

SUMMER TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES IN CHINA AND TAIWAN



(Left):
Professor
Darren Meritz
taking
questions from
a UTSA
professor

Jinan University Information Session Teaching in China and Taiwan

On October 5, 2016, the East Asia Institute hosted a Summer Teaching Opportunities in China and Taiwan Information Session presented by Professor Darren Meritz. More than 15 instructors were in attendance.

Meritz kicked off the lecture by talking about his journey with teaching in China. After having spent a year teaching at UTSA, Meritz's department head informed him of a teaching opportunity at Jinan University. Not knowing much about Asia, Meritz decided this would be a good opportunity to gain not only more teaching experience but also a cultural one. He describes the experience as one that "opened up his eyes to Asia" and he continues to go back year after year.

When Meritz participated, it was the program's first year and it has been slowly expanding ever since. The JNC International Summer Program at Jinan University offers college courses to Chinese students pursuing bachelor's degrees in the United States, but who are home for the summer. The five-week summer program seeks faculty in all disciplines at its locations in Shenzhen, Taiwan, and Guangzhou. JNC considers all disciplines and typically offers core curriculum classes that are built like lower division courses taught at U.S. universities. JNC provides its faculty with salary, housing, travel reimbursement and experience paid weekend excursions.

Following the informational presentation, Meritz gave a lengthy question-and-answer session in order to dispel any concerns that the attending instructors may have had. Questions asked elaborated on a number of topics, such as how payment and banking works, what subjects may or may not be taboo, what kind of classes Jinan considers and other areas they may expect from the program.



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