

What is the Fulbright Program?

“The Fulbright U.S. Student Program provides grants for individually designed study/research projects or for English Teaching Assistant Programs. During their grants, Fulbrighters will meet, work, live with and learn from the people of the host country, sharing daily experiences. The program facilitates cultural exchange through direct interaction on an individual basis in the classroom, field, home, and in routine tasks, allowing the grantee to gain an appreciation of others’ viewpoints and beliefs. Through engagement in the community, the individual will interact with their hosts on a one-to-one basis in an atmosphere of openness, academic integrity, and intellectual freedom, thereby promoting mutual understanding.”

Taken from the Fulbright US Student Program webpage. Extensive information can be found at www.us.fulbrightonline.org.

Alumni Experience

Matt Mayforth, 2012 Muskingum University graduate, received an English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) award through the Fulbright program. He spent two years teaching English at two schools in Barunau am Inn, Germany, describing it as a wonderful experience that helped him grow professionally and personally.

Working with varying levels of English classes, Matt coordinated with English teachers to teach cultural lessons about aspects of American culture that related to particular thematic units, as well as lessons focused on improving conversational skills through games and other interactive activities. Most ETA awards are the length of a school year with the option to lengthen grants for up to two years, and Matt opted to extend his award for a second year.

Matt gained knowledge and skills that contributed to his current work as a high school German teacher. Because most of the teachers and students he worked with mostly spoke in the local German dialect, he learned to understand it well and greatly improved his German language skills through speaking primarily German outside of the classroom.

Applying to the Fulbright Program

Recent bachelor’s-degree graduates may apply English Teaching Assistantships (ETA) or self-designed Study/Research Awards. Language requirements vary between awards. For more information on each of these awards, see the Fulbright US Student Program website above.

Interested in applying for a Fulbright? Contact Muskingum’s Fulbright Program Advisor:

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