

Christopher Smith

General Education Reflexion

My goal is to obtain a Master's degree in Computer Engineering in Germany. After this, I would like to find a job in industry working with translation technologies in a diverse and multicultural city.

For my general electives, I first picked Music 102. I wasn't sure what I wanted to do, and my advisor informed me that it was a common choice. However, I didn't enjoy it very much. This caused to think more carefully about how I wanted to use the rest of my General Education credits.

Having been born in France and coming to the US as a foreigner, I made friends with a lot of international students. I noticed that I would enjoy learning their language, and that I wasn't half bad at it. This made me decide to take Chinese 101, as I was curious to explore this new area of interest.

I ended up taking Chinese 101 and 102, and going to Taiwan for a study abroad program. I really enjoyed my classes, and I had a very good teacher. This renewed my sense of motivation for my field, and changed the direction of my plans for the future.

In our globalized world, interfacing between cultures and languages is a constant challenge. Translation plays of large part in allowing this to happen. Thanks to my General Education classes, I know that I have an interest in the overlap between linguistics and technology.

I want to work in a multicultural city, where I can continue to exchange with cultures that are foreign to my own. In this way, I can continue on a track of lifelong learning, and contribute to a world where cultures understand each other better.