

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

April 15, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my great pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Zachary Vansickle as part of his portfolio for a Chinese teaching position. I have known Zachary Vansickle for about one year, as his instructor of CHS401 and CHS402 in 2011-2012 school year at Michigan State University.

The courses in which I was his instructor was high-intermediate Chinese (four-year Chinese). Zachary Vansickle's performance in that class was most of the time among the top and his proficiency in Chinese reached the desired level, especially his spoken Chinese. But he certainly still has a lot of space for improvement in his Chinese speaking and writing abilities. I would rank him among the top 5% among the students in our Chinese program. Zachary was a diligent student. He always finished the assignments on time and approached me for questions about and comments on the readings and exercises as well as the teaching methodology. I used Literature Circle in my teaching and his comments/suggestions were very appropriate and I will certainly adopt them in my future teaching. Zachary was always very active in the literature circle discussions (in Chinese) and contributed valuable questions/comments to his group. Zachary loved helping his classmates out when needed, which demonstrated his ability to teach and passion for helping others.

In addition, Zachary is an amiable person to work with. He was very much liked by his fellow classmates for his maturity, responsibility, and outgoing personality.

In conclusion, I believe that Zachary Vansickle is an excellent candidate for a Chinese teaching position, given his qualified Chinese proficiency, perseverance and strong determination/goal in his Chinese studies, demonstrated ability to teach others, and his easy-going personality. Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at (517) 353-7216 or by email at xli@msu.edu.

Sincerely,

Xiaoshi Li
Assistant Professor
Department of Linguistics and Languages
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824



College of Arts and Letters

Department of
Linguistics and
Germanic, Slavic,
Asian, and African
Languages

Michigan State
University
A-614 Wells Hall
East Lansing, MI
48824-1027

517-353-0740
Fax: 517-432-2736
<http://linglang.msu.edu>