate but it must come with certain classroom rules in terms of respecting each other's right to learn.

Fourth, I encourage an interactive and communicative learning approach with technology in my classroom. The traditional teaching style in Chinese language learning decrease students' interest and motivation. For example, drill practices and teacher-fronted lessons. Besides conducting communicative teaching, I use technology to assist teaching and create more visualized instructions to students. Students can also build their self-learning skills at home through technology. Students learn effectively when they are engaged.

Fifth, it is always necessary to have well-developed formative and summative assessments to evaluate student's performance. Formative assessment, such as homework, in-class discussion, journal writing, and group activities, provides teachers information about how students learn after our instructions during the period of learning. Teacher are able to modify their lessons and instructions after students' feedback through a varied of activities. Summative assessment offers a tool to judge if students are able pass the benchmark after certain time of learning. I believe both of them are pivotal to assist teachers examine their effectiveness of teaching in the end

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of semester.

Sixth, I keep myself accessible, as well as the learning material, to students. The ultimate goal of teaching is to assist students to explore their potentials and develop their thinking skills and research ability to establish a life long learning skills. The knowledge base is growing immensely over the past century. I hope, through my teaching, my students can explore much more than they find in the classroom after they leave my classroom.

Last but not least is to reach the goal of teaching—to improve students' learning. It is necessary for teachers to reflect themselves in daily teaching. To have colleagues to work as a team to locate problems and see the solution in teaching is very effective to maintain and furbish the professional to both novice and seasoned teachers in this eternal learning career.