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Top Skills

Teaching English as a Second Language

ESL

Tutoring

Joe Carrier

Associate Professor of English at Dong-A University
Saha-gu, Busan, Korea

Summary

I have been living and teaching in Korea since 2008 and I love it. Prior to coming to Korea I taught remedial English at a local community college while I completed an MA (in English). I also taught a small group of special needs students at a local high school as a member of the AVID program. Since arriving in Korea I have taught kindergarten, elementary, middle school, and now, finally, at the university level. One of my strengths is thus the breadth of my experience, having taught K through college in my time as a teaching professional.

I am passionate about teaching and love the classroom experience. One of the things I love most about teaching is that it affects you personally in very profound ways. Teaching high risk kids in high school and at the college taught me not to take lightly the impact education has on the lives of the students. Many of them changed before my eyes, and this, in turn, changed me. Teaching ESL in Korea, a vastly different educational culture, has taught me how valuable English skills are in the world today. The societal investment in education in Korea, both temporally and financially, is staggering. And teaching children taught me humility, patience, and, yes, love.

In March of 2011 I was awarded a position as an English faculty member at DongA University, a private institution with three campuses and 20,000 students. I teach 19th and 20th century American literature, English conversation, composition, and speech courses. I have taught special seminars on a variety of subjects, including Mythology and Public Presentation.

I have always sought to make discussion and dialogue central to the learning process, in doing so seeking to build a learning community where learning becomes an ongoing act of collective discovery. A classroom functions best when everyone, including the instructor, learns together.

Experience

Dong-A University

Assistant Professor of English

March 2011 - Present

Currently teaching 19th and 20th Century American Literature, Conversation, Composition, and Advanced Writing courses in the Department of English and Applied ESL Pedagogy in the Graduate School of Education. Research currently underway includes studying the implementation of peer-to-peer L2A programs in the Korean ESL classroom.

Dong-A University

Head Teacher

March 2014 - March 2015 (1 year 1 month)

Responsibilities included day-to-day assistance of around twenty-five teachers and department personnel with scheduling, curriculum planning, and other academic duties. I was also responsible for vetting and interviewing prospective candidates during the bi-annual hiring process. Long-term planning for the program, assisting in the choice of teaching materials, preparing agenda for and chairing department meetings, and ongoing assessment of teacher performance were also included. I worked closely with the department secretary to resolve issues with the faculty and acted as a liaison between the school and the teachers in the event of conflict.

Eastern English Institute. Busan, South Korea

ESL Instructor

May 2008 - February 2011 (2 years 10 months)

As an Elementary and Middle school ESL teacher I provided conversation-based instruction across the curriculum, including diction, grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. In addition to daily teaching responsibilities (30 classroom-hours per week), I was responsible for individual placement and assessment, lesson planning, curriculum development, special event planning, rewards and incentives, and the integration of play into the learning experience.

Lanphier High School

AVID Program Tutor

August 2007 - December 2007 (5 months)

Led small-group tutoring sessions with incoming freshmen. Oversaw student Q and A period, leading discussions and answering questions across the

entire curriculum content area with a specific emphasis in Literature and English Grammar. Led coordinated approach to student success based on the implementation of specific learning techniques in both reading comprehension and written communication (for example, training students to use Cornell notes). Advised students in practical study habits such as study environments, time management, and organization. Assisted with needs-based assessment of individual student outcomes and monitored student watch list.

Lincoln Land Community College

Adjunct Faculty-Humanities

October 2004 - October 2007 (3 years 1 month)

Courses: Humanities 101, Developmental Writing: The College Essay 098 and 099, and Career Communications I and II. Gained valuable experience in assisting special-needs students, including one-on-one instruction in the Writing Center. Participated in the college placement committee, assessing the writing skills of incoming students. Participated in the student evaluation committee, charged with program assessment of student writing department-wide. Gained valuable insight into both the challenges that face incoming students and the unique learning environment Lincoln Land offers to help them succeed.

Illinois Issues Magazine

Graduate Assistantship

October 2002 - July 2004 (1 year 10 months)

Feature and department writing; copy-editing, fact-checking; various editorial research projects. Became accomplished in primary document production skills, including feature length pieces, interview pieces, reviews, and briefs. As primary editorial responsibility for Governmental Roster (a separate annual publication of the magazine), I was responsible for procuring and organizing thousands of pieces of information, as well as designing and managing a production schedule. Acquired skills: Interview process; working in a team-project environment; working on deadline; news gathering/reporting; story development and design implementation.

Education

University of Illinois Springfield

Master of Arts, English · (2002 - 2008)

University of Illinois Springfield

