

# About the Author



Growing up in a low socio-economic environment, my siblings and I had to pitch in by taking on manual labor jobs to assist our mother. Despite these challenges, I was fortunate to have parents who believed in me enough to allow me to leave home at 15 to learn how to stand on my own. I've never regretted that decision. Following my heart has brought me fulfillment, and I am thankful to everyone who has supported me along my journey. The insights that follow will help you understand who I am.

Unlike many students who didn't have to worry about tuition and expenses, I worked hard to finance my education through high school (National Tainan First High School), college (China Christian College and Formosa Christian College, where I majored in English and minored in Japanese), and my master's (Troy University) and doctorate (Auburn University).

While I may not have always been the top student in my classes, I believe I am the first among my classmates to earn a doctorate. I understood early on that I couldn't compete academically with my peers because I had to split my time between studying and working to make ends meet. Therefore, I often remind my students of what I told myself in college: it is okay not to excel on every exam. What truly matters is that students review their mistakes and learn from them. If they can correctly answer the same exam questions later, then they are A+ students. Despite my busy schedule, I never skipped a class or work assignment; those who knew me often described me as a workaholic.

After completing my undergraduate studies in Taiwan, I earned an M.S. degree in Foundations of Education from Troy University in Troy, Alabama, in the United States, using the \$10,000 USD I earned and saved during college. Even now, I can hardly believe that I completed my master's degree on such a modest budget.

My dedication to volunteer work and my determination to excel academically in both Taiwan and the USA helped me secure a full scholarship for my Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, USA. After earning my doctorate, my positive attitude enabled me to become the center director for C2 Education Centers, a respected exam preparation institution in Bethesda, Maryland, USA.

Upon returning to Taiwan, I began my teaching career as a full-time assistant professor in the English department at Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages. I also had the opportunity to serve as deputy chair of the department for one year; however, I realized that my ultimate goal was to achieve a full professorship. Consequently, I resigned from the deputy chair position to concentrate on my research and teaching.

Teaching was not new to me, as I had taught in college and graduate school, but research is equally important in my career. My research interests include mentoring in higher education, international education, and teaching and learning issues. I have a strong interest in qualitative research, and with the skills I have developed, I am confident I can help non-veteran researchers appreciate qualitative research and learn how to conduct it correctly and effectively.

In short, wherever I work, I invest fully in what I do. I am an optimistic person, content with what I have, and grateful to live on the most beautiful island in the world—Taiwan.

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