

## College of Business Ph.D. Student Teaching Excellence Award 2024—Student Sharing by Zhang Gaole

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My name is Zhang Gaole. Currently, I am a third-year Ph.D. student in the Department of Accountancy. I am honored to be selected as the recipient of the College of Business Ph.D. Student Teaching Excellence Award this year (2024/2025). Over the past two years, I have served as a tutor for CB2100 (Introduction to Financial Accounting) during the 2023/24 academic year and CB2101 (Introduction to Managerial Accounting) during the 2024/25 academic year. These valuable teaching experiences helped me improve my presentation skills and prepared me to be a good teacher in the future.

In my teaching philosophy, patience and responsiveness are paramount. All undergraduate students in the College of Business are required to take CB2100 and CB2101 so they can build a fundamental understanding of accounting. As many of them are not accounting majors and are unfamiliar with the subject, they often have numerous questions after class. Providing timely and thoughtful responses not only helps clarify their doubts but also encourages them to engage more actively in the learning process. By fostering an environment in which students feel comfortable asking questions, I aim to enhance their comprehension and overall learning experience.

Integrating real-world cases into teaching is also essential. In my classes, I use real financial statements to clarify accounting concepts. This can help students better understand the material and develop analytical skills. By connecting theory with practice, they gain a deeper grasp of the subject and are better prepared for real-world applications.