

SSU-JOU (ZOE) CHO

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EDUCATION

National Tsing Hua University Hsinchu, Taiwan
M.A. Department of Chinese Literature 2019.09 – 2023.02

National Tsing Hua University Hsinchu, Taiwan
B.A. Department of Chinese Literature 2015.09 – 2019.06

WORKING EXPERIENCE

University of Saint Thomas Houston, US
Mandarin Lecturer 2023.08 – present

- Teach four novice-level Chinese courses for diverse learners, including university students, local police officers, and community members.
- Design interactive and task-based activities, including role-plays, to strengthen students' practical communication abilities.
- Improve students' spoken fluency, resulting in over 70% of learners achieving basic conversational proficiency by the end of the semester.
- Organize large-scale online TCSL workshops (80–100 participants per session) and independently launch the university's first Chinese Speech Contest, attracting over 30 high school participants and fostering cross-institutional professional exchange.

Indiana University's Project Global Officer (Project GO) program Kaohsiung, Taiwan
Lead Instructor 2025.05 – 2025.08

- Applied ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines to design instruction based on learners' developmental stages, integrating principles from second language acquisition to target specific linguistic features
- Employed the Academia Sinica Balanced Corpus of Modern Chinese to conduct **corpus-informed grammatical analysis**, refining textbook grammar points by identifying fine-grained and high-frequency syntactic patterns
- Analyzed learner output to monitor interlanguage development and adjust instruction accordingly, resulting in measurable proficiency gains
- Achieved significant learning outcomes: students' Oral Proficiency Interview ratings improved from Levels 1–1+ to Level 2.

American Councils for International Education NSLI-Y program Hsinchu, Taiwan
Instructor 2023.04 – 2023.08

- Delivered intermediate and advanced Chinese instruction grounded in SLA-informed pedagogy, with a focus on developing learners' accuracy, fluency, and structural complexity
- Designed task-based communicative activities that promoted meaningful output and strengthened learners' ability to transfer classroom input to authentic, real-life communicative contexts
- Conducted continuous evaluation of learner language to track developmental progress, with all students demonstrating measurable proficiency gains and successfully advancing to the next ACTFL proficiency level

Intensive Online Chinese Language Program Hsinchu, Taiwan
Instructor 2021.06– 2021.08

- Taught one-on-one A2-level learners using SLA-informed instructional design, focusing on the development of phonological accuracy, syntactic complexity, and discourse-level competence
- Created tailored reading and listening materials based on authentic input and frequency-sensitive text selection, supporting learners' processing and comprehension
- Conducted ongoing analysis of learner performance to track developmental changes and inform pedagogical adjustments

Classical Chinese Textbook Compilation Program Hsinchu, Taiwan
Part-time Research Assistant 2021.01– 2021.06

- Performed corpus-based analyses of Old Chinese with the Academia Sinica Tagged Corpus of Old Chinese, systematically identifying and classifying major grammatical constructions
- Selected and adapted Classical Chinese texts suitable for pedagogical use based on linguistic complexity and learner readability
- Designed textbook topics, comprehension questions, and grammar explanations informed by linguistic analysis

The United States Air Force Academy

Hsinchu, Taiwan

Instructor

2020.09– 2020.12

- Taught Media Chinese courses using a Content-Based Instruction (CBI) approach, integrating news discourse analysis with instruction in reading processes, meaning construction, and text-level comprehension.
- Guided students to summarize and critically interpret news articles, developing skills in discourse comprehension, information integration, and academic writing

Middlebury's Chinese Immersion Program

Hsinchu, Taiwan

Instructor

2020.06– 2020.07

- Taught three A1-level one-on-one courses, focusing on pronunciation, basic conversational skills, and foundational grammar use
- Designed interactive, discussion-based tasks that encouraged learners to produce complete sentences and develop confidence in spoken communication

The United States Air Force Academy

Hsinchu, Taiwan

Instructor

2019.08– 2019.12

- Taught a B1-level Chinese course combining integrated instruction and reading practice, training students in skimming, scanning, and text comprehension.
- Strengthened students' paragraph-level expression through writing tasks and issue-based discussions.

The United States Military Academy West Point

Hsinchu, Taiwan

Instructor

2019.03– 2019.05

- Taught a one-on-one "Contemporary Short Stories" Chinese reading course, using micro-fiction to strengthen the student's text comprehension and paragraph-level expression.
- Guided the learner to analyze textual structure and coherence—such as identifying paragraph relationships and mapping character connections—and to summarize ideas through structured writing.

INTERSHIP**NTHU Chinese Language Center**

Hsinchu, Taiwan

Teaching Assistant

2018.10– 2019.01

- Assisted the instructors to teach mandarin and Chinese cultures to 18 students for 4 months
- Improve the ability to correct assignments and the ability to provide student feedback
- Learned teaching skills from the teachers (teaching methodologies, curriculum design, etc.)

STARTALK Internship at College Park Elementary School

San Mateo, US

Instructor & Teaching Assistant

2018.07– 2018.08

- Assisted the lead instructor in teaching a thematic Chinese immersion class on "Genes" to 20 first-grade students, introducing concepts such as inherited traits (e.g., hair and eye color) through age-appropriate language tasks
- Guided students in exploring traditional Chinese culture by teaching auspicious symbols and facilitating hands-on paper-cutting activities.

Masarykova University of Czech Republic

Hsinchu, Taiwan

Teaching Assistant

2017.10– 2018.01

- Provided three months of distance learning to two one-on-one students
- Revised presentation improved students' writing skills in text structure, coherence and argumentation

PUBLICATION/PARTICIPATION**Conference Presentations**

- Cho, S.-J. (2025, November 6–8). *Literary works as advanced Chinese reading materials: A framework for text selection* [Conference presentation]. 11th International Conference on Chinese Language Teachers & 14th World Conference for Graduate Students in Chinese Language Studies, Taipei, Taiwan (Hybrid conference). 2025.11

- Cho, S.-J. (2021, October 26). *Analysis of learner errors in the use of “cái” and “jiù” and pedagogical implications: A study of English-speaking learners of Chinese* [Conference presentation]. Graduate Student Research Conference, Department of Chinese Literature, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan. 2021.10

Thesis

- Cho, S.-J. (2023). *A study on the compilation guidelines of literature as an advanced Chinese reading textbook* (Master's thesis, National Tsing Hua University). National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan. <https://hdl.handle.net/11296/s2h77f> 2023.02

Textbook

- Cho, S.-J., He, J.-X., Hu, Z.-Y., Lin, T.-Z., Liu, C.-H., Luo, Y.-X., Shih, Y.-X., Song, C.-H., Sun, X.-Y., WANG, Y.-H. & Zheng, X.-R. (2022). *Introduction to classical Chinese* (《華語文課程：基礎文言文》). National Tsing Hua University Press. 2022.11

Awards/Honors

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- **Ministry of Education Mandarin Teacher Overseas Assignment Program, Taiwan** 2023-2026
Selected to serve as a Mandarin Lecturer at the University of St. Thomas, Houston.
 - **Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Award (FLTA), Taiwan** 2020.04
Selected for the 2020–2021 placement at the University of Notre Dame; unable to participate due to COVID-19 travel restrictions