

To supplement this teaching portfolio, I would like to highlight the positive experience in Chinese 645: Chinese Teaching Practicum, taught by Dr. Haidan Wang at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, which allowed me to observe and conduct teaching demonstrations. The teaching practicum assisted my professional development as a Chinese language educator, allowing me to have the opportunity to observe my colleagues in 100 to 400 level courses. I also had the opportunity to do a teaching demonstration in a 100 and 200 level Mandarin class. The experience observing and teaching in my colleagues' Mandarin language classrooms allowed me to gain a better understanding of teaching Mandarin as a foreign language. In this reflection, I would like to highlight the beliefs I had teaching Mandarin as a second language, as well as adopting new techniques from observing my colleagues' classes.

In this teaching practicum, I read many papers about second language acquisition theories in the second language classroom, which had topics that ranged from interactive grammar teaching, teaching romanization in the Chinese second and foreign language learners and conducting classroom action research. Through the readings assigned in this course, it changed my beliefs on teaching Chinese as a second language, particularly through keeping detailed reflections and classroom teaching notes on what was successful in class, and what could be developed and changed in lesson plans when class sessions did not go as "planned". As a prior English as a second language educator of adult learners in the United States, I learned that it was "okay" to highlight more important aspects of a unit in an assigned course textbook, and to recommend students to research more about areas that were not covered in the classroom. This is through classroom observations that I also attended from my colleagues, which also taught me to cover vocabulary more methodically, such as using vocabulary in context, rather than asking students to chorally repeat after me when I was teaching the 100 to 200 level Mandarin classes.