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Duties:

I'm currently assistant professor in the Department of English at National Taichung University of Education, Taiwan. The job itself entails teaching English based courses for second-language learners, which can be academic or applied. I've been teaching an introduction to linguistics class for a few years now and next semester will also teach a writing class and a fiction class. I've taught a number of different courses since I've been at this university (3 years).

How did you find this job?

I applied for this job after seeing an advertisement on Taiwan's research council website, which is where many universities advertise.

How (if at all!) does your PhD help you in your current work?

A PhD is a necessary condition for this job like most university positions. Many of the skills that I use are the same as the academic ones you acquire through a sustained period of study, but flexibility is quite important where I work as your classes tend to change a lot.

What employment-related advice do you have for current PhDs?

I suppose the main advice to give those looking for academic work is to try and publish before you finish if possible and do it in a 'fashionable' or niche area; it's so difficult to stand out from the crowd these days.