



ESL TEACHER/SPANISH ENRICHMENT FOR MODERN LANGUAGE STUDENTS

UNDERGRADUATE WORK PLACEMENT PROGRAMME

We are a language school in Ayamonte (Costa de la Luz) in the southwest of Andalucía. We teach both Spanish and English as a second language (ESL). We are looking for two undergraduate students to act as teaching assistants for a work placement to teach English for the next school year, from September 2017- June 2018. This is an attractive and relatively inexpensive placement that will position the students well in the future, should they wish, to take advantage of the burgeoning world-wide demand for teachers of English as a foreign language. The undergraduates will also have ample opportunities to foster their Spanish language skills.



Ayamonte is a small attractive Spanish town in the southwest corner of Spain, on the banks of the River Guadiana (which separates Spain and Portugal) and very close to Atlantic beaches. Faro airport is nearby (40 minutes by taxi) and there is a regular and convenient bus service to the exquisite city of Seville. North of the area is the picturesque region of Aracena, the historic city of Huelva (which played an important role in the

Spanish exploration of the New World) is nearby, and the renown Doñana National Park is a short distance to the east.

The assistants' work entails teaching English to children and adults, and participating in various activities in the local community. The placement is intended to nurture and encourage the assistants' teaching abilities, to foster their understanding of Andalucian culture, and to strengthen their Spanish language skills. They are expected to spend at least 30 hours a week on these activities, from Monday to Friday. We will assist them in submitting their application for an Erasmus scholarship. All previous participants in our programme have been successful in their applications.



Teaching English is an obligatory part of the programme. The teaching assistants are required to teach for 20 hours a week, Monday through Thursday, in return for which we will pay each of them a stipend of 400 euros a month and



provide them with regular Spanish classes. If the demand for English teaching exceeds 20 hours a week we will pay the assistants an additional 8 euros/hour.

We provide a week of orientation at the beginning of the placement during which time the teaching assistants will be introduced to our English language syllabus so that they are comfortable when the term starts. Support for the assistants is available throughout their placement to help them refine their teaching skills. During the introductory period, we also offer them Spanish learning classes and we will ensure they know their way round Ayamonte and region.



We will assist the assistants in finding accommodation to suit their budget. The cost of living is relatively low and a private room in a shared apartment costs 150-200 euros/month.

Although teaching English is a substantial part of the placement the assistants will be speaking Spanish daily, both in our school and in the community. English is not widely



spoken and the level of tourism is low compared to the more popular coastal resorts to the east.

Our e-mail address is mail@escuelaatenea.es and we encourage any interested undergraduates to contact us to discuss their plans. Further details about our school are at www.escuelaateneaayamonte.com . Please also note the following testimonials from former teaching assistants.

TESTIMONIALS



Mia Connolly 2017- 2018 (University of Leeds): My year in Ayamonte was incredible; it was invaluable for my comprehension of Spanish. Escuela Atenea was fantastic and helped me make the most of learning about the culture in Spain, specifically Andalucía. I would recommend visiting Ayamonte for its notorious beaches, jamón and lovely welcoming people.

Emily Oakley 2017- 2018 (University of Bath): I really enjoyed my time in Ayamonte. Working in that environment and teaching people English has taught me so many skills. The town itself is quite small but it means that you have to speak Spanish to people, which at first was intimidating but by the end of the year you will think nothing of it. The people I met made the job so much easier and it was never stressful.



Daisy Hardy 2016-2017 (University of Southampton, Modern Languages): Working as a language assistant at Escuela Atenea in Ayamonte was the best decision I could've made for my year abroad. The town is fairly small but so beautiful and the community is so open and friendly. Unlike big cities it's very authentic and I found myself always surrounded by Spanish. The town is very close to the beaches and is also right on the border with Portugal so there's lots to explore. At school we received a lot of support for the job, as well as in the lead up to our arrival, and there was always advice when we needed it. The experience as a whole was one of the best experiences of my life. It developed not only my Spanish but also key skills that will be hugely valuable for the future and for career prospects.

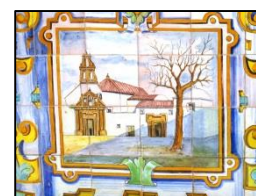


Elizabeth Bellis 2016-2017 (University of Westminster, Spanish and English Literature): I wanted to get some work experience during my year abroad and I feel so lucky to have been offered the position at Escuela Atenea Ayamonte. Ayamonte is a lovely town and I spent a wonderful year there. The application process was very informal and the whole team are very friendly and welcoming. In terms of the job you are given lots of support and encouragement with planning and teaching your own classes and I came away feeling I had gained real teaching experience. The hours are very good as well and the four-day weeks give you plenty of time to go on weekend trips in southern Spain and Portugal. You can even fit in a short trip to Morocco!



Harry Ellis 2015-2016 (University of Leeds, BA, French and Spanish): I knew I wanted to gain some professional experience in a foreign country during my year abroad, so I spent 9 months living and working in Ayamonte as an English teacher for Escuela Atenea. The town itself is quaint and typically Spanish. It's just a few miles from the beach and is very easily accessible, located only 40 minutes from Faro airport. Given the small size of the town, you're guaranteed to be speaking Spanish on a daily basis. The team at Escuela Atenea made me feel welcome from the very first day. They were on hand during the lead up to my Year Abroad, answering any questions and giving some invaluable advice regarding accommodation etc. On arrival, I had a week of teacher's training in order to learn the basics of teaching English as a foreign language. Although I was given a great amount of freedom with my classes, the other teachers at the school were always more than happy to advise me on any doubts I may have had. It was an extremely positive experience overall in regard to improving my Spanish language, but equally with developing and learning some key skills while working, which will no doubt come in use during my career.

Lydia Waszek 2014-2015 (University of Leeds, BA Spanish degree): As someone with zero teaching experience and limited exposure to using Spanish in the 'real world', I arrived at Escuela Atenea Ayamonte full of trepidation. I quickly learned that I had nothing to fear. Janet and Jero were exceptional in their support and guidance during my time there. I gained not only valuable teaching experience and a significant improvement in my Spanish language skills, but I also made friends for life.



Rebecca Partington 2013-2014 (University of Manchester, Business and Spanish): On choosing Escuela Atenea in Ayamonte, I knew I was in for an authentic, andalucian town, and I wasn't disappointed. This quiet little town has so much to offer - there's always something going on and someone to practice Spanish with. Different from the hustle and bustle of touristic Spain, here you are immersed into the traditional Spanish lifestyle, which will not only develop your Spanish language but will help you to develop as a person, in a cultural manner. The school, which is situated in the heart of Ayamonte welcomed me into its arms within minutes of arriving and since then I have felt like part of the family. If you are



looking to teach English whilst learn Spanish in a both professional, and down to earth, fun environment, this is your place!

Chris Cotter 2013-2014 (University of Manchester, French and Spanish): Ayamonte is a classic Spanish town full of closely-knit, friendly and extroverted people, making it really easy to immerse yourself in the language and culture. The same can be said for Escuela Atenea, where I was made to feel at home right away, with the assurance that if I had any problems I knew where to come to. Working in such a relaxed environment and getting to know staff, students and their families, inside and outside of the school has been a special experience which left me feeling I'd really been living the Spanish life.

