CESS Students Interested in Teaching in China and/or Thailand
Frequently Asked Questions

About Us

1. How do I find teaching opportunities in Thailand and China?
   - The Asian Studies Outreach Program has strong connections with several schools in Thailand and China. The director, Bill Williams, would be able to put you in contact with those schools.

2. Is this a program?
   - No. There are no fees. Bill Williams will help you make contacts at schools that the Asian Studies Outreach Program has connections with, and schools that we have worked with successfully.

Arriving in Thailand/China

3. Will I get help once I arrive in Thailand/China?
   - In Thailand and in China: Yes.

4. Will the school pay for air fare?
   - No. The reason is that they don’t want to risk investing in a teacher that will decide to leave after two weeks. Schools are more likely to pay for a return flight back to the United States after you have completed a year and will be returning for a second year.

5. Will the school pay for housing?
   - Depends. Some schools will pay less but offer housing for faculty right on campus, while other schools will pay more and faculty will need to find their own housing off-campus. Almost all schools will offer assistance in locating housing once the teacher arrives at the school.

6. How much will I be paid?
   - Depends. The pay will always be comparable to the cost of living of the area. Urban schools will pay more, but the cost of living in the cities will be higher. Rural schools will pay less, but the cost of living in the rural areas will be less.

7. Am I allowed to tutor?
   - Yes. Tutoring is a great way for teachers to supplement their income.

8. Will the school pay for health insurance?
   - In Thailand: Yes.
   - In China: No.
Note: Teachers under the age of 25 will most likely still be covered by their parents’ insurance.

9. What is the class size?
   - 50 students. But there are sometimes 1 native teacher and 1 foreigner teacher in the same classroom.

10. What is the school year like?
    - In Thailand: Start of the school year is in May through March.
    - In China: Start of the school year is in September through June.

11. I am not ready to leave in May to teach in Thailand. Can I start mid-year (October)?
    - Depends.

12. What would my daily and weekly schedule look like?
    - Some schools run Monday through Saturday.

13. Will I get any holidays?
    - Yes.

14. Do I teach in English?
    - Yes.

15. I have an early education degree. Can I teach high school?
    - Yes.

16. What is the academic rigor like in Thai and Chinese schools?
    - Intense

17. What is expected of the foreign teachers?
    - Years ago anyone with a BA degree could get a teaching job in Asia. Now schools are looking for students who have graduated from a four-year university with a teaching degree. Applicants with knowledge of pedagogy are invited to contact Bill Williams and see what schools are currently looking for teachers.

18. Will there be other Native English speakers at the school I work at?
    - Yes, to varying degrees. Some of the larger schools can have up to 80 native English speakers, whereas you may be the only native English speaker in the whole city in some rural areas.

19. Do I need a TESOL degree?
    - Having a TESOL degree would be ideal, but it varies per school.
20. Do I need to be licensed?
   o Depends.

21. What is the weather like in Thailand and China?
   o The climate in Thailand is mostly tropical.
   o The climate in China is varied, similar to that of the United States.

22. Do I want to be at a rural or urban school?
   o That depends on the type of experience you want.

23. What is the time commitment that schools in Thailand and China will expect from us?
   o Schools in Thailand and China will most likely ask you to sign a two-year contract. In some cases, schools may agree to a 1-year contract.

24. I’m interested! What do I do now?
   o Contact Bill Williams by email at yunnanvt@comcast.net or by text at (802) 343-4647.

25. I am not ready to teach overseas this year. Can I contact the Asian Studies Outreach Program in a year from now?
   o Yes.