

# Campus Resources for International AIs

Guides, Classes, and Programs

Chris Meyer/IU



Almost 30% of graduate students attending Indiana University are international. While the majority of international students study mathematics, economics and physical and biological sciences, international students are represented in almost all departments. In addition to participating in the teacher training programs in their departments, these students are required to demonstrate that they possess the level of English necessary to carry out their teaching duties by passing the Test of English Proficiency for International Associate Instructor Candidates (<http://www.iub.edu/~deanfac/tepaic/index.html>). The university offers classes and programs both to help students improve their English skills and to gain a better understanding of undergraduate student life at IU.

## WEBGUIDE

The College of Arts and Sciences maintains a webpage specifically for international Associate Instructors. The site contains information about how to get certified to teach, about classes and programs to improve English and teaching skills, and about overall orientation to the IU and Bloomington communities (<http://www.indiana.edu/~college/graduate/InternationalAI/>).

## CONVERSATION PARTNERS PROGRAM

This experiential learning project pairs international graduate students who are teaching or will be teaching for the first time with an undergraduate student partner. The students meet weekly for six weeks to discuss specific topics related to student life across cultures; however, these conversations typically act as a springboard for other conversations of mutual interest. The program gives graduate students an opportunity to get a better understanding of the students they teach and undergraduates a first-hand experience of getting to know a person from a different culture (<http://www.indiana.edu/~college/graduate/InternationalAI/AIConversation.shtml>).

### **GRAD G 530 “COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATE INSTRUCTORS”**

This course, limited to 12 students per section, helps international graduate students improve their English skills, teaching and presentation skills and understanding of the academic and social background of their students. The course includes microteaching opportunities, one-on-one pronunciation and presentation coaching, and the opportunity to receive feedback from undergraduate student observers. The course is designed for students who score borderline pass (C3) or borderline fail (NC4) on the Test of English Proficiency for International Associate Instructors (<http://www.indiana.edu/~college/graduate/InternationalAI/G530.shtml>).

### **TEACHING IN A MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY**

This brochure, sponsored by the Students Policy Issues Committee of the Commission on Multicultural Understanding, addresses the concerns undergraduate students experience when they learn that their Associate Instructor is a non-native speaker of English. The brochure suggests strategies to help international Associate Instructors and undergraduate students have a successful teaching and learning experience. Requests for copies of the brochure may be sent to [comu@indiana.edu](mailto:comu@indiana.edu).