Agenda

• Introductions
• Why go abroad?
• Steps to Going Abroad Again
• Short Term Work Opportunities
• Teaching English Opportunities
• Resources
• Questions?
Why Work or Teach Abroad?
Why Work or Teach Abroad?

Develop **intercultural communication** skills

Become more **independent**  
Enhance **interpersonal** skills

Develop the ability to effectively **work across cultures**

Learn about **different organizational structures** and how culture impacts that structure

Improve **language skills**  
Enhance **critical thinking** skills

**Stand out from the pack:** develop interesting stories and examples to share with future employers

Develop the ability to deal with **ambiguity**

**Network** with professionals in your area of study

**Problem-solve** professional situations in an intercultural context
STEPS TO GOING ABROAD AGAIN

- Develop your goals
  - What do you hope to learn/gain from this experience?

- Assess yourself
  - Level of independence
  - Second language skills
  - Experience/skills
  - Flexibility

- Reassess goals, if necessary

- Take a look at your finances

- Gain necessary experience!!!

- RESEARCH, RESEARCH, RESEARCH, RESEARCH!
WORK ABROAD
Short-Term Work Abroad: Visa Granting Organizations

- **BUNAC**: Australia, Britain, Canada, France, Ireland, New Zealand
- **Interexchange**: Work - au pair, teach English
- **USIT**: Ireland

- Participants...
  - must be independent, motivated, & flexible
  - can usually find job within 2 weeks of arrival
  - are free to job hunt in any field
  - usually find a job when they arrive—do research ahead of time.
  - Usually find jobs in the service industry (hotels, pubs, restaurants), administration work, or through temp agencies - skill free positions are most common.

  **But......**

  - The opportunity to live in another place will allow you to network and research your career field. You may be able to find career-related work with more research and persistence
Short-Term Work Abroad: Visa & Job Placement Organizations

- **AIDE:** Work: Australia, England; Teach: China, Spain, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, Argentina, Guatemala
- **CEI-Club des 4 Vents:** France
- **Interexchange:** Australia, Austria, Chile, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Turkey

- Provides more services & structure
- You’ll pay more for these services!
- Peace of mind: you’ll have a job waiting for you!
- Jobs are usually in limited fields
  - Teaching English, *aupair*/nanny, farm work, admin. work, service industry
- Consider volunteering in career field
Fees

- Visa granting organizations:
  - (BUNAC, Interexchange & USIT) $200-$1500 + cost of mandatory insurance
  - Covers visa fee & processing
  - Orientation, 1 night accommodation in hostel
  - Use of onsite Resource Center

- Placement organizations:
  - (AIDE, CEI, Interexchange) $500-$2,500
  - Typically includes:
    - Visa fee & processing
    - Work placement
    - Accommodation advice or placement
    - Orientation
    - Onsite support
Duration & Eligibility

Requirements

- Duration & eligibility depend on location
  - Each government decides terms of work visa
  - 3-12 months

- Various requirements:
  - Age
  - Student status
  - Language
  - U.S. citizen
  - Previous experience (childcare)
Work Abroad

• “I don’t want to *just* teach English or baby-sit.”
  • Frame your experience and take advantage of the opportunity
    • Way to be abroad and **make contacts**
    • Informational interviews
    • Who are your students/host parents?
    • Learn a second language
    • Learn about the culture
    • Learn the necessary skills to work with an international focus here in the states first
An ability to teach the English language is the most globally mobile skill there is.”

Susan Griffith, author of Teaching English Abroad
How do I find a teaching English placement?

- Teaching Placement Programs
- Government Sponsored Programs
- Independently applying to a private school
Teaching Placement Programs

- Provide more structure and support
  - Visa assistance, orientation, guaranteed placement, onsite staff/contact, room and board, international health insurance

- Most programs charge a program fee for the services they cover
  - Prices vary: deposit--$$$$

- Requirements vary: usually 4 year degree (for longer term), native English speaker

- Benefits vary: some may provide stipend, meals, professional development opportunities

- Duration: varies, usually 3-18 months
Examples of Teaching Placement Programs

- **AIDE**: Argentina, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru, South Africa, Spain

- **CIEE**: Chile, China, Dominican Republic, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, Vietnam

- **InterExchange**: Austria, Chile, China, France, Ecuador, Germany, Ghana, Italy Spain

- **Princeton in Asia**: Various Asian countries (East, SE, Central)

- **WorldTeach**: Opportunities in more than 10 countries; participants can teach other subjects too

- Many more placement programs exist!
Government Sponsored Programs

- More extensive and more selective application process
- Program known for their reputation
- Wages vary: some are volunteer based, some you can make enough to save and travel
- Duration varies: majority require a one year contract
- Structure & Support: Teachers usually receive housing, orientation & training, paid vacation, health insurance, return flight upon completion of contract.
- Focused on cultural exchange
Examples of Government Sponsored Programs

- Czech Ministry of Education
- English Program in Korea (EPIK)
- French Embassy Teaching Assistantship Program
- Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Program
- Japanese Exchange and Teaching Programme (JET)
- Language and Culture Assistants in Spain
- Peace Corps
- Wisconsin-Chiba Assistant Language Teacher Program
Independently Applying to a Private School

**STEPS TO TAKE:**

1. Search job posting boards (Dave’s ESL Café, www.tefl.com) and research where the teaching demand is

2. Research what qualifications are needed – Do you need a TEFL certificate?

**Secure job before going abroad**
- Contact and communicate with school directly
- Sign contract before arriving and understand what you are signing!
- USE CAUTION!
  - Cover your bases--make sure everything is legit
  - Contact current teachers, past teachers, post a discussion thread, etc.

**Secure job while abroad**
- Arrange your own transportation there!
- Have a reserve of funds in case you don’t find work right away
- Ability to interview and see the school in person!
- Consider a TEFL certificate program abroad
- Complete the certificate program while job searching
Example Job Postings – Thailand
from www.eslcafe.com


TEFL & TESL Certificates: Do not expire & internationally recognized!

Hamline University, St. Paul - Intensive or semester-long course

- Can work or continue studies while doing this certificate course

Global Experiences

- 4-week intensive course
- Provides job placement assistance
- Choose from 19 locations all over the world

University of Minnesota TESL Certificate
Gain Experience Before You Go!

- Make sure this is something you want to devote time & energy to
- Learn about teaching methodologies/building lesson plans
- Gain confidence in front of the classroom
- Build your resume--experience makes you a stronger candidate

Minnesota Literacy Council: ESL Tutor Pre-Service Training
- 12 hours (usually offered once or twice/month)
- $20-$30
- Volunteer placement in Twin Cities after completion of training
- www.themlc.org
Work and Teach Abroad Resources

  - Search the work, intern, volunteer, teach database by location or keyword
- [www.dickinson.edu/career/international/backgroundinfo.html](http://www.dickinson.edu/career/international/backgroundinfo.html)
  - Comprehensive guide to working abroad
- [www.csbsju.edu/career/students/postgrad/internationaljobs.htm](http://www.csbsju.edu/career/students/postgrad/internationaljobs.htm)
  - International Job Resources for U.S. Citizens
- [www.eslcafe.com](http://www.eslcafe.com)
  - Dave’s ESL Café: Browse teaching English job postings
- [www.transitionsabroad.com/](http://www.transitionsabroad.com/)
  - Read articles by people who have worked, taught, or volunteered abroad
- [http://globalgateway.monster.com/](http://globalgateway.monster.com/)
  - Monster.com’s international job search site
- [www.thepaperboy.com/](http://www.thepaperboy.com/)
  - Browse the classified section of newspapers from all over the world
- [www.teachabroad.com](http://www.teachabroad.com)
  - Job postings, info on TEFL certificates, etc.
- [www.english-international.com/](http://www.english-international.com/)
  - Job searches, region-specific job market analysis
Presentation Resources

- Dickinson College Guide to International Education
  - www.dickinson.edu/career/international/backgroundinfo.html

- College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University Career Services
  - www.csbsju.edu/career/default.htm

- How to Live Your Dream of Volunteering Overseas by Joseph Collins, Zahara Heckscher, and Stefano DeZerega

- IVPA’s Principles & Practices
  - www.volunteerinternational.org/index-principles2.htm
Questions?

GOOD LUCK!!!

Check with your study abroad office or career services office for more info on working or teaching abroad!