POUR UN SOURIRE D’ENFANT, PHNOM PENH
(FOR THE SMILE OF A CHILD)

SARAH JUN, 2020
BASIC WORK DESCRIPTION

• Teaching English to students who are preparing for further training at vocational school

• Creating lesson plans based on basic, essential English topics for four different classes of varying skill level—producing worksheets, homework, games, quizzes, tests

• Working together with a partner local Cambodian teacher for each class to plan lessons best suited for each group of students

PSE English Teaching Department!
The wonderful students of PSE!
BECOMING A STUDENT...

• The most rewarding aspect of my work experience was hands down personally getting to know my students in each class.

• You really get to hear their personal stories and hardships, and are just amazed by the resilience and positivity they exude on a day to day basis.

• Through your students, you will come to love Cambodia and its culture as much as they do—they will share with you anything they have, from food to dance moves to the Khmer language.

• Then suddenly, you will realize that teacher will have become student…
SUMMER IMPACT

• Though I was only at PSE for eight weeks, I believe that the teaching materials I created for my students will still continue to be used by future teachers and interns.

• Since the interns were responsible for creating 8 weeks worth of lessons basically from scratch, we will each be leaving behind new games and worksheets—suited for students of various skill level -- that are still available on the PSE database.
IMPACT ON MY FUTURE

• Though I do not intend on becoming a full-time English teacher in the future, this summer in Cambodia and the general region Southeast Asia has helped me realize that I am genuinely interested in fields in the humanities, especially Anthropology and History. From interacting with local Cambodians at work and traveling throughout the region on weekends, I now realize the immense importance of cultural awareness and insight in any aspiring physician.

• I hope to continue on the path to becoming a future physician, majoring in either Molecular Biology or Chemistry, but balancing my future coursework at Princeton with a variety of classes studying the region of Southeast Asia.

• The Global Health Certificate has also become a significant goal in my academic plans, since I now see it as an exciting intersection between my experiences with the Cambodian people and culture this summer and my future dream of becoming a physician, and not ”something I should do as a pre-med student”. 
TRAVELING BEAUTIFUL SOUTHEAST ASIA
**CULTURAL AWARENESS**

- Traveling to Cambodia was actually my first trip abroad, and I honestly could not have asked for a better region to explore for my first experience abroad. During the eight weeks I was in Cambodia, I was able to travel to key points in Cambodia as well as many neighboring countries in the SE Asia region (Vietnam, Thailand, and Malaysia).

- Experiencing so many different places, peoples, and cultures with each week really opened my eyes to just how big this world really is beyond Princeton, beyond New Jersey, beyond the United States…

- The art and history of South East Asia is so rich and beautiful, and so so different from what we are accustomed to back home. I would have never developed an appreciation for these new cultures from simply reading about them or looking at them from movies and videos…Something about immersing yourself in the language and daily lives of each culture makes you realize that there is too much adventure and beauty out in the world to simply stay back home and enjoy the comforts of familiarity!
Cambodia

• I can honestly say that from just one summer here, Cambodia has become a country I feel a personal commitment to come back and pour into again and again in the future.

• Cambodia and this internship is EXTREMELY UNDERRATED. So travel the untrodden path this summer and apply to this amazing internship. I promise you that the Cambodian people and culture will win your heart.

• As a country emerging from a recent history of hardship and great violence, the Cambodian youth are truly the future of this nation. Teaching and loving upon the students at PSE can impact and shape the very future of an uncertain Cambodia.