When I received the offer from SUTD, I noticed that I had to undertake some TAs job in addition to completing scientific research tasks during my 4-year PhD studies. For me, it is a great honor to do this firstly. I am honored that the university trust me and provide me with this rare opportunity to share knowledge with juniors. Meanwhile, it is also a kind of pressure and responsibility. The pressure comes from whether I am capable to do the teaching job, while the responsibility is that I need to devote myself into it.

After week-1 course, I had a preliminary understanding of TAs, understood what I am supposed to do, how to improve the quality of teaching in higher education and the expectations of SUTD for my teaching tasks.

First of all, teaching in a well-known university allows me to improve my own abilities. For example, one of the tips described in Chickering and Gamson (1987) is about how to connect with student efficiently. Establishing good communication with students not only improves my talking skills, but also allows me to deeply look at the relevance of knowledge system and practicality for certain course in the perspective of students. Also, I can train my own personality and handle complicated issues with patience and peace when I give timely and effective feedbacks to my students.

Secondly, it’s necessary for me to maintain professional at all times, which will give me a deeper understanding of knowledge. In the process of preparing materials, assignment and experiment, I can structure the knowledge points of course. Furthermore, I can track the latest research of my field during tutoring students, preparing slides. In addition, it is crucial to be punctual and engaged to the teaching work, which also cultivate an active attitude and be benefit for my future life.

At last, teaching makes me more sympathetic to the meaning of the teamwork. Obviously, I used to participate in the team project from the perspective of being a student. Now I can understand the team spirit from the perspective of organizers, designers, and imparters, which is the most valuable gain from teaching journey.

Although the teaching job has not really begun, I understand what teaching means to me, and I can take the initiative to learn this course. I believe that I can 100% devote myself into teaching task in the future.