

## Citation

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## An Introduction to Accents Asia

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Greetings to the Inaugural Issue of Accents Asia, an online academic journal created by and for MA TESOL students (current or graduates) addressing language teaching issues in Japan and throughout Asia. Initially, this journal will be a place for unpublished but approved Teachers College Columbia University MA papers and MA Projects, but will expand over time to include articles and other types of research reports. This dynamic site can grow and evolve with the needs of teacher/researchers in the field through their suggestions and submissions.

Accents Asia was created to provide a space to access relevant TESOL research that would otherwise be left to gather dust on a shelf, making it accessible, via the World Wide Web, to a large international audience. This is an ideal opportunity for TC graduates to publish and get feedback on their work, as well as to provide opportunities for sharing ideas, lesson planning, and preparing conference presentations. Submissions are invited primarily but not exclusively from TC MA students. We also encourage students from other MA TESOL programs to submit your work.

For me, as a veteran TESOL professional and teacher trainer, Accents Asia is an important first step in opening up the “black box” of what it takes to be a successful MA TESOL student and how that success transforms itself into becoming a TESOL professional. There is nothing like seeing a work in progress develop to inspire would-be writers and presenters to take the next step. As a reader of many TESOL papers over the years, I see many talented students produce magnificent work that then does not get shared with their community. Certainly part of being a professional is entering the conversation



with other professionals in your field. Accents Asia can serve as an entry point into that conversation for many TESOL graduate students.

Reach high, take the initiative, take risks, submit your work to Accents Asia. This is an opportunity for you as teachers to do what you are always encouraging your students to do. Do it now!

