

Statement of purpose for pursuing graduate study



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ment of Purpose for Pursuing Graduate Studies I was born in Hainan Province and immigrated to Hong Kong at the age of seven. Being raised as a country girl, it took me some time to adjust to the city lifestyle. It was scary for me to see all kinds of motorcars making loud noises in the street.

As a child I only spoke the Hainan dialect. Attempting to speak to other children at school in Cantonese was very frightening. I felt like I was in a different world; alone and unable to speak a word of Cantonese to anyone. I was, however, able to communicate with my classmates and thus it became more comfortable.

I have always yearned to listen, speak, read, write, and understand the Chinese language. Although it has been more than 20 years, I still remember a couple of my Chinese teachers' names from the elementary school that I attended at the time.

My major was Chinese Literature, and my test scores in Chinese have been relatively higher than my other subjects in high school. My feelings towards furthering my graduate studies in Chinese became stronger after studying in an art school for a couple of semesters. I have realized that Art has been an interest to me as well as a hobby. I have found that my passion is in the study of Chinese.

I studied at the San Francisco State University where I obtained my baccalaureate degree in Criminal Justice. My experiences as a student were very positive, therefore, I wish to pursue my graduate Chinese studies at the same institution of higher education. I would like to engage in Chinese performance arts with a modern Chinese literature focus.

Being bilingual in Chinese and English will give me the opportunity to perform research using primary sources and translating those research

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documents taking into account the differences and similarities of the western and eastern worlds: languages, cultures, traditions, customs, idiomatic terms, and non-verbal communication. This will be an asset for professors that are performing research given the Chinese language and any other dialects I may know for translation purposes given the above mentioned elements that need to be taken into consideration.

I have faith and trust that a good college education will be the embodiment of one's academic hopes and dreams for a better life. It will not only prepare me for my chosen profession, but it will also provide me with the social and individual interactive skills that are necessary for my personal and professional life.

I hope that the Chinese Program at the San Francisco State University gives me the opportunity to become part of its academic community, once again, so that I may continue to enhance my education and become a leader in Chinese studies. Upon enrollment in your Master of Arts in Chinese, I will embark upon a mission not only to learn, but also to share my academic life with those who share the same scholastic values.