

The UMBC Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Program Presents

An Insider's Guide to Fulbright and the English Language Fellow Programs



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Have you heard that UMBC has been named a Fulbright Top Producing Institution? If you're interested in applying for a Fulbright U.S. Student award or the English Language Fellow Program to teach English, conduct research, or pursue graduate studies overseas, join us for a conversation with Leah, Brian, and Matthew that will address questions you may have, such as: How do I decide which country and/or award type to apply for? What are the steps of the application process? What activities should I get involved with now to have a competitive application? What should I emphasize in my application essays? What are a grantee's day-to-day responsibilities in their host country?

Dr. Brian Souders has worked with hundreds of UMBC students on their applications for Fulbright and other prestigious scholarships. He has also served on the executive board of the National Association of Fellowships Advisors, the professional organization of fellowship advisors. He attended two intensive Russian-language study programs in Moscow, and worked for a year in Tallinn, Estonia as a research affiliate with the Estoniana Academy of Sciences under the auspices of the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) graduate fellowship program.

Leah Ginty is an alumna of the 2019-2020 Fulbright U.S. Student Program. As an English teaching assistant in Benin, she co-taught English lessons with local teachers in secondary schools, English clubs, and U.S. embassy-sponsored programs. Leah earned an M.A. in TESOL with PreK-12 certification from UMBC in 2019. In 2016, she earned an M.A. in French Literature from Boston College, where she had been a French teaching fellow and research travel grantee. She graduated from UMBC summa cum laude in 2014 with a major in MLLI (French), a certificate in Gender + Women's Studies, and a minor in music.

Matthew Gleason was an English Language Fellow in the Philippines, 2018-2020, in Batac City and Tacloban City. He received his MA in TESOL in May 2018 from UMBC. Gleason is an AmeriCorps alumnus: he completed a year of national service through UMBC's Choice Program, in which he mentored and empowered high-risk youth in homes, schools, juvenile courts, and local communities. Matthew is currently in his first month as a TEFL Advisor for Fulbright Taiwan for the 2020-21 academic year.