Life is unpredictable, so always be prepared!

Sunny Jeong

To be frank, becoming an English teacher is not my final career goal. I never thought about taking this course even a year ago.

My original major was dentistry, but I really hated it so after having several struggling years, I decided to follow my old dream. I had given up on it when I had chosen the natural sciences courses from my high school, instead of liberal arts. I got married before graduating university and one thing led to another, I got pregnant (too soon), but I still tried to prepare for the bar exam. Suddenly, the policy was changed and they wanted to make law school as part of the prerequisite instead of bar exam system. The number of lawyers selected by bar exam decreased every year so even though I loved studying law a lot, taking care of a baby and preparing for that exam at the same time became harder and harder.

I made a decision to rearrange the order of my dream. I decided on being a caring mother first, and then being a lawyer next. I’m going to enter law school after taking care of my 7-year-old, and 3-year-old daughters for 3 to 4 more years.

The problem was that I love learning a little too much, and I felt bored during the day time when my kids went to their playschool. So I started to learn Chinese, and attend an English free talking class to maintain my English skill. One of my classmates introduced this course to me, and I thought ‘Why not?’ Every mother is also teacher, and the reason why I want to become a lawyer is to help others with my knowledge. If I’m a ready and prepared teacher, then it can also be useful! If I become better teacher, then I guess I can be better learner, too. That’s the reason I’m taking this course.

Even though my dream isn’t to become a regular teacher, I have some teaching experience. For a part-time job during my university period, I taught mathematics to a lot of high school students privately, and because of efficiency, I mostly used the explaining method. I believed myself to be a gentle and kind teacher at that time but after taking the first lesson, I started to have regrets. I did try my best to help them and I also had enough knowledge to impart to them, but the thing I didn’t have was the information of the way to convey that. I now have started to see that the method is as or more important than the content itself.

Since my majors were not ordinary majors that people here prepare for when job searching, I didn’t have chance to have overseas experience like studying overseas at a language course, or a working holiday. So I’m very thrilled to have semi-overseas experience here and hope to learn as much about the method as I can to become a greater teacher.