

UNIVERSITY OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONS OF THE CARIBBEAN COAST OF NICARAGUA (URACCAN), NUEVA GUINEA CAMPUS

Number of Placements: 1

Placement Site: Nueva Guinea, Nicaragua

URL: <http://www.uraccan.edu.ni/>; <http://www.yorku.ca/cerlac/uraccan>

Field/Subject Area:

Open to all York students who meet the eligibility criteria

Position Description:

We are looking for an undergraduate student interested in acquiring some experience in working with students learning English as a second language and someone who wants to learn about the Nicaraguan culture and practice or learn Spanish. The intern will assist the English teachers at URACCAN in continuing to master the English language, focusing on activities to develop abilities on the four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Moreover, the intern will also work with students who are majoring in teaching English. When teaching ESL students, the intern will co-plan, co-teach and co-evaluate the teaching-learning process with the English teachers he/she is going to work with. Another activity that the intern can do is to learn or improve his/her Spanish with the assistance of his or her mentor. Therefore, the intern does not necessarily have to be fluent in Spanish. He or she will have the chance to practice or learn some Spanish as part of his/her internship.

Specific tasks will include:

- Helping English teachers to improve their communicative competence in English through conversation sessions.
- Co-planning, co-teaching and co-evaluating the classes he/she will be teaching with other English teachers.
- Working with ESL teachers in their own classes to observe and make suggestions for teaching effectively in their own context.
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- Practicing his/her Spanish. The mentor will design some conversation sessions to help the intern improve or learn some Spanish. The intern will have the chance to interact in the community to master his/her Spanish as well.
- Writing a final report of her/his experience during the internship.
- At the end of the internship, the intern will be awarded a diploma of Assistant English teacher by URACCAN Nueva Guinea.

Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.

Expected work hours: 8 hours per day (8am - 6pm), 6 days a week

Preferred starting date: May 1st

Qualifications/skills required:

- Experience in ESL teaching and lesson planning
- Ability to work in a team as well as independently
- Ability to work with youths and adults
- Knowledge of Nicaraguan culture

Language requirements:

Fluent English; beginner Spanish preferred

Highlights of Organization/background information:

The University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua (URACCAN) was founded in 1995 as a community-based institution aiming to help consolidate the autonomy process of the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast through training and professionalization of human resources, providing people with the necessary knowledge to conserve and rationally benefit from natural resources in a sustainable way. URACCAN has four campuses - at Bilwi/Kamla (Puerto Cabezas), Bluefields, Nueva Guinea, and Siuna. Virtually all of the teaching, research, and community development programs of the institution are focused in the areas of education, community health, community development, and sustainable resource management.