

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TEACHING INFORMATION PACKET

Director of International Student Teaching
Dr. Emily Lin, Director of Teacher Education
College of Education
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Review Committee for International
Student Teaching Placements**

Dr. Emily Lin, Director
Dr. Linda Quinn
Dr. Jeff Gelfer
Ms. Nancy Brown
Ms. Lois Paretti

Revised 05/13

PREFACE

This packet is designed to help prepare students who wish to fulfill the student teaching requirements by accepting an international assignment. The fact that you are reading this document tells us that you are an individual with initiative. Welcome! To participate in an international student teaching experience requires that you are adaptable, flexible, and willing to be a part of an experience that is not always neatly packaged for you. In fact, international student teaching requires that you are willing to deal comfortably with the unknown. We refer to this unique quality as “enthusiastic self-sufficiency.”

This packet is the introduction to a journey that will be charted with different pathways for each person who participates. Welcome to the journey!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TEACHING

Overview

Teacher education institutions across the United States continue to respond to the recognized need for greater international awareness and understanding among pre-service and inservice teachers. There are over 100 institutions in the United States which conduct student teaching programs in more than 50 countries with the dual purpose of preparing competent teachers and contributing to worldwide understanding.

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas College of Education International Student Teaching Program is an optional experience open to any individual pursuing an elementary, secondary, or special education teaching license. The program is administered through the College of Education’s Division of Teacher Education. A faculty coordinator of International Student Teaching provides leadership for the program and serves as the liaison with the various agencies involved. The Dean, in cooperation with the University Director of International Programs has the ultimate responsibility for overseeing the program.

Eligibility

Anyone who has completed the academic qualifications for student teaching in the College of Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas is eligible to apply for admission to this program.

Cost

Each student is responsible for paying for transportation to and from the international school. Students pay semester tuition to UNLV and are responsible for an additional fee of \$350.00 to help defray the costs of the program. UNLV will send a faculty member,

whenever possible, to the site as a student teacher supervisor. In some cases, UNLV faculty may be on site as exchange faculty. In other cases, UNLV students may be supervised by qualified host country personnel.

The international school may provide advice concerning room and board arrangements for the student. The student may live with a faculty member, a host family, or in some cases, in a dormitory or a private apartment. Housing involves personal expenditure for room and board costs.

The UNLV Office of International Programs provides information on scholarship resources to help cover the costs of study abroad and resources which may help with the international student teaching program.

Application Process

The International Student Teaching program in the College of Education is an opportunity that permits future teachers who have completed the academic qualifications for student teaching to apply for student teaching assignment in an international setting.

The length of the experience varies according to the specific situation and culture in which the student is involved; however, no experience is less than ten weeks in length. Participation is possible during fall and spring.

A minimum nine month lead time is necessary in order to make arrangements. Students are encouraged to apply as early as possible. An application form and checklist can be found on the web at <http://education.unlv.edu/ofe/international/>

Student Selection Criteria

Students are interviewed by the International Student Teaching Committee. The committee considers grade point average, recommendations, the application, and interview performance. The student must demonstrate that he/she has the capability to student teach in an international setting. The committee's decision is final.

Placement

The student is placed with a teacher identified by personnel of the host country in the Ministry of Education or other comparable agency with approval of a designated person at UNLV. During the experience there will be regular communication between the student teaching personnel in the host country and those at UNLV (e.g., teleconferences, electronic mail, and exchange of videotapes). A supervisory visit by a UNLV faculty member or an appointed adjunct UNLV instructor may occur during the experience.

Acceptance as a participant in the international experience occurs following the satisfactory completion of an application process. Assignment to a country is made after careful matching of a student's qualifications and teaching area with the country and its educational system.

Preparation for an international experience is an important step. Students who apply and are accepted early will have the opportunity to enroll in courses that will enhance their understanding of other cultures and people. The participant will also be involved in activities on campus at the conclusion of the experience.

Credit

Student teaching at UNLV is a 14 credit full semester experience. The international student teaching experience is an option within the student teaching semester and will apply to the student's degree at UNLV in the same manner that student teaching in a school in the United States does.

UNLV has the assurance of the Nevada Department of Education that students who participate in the international student teaching option will be accepted for licensure. Furthermore, the use of varied supervisory models does not detract from the accreditation of the UNLV program.

Description of provisions for student health insurance coverage

The student is required to show proof of international health insurance coverage for the time that the student would be abroad.

Travel arrangements

Students may leave early and have time to tour before beginning to teach, or they may stay after they conclude their experience. Travel arrangements are made by the student.