

Career Night: Searching for Teaching Jobs Internationally

Wednesday, November 10, 2004, 7-9 p.m.

An informative evening of tips, pointers and strategies for finding English teaching positions overseas

Panel discussions overview:

Panel 1: International Ss returning to their home countries to find work

Panel 2: U.S. citizens working abroad

Welcome by Dr. Brown

Panel 1: International Ss returning home to find work

Panelists:

Narumi Takeuchi, Yoko Enomoto, Sera Song, Kyung-Mi Kim, Weiyeh Huang, Hsiaolin Lin (graduating in Fall 2004), and guest videos by MATESOL alumni

Japan

Video by Yumiko Sakamoto (Fall 2002 MATESOL graduate)

To find jobs in Japan you can search:

- Sunday newspapers
- High School and University websites
- www.osaka-kyoiku.ac.jp/educ website that links to all public and private high schools

When to apply:

- November for tenured positions
- March for a one-year contract

Application procedures:

- Take a school specific teacher's exam.
- Interview
- MATESOL degree is only helpful for some schools (Kokusaika – International school).
- There is a central agency for job placement in private high schools (Shiraikoka (sp?))

For public high schools:

- There is a 2 stage prefecture (Japanese state) specific exam (kyosai).
- 1st stage in July on general knowledge and education theory.
- 2nd stage in August on English knowledge and personality.
- There are teacher exam prep classes.
- <http://www.tokyo-ac.co.jp/> is a website for a recommended exam prep school.
- Yumiko's email is syummyko@gmail.com

Yoko Enomoto & Narumi Takeuchi (graduating in Fall 2004)

Jr. & Sr. high schools

- Require a credential.
- Credentialing courses are \$1,500 via correspondence or \$10,000 for in class instruction.
- Maximum age limits range from 32 years of age to 42 depending on the prefecture.
- Teachers with previous teaching experience may be exempt.
- MATESOL degree helps for acquiring a job, but won't increase benefits.

Jr. College & University

- Require M.A. or Ph.D.
- Post secondary school teaching experience preferred.
- Jr. college positions are easier to get than a university.
- EFL teaching experience

Private sector teaching

- Cram school (Jyuku) only for native Japanese – hiring period: May to September.
- Language School (GEOS, EON, Nova)
- Check school's website for job applications.
- Salary \$2,500/month
- Age limit: under 45 years
- Should have an interest in Japan.
- Warning: 6 month training period in the US or Canada before being placed in a classroom in Japan and hours are long (6hrs/day, 5days/week)

Publishing

- Interim position and move to classroom position.
- Warning: Employee's placement is under total control of the company; Assignment can be anywhere in Japan.

Korea

Soyoung Park (Spring 2004 grad) – Developing curriculum for language schools

- For Korea, Internet job postings on school websites.
- Settings are University or language school.
- Korean university – Personal connections are important.
- Tailor your portfolio to the job you're applying to.

Sera Song & Kyung-Mi Kim (graduating in Fall 2004)

To work in Korea, you must be Korean or a native English speaker.

With an MATESOL degree you can work:

- Asst. Professor at a university
- Intensive English program (ALI) at a university
- Private language school
- Salary: \$2,800/month, 20 hrs/week
- Interview includes a demo lesson for faculty.
- HS, Jr.H.S., elementary school.
- Native English teachers can get free housing.

Private language schools

- Koreans teach grammar and TOEFL prep.
- Native English speakers teach conversation
- Koreans can teach conversation to elementary school students.

To find jobs, search websites.

Taiwan

I-Hui Su (Spring 1999 grad)

- For Taiwanese, universities require a Ph.D. for most classes. Night and extended learning classes can be taught with an M.A.
- To find jobs, look at school websites – Hiring period is in Sept and Feb/March.
- Network.
- Cram & private language schools (mostly children) are an option.
- Work is from 12:00 noon to 9:30 p.m.
- GEPT test has led to a boom in classes for grammar and writing.
- HS, jr. high and elementary schools require a credential.
- 5% of teachers who applied were hired.
- Newspapers have job announcements.
- www.104.com.tw online job bank for Taiwan.
- Talk with those already teaching.
- Get on a sub teaching list.
- Publishing is a job option.

Weiyeh Huang, Hsiaolin Lin (graduating in Fall 2004)

- For native English speakers, google 'teaching English in Taiwan' for lists of private English schools, where 99% of the teaching opportunities are.
- Language schools teach full range of Ss from elementary to adults.
- It is possible to fly to Taiwan on a visitor's visa and find a job once you arrive.
- Private universities want Ph.D., but M.A. is okay.
- Look at university's website.
- HS, Jr. High require a credential and teaching experience.
- Kindergarten – no credential needed.
- Native English speakers get 2-3 times more pay.
- Native English speakers go through a 3 year review before getting visa renewal.
- Salary: \$1,800-2,500/month. Cost of living is low in Taiwan.
- Look at Taiwan's Ministry of Education website for a list of universities.
- For business English opportunities: Go to company websites or teach at a private language school and get introduced to a company through students.

Panel 2 – U.S. citizens working abroad

China

Angela Donnelly (1974 MATESOL graduate)

- Taught 2 yrs in China with United Board and Amity.
- Recommended resource (available at China Books in SF): **LIVING IN CHINA: A GUIDE TO TEACHING AND STUDYING IN CHINA INCLUDING TAIWAN** by Rebecca Weiner, Margaret Murphy, Albert Li
- Check Dave's ESL Café: www.daveseslcafe.com

- Join an organization that sends people to teach in China. Like Amity, a Christian group. [00000](#).
- Organizations offer a support network in China and prepares all of the paperwork.
- Suggestions: Travel around China and see where you would like to live. Decide on the environment you want to live (rural/urban) before looking for a job.
- Best if you learn some Chinese.
- Universities require a Ph.D. for a Chinese to teach at a university, M.A. for foreigners.
- If you negotiate your own contract, be sure it includes:
 - Letter of employment
 - Visa
 - Housing
 - Airfare
 - Vacation time
 - Health insurance
 - How much money is convertible to US dollars.
 - Teaching hours.
- Amity limits hours to 15 maximum per week.
- Warning: You may get a lot of labor intensive writing classes if you ask for a limited number of hours.
- Look at websites for job postings.

Japan

Christine Chai (Fall 1997 MATESOL grad)

- Find jobs through the Internet and networking.
- Asia University hired her while she was still in the U.S.
- School year is from April to March.
- She went to Japan and networked to get a part-time position at Kanda University.
- Positions are limited to 2-3 year contracts only.

Benefits:

- Salary \$55,000 per year and no taxes for 2 years.
- 2 – 2 ½ month long vacations per year.
- Research grants and all expenses paid for presentations.

Worked from 9am to 9pm 5 days a week.

David Malinowski (Fall 2001 graduate)

- 3 years in Japan.
- Speaking local language opens a lot of doors.
- Go to professional conferences for jobs. (JALT, TESOL)
- Can contact him at daveski@berkeley.edu

Turkey

Andrew O'Shea (Fall 1996 graduate)

- Taught in Turkey
- English language teaching is booming.
- Teaching contexts:
 - Private university – best pay and benefits

- Public university – good pay and benefits
- High school – good pay and benefits, but require a credential
- Private language school – not recommended: bad hours and teachers are taken advantage of
- Most schools are in nice locations, but far from the city.
- The city of Istanbul has 17 million people. Beautiful, but a little crowded and polluted.
- Warning: Get specifics on accommodation before you sign a contract.
 - Provided? Housing allowance? Location? Shared? University owned?
- Salary: Ask if it is in Lira, get offer converted to dollars and get it tied to the dollar or Euro.
- Salary: \$1,400 per month and good for a comfortable life.
- Good opportunity for professional growth. (conferences, organizations)
- Warning:
 - There are conflicts between old style and new style teaching methods.
 - Hostility is growing after Iraq invasion.
 - Women can travel alone, but in groups is better and with a male is best.