

CENTRO DE INTERCAMBIO Y SOLIDARIDAD (CIS)

Position: English School

Number of Placements: 1

Placement Site: San Salvador, El Salvador

Website: <http://www.cis-elsalvador.org/>

Field/Subject Area:

Open to all York students who meet the eligibility criteria

Position Description:

The English School Program Assistant will help with the coordination of the Mérida Anaya Montes Language School with a focus on finding ways to better support volunteers in integrating popular education with English grammar and social justice themes into the adult English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classroom. Specifically, the intern will help create materials for EFL teacher training and/or classroom materials, using examples that are relevant to the Salvadoran context. In addition to working with resources, the intern will teach an EFL class, and help to coordinate teachers' meetings.

Specific tasks will include:

- Teaching an adult EFL class using popular education methodology with interactive materials. Classes have approximately 10-12 students and are 3 nights per week for a total of 5.5 teaching hours per week.
- Aiding in the creation of relevant teaching materials that can be used by other teachers and in different levels.
- Aiding in the creation of materials such as student workbooks, which will aid in the integration of the school's core social justice themes into the classroom
- Coordinating additional activities for students and volunteers, such as a weekly discussion group, workshops on facilitation or social justice themes, movie forums, etc.

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

Expected work hours: 8 hours per day (The exact schedule is flexible depending on whether the intern takes Spanish classes or wishes to participate in the Political-Cultural Activities. However, regardless of the intern's participation in other programs, he/she is expected to work 40 hours per week. (The intern would receive half-off Spanish classes, and have two weeks free of the political-cultural activities as part of his/her training.) Please note, if interns choose to participate in other programs the coordinator will work to be flexible, but interns must anticipate a considerable time commitment.

Preferred starting date: June 1; it is strongly preferred that all CIS Interns begin work on the same date.

Qualifications/skills required:

- Field of study relating to Education, English teaching, Humanities.
- Knowledge/experience in popular education techniques, teaching English as a Second Language, issues of power and privilege, and/or anti-oppressive education.
- Experience in EFL materials creation, and lesson planning preferred.
- Knowledge of English grammar.
- Strong English writing and editing skills.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office and basic computer applications.
- A dynamic personality and public speaking skills are preferred.

Language requirements:

Basic level of Spanish is preferred, but not required. (Interns with advanced Spanish may have the opportunity to collaborate on institutional projects with Salvadoran staff members.)

Highlights of Organization/background information:

The struggle of the Salvadoran people for democracy and peace with justice has created strong solidarity on an international level. In order to strengthen people-to-people solidarity ties and contribute to the construction of a new El Salvador, organizations from the Salvadoran social movement and international organizations that have supported the process of peace with social justice, came together to create the Centro de Intercambio y Solidaridad (Center for Exchange and Solidarity).

The CIS is a multi-faceted organization, with many programs supporting education, organizing, and social justice. We are looking for people committed to solidarity and social justice to participate in our programs.

The Mérida Anaya Montes Language School is part of the Centro de Intercambio y Solidaridad, a multi-faceted organization, with many programs supporting education, organizing, and social justice. English students are all 18 years of age and over, and many are involved in social justice movements. In line with the mission of the CIS, the language school combines popular education techniques with a participatory methodology. Our language education also highlights social justice issues. The school has adopted the following underlying themes:

- Human Rights.
- Social movements.
- Intervention of Dominant Powers in the Developing World.
- Threats to the Environment and their Effects on Life.
- Gender.
- Violence prevention.