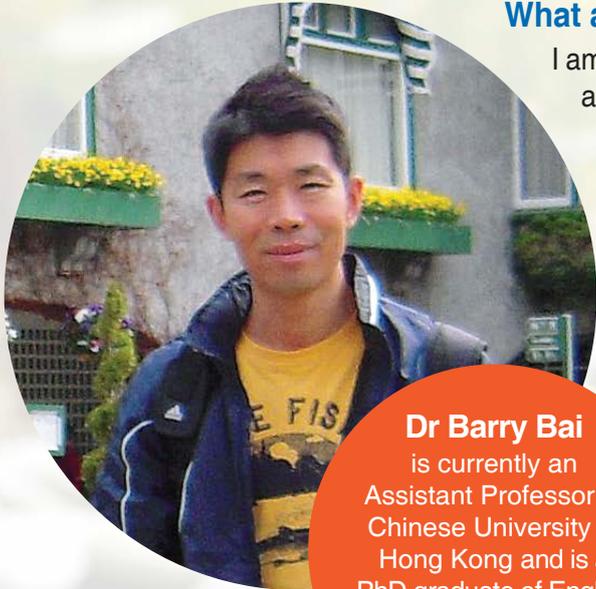


Getting To Know Our Students

Dr Barry Bai, PhD graduate



Dr Barry Bai is currently an Assistant Professor at Chinese University of Hong Kong and is a PhD graduate of English Language and Literature (ELL) Academic Group.

What are you currently working as?

I am working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Faculty of Education at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. I mainly teach teacher education courses.

What attracted you to a higher degree programme at NIE?

NIE has always been my first choice for pursuing my PhD because of its excellence in academic research and teaching. There are strong ties between NIE and the Ministry of Education's teachers. I learned a lot from both the NIE professors and the school teachers whom I worked with in my research.

What was your research on?

My doctorate research was focused on English writing interventions in primary schools. I worked with primary school English teachers to provide strategy-based writing lessons for their students, who attained better writing achievements as a result of the intervention.

How would you describe your interactions with NIE faculty members?

NIE faculty members are great people, professors, researchers and friends. During my doctorate candidature, they were really friendly and willing to offer their help, especially my supervisor, whom I have always been very close to. I come home for the holidays a few times each year. When I do, I always make sure that I meet up with my supervisor, other professors, and friends in NIE. It is always great to catch up with them and to learn what is happening in NIE.

What was the best part of being a student at NIE?

The best part? I think there were many best parts. I enjoyed so many research seminars in NIE and I miss them a lot. I am jealous of those who are working in the English Language and Literature Academic Group (ELL), as those professors are working among the top researchers in the world. In addition, the library is another place I miss a lot in NIE. I spent many hours there searching for books and articles, and reading them.

Has the programme been beneficial to you in bringing forth changes in your organisation?

Definitely. Now I am able to utilise what I learned in NIE to teach my students, who are future English teachers in Hong Kong. I would like to say that NIE offers the most competitive higher degree programmes in the world.