

## LIAM'S WORK IN EDUCATION

### TUTORING (Math, Government, English and SAT prep) and WRITING EXPERIENCE:

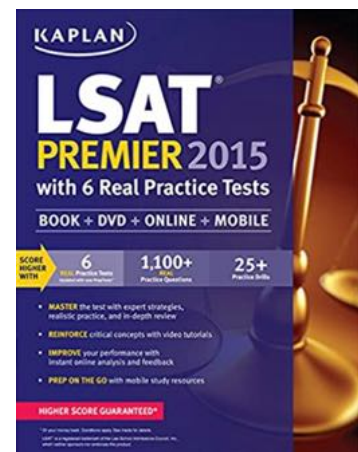
Shortly after graduating *magna cum laude* from the College Honors program at UCLA with a B.A. in political science, Liam Gowing worked part-time for the Excel Program at Brookhaven Junior College, tutoring students in Math, Government and English in his hometown of Dallas, Texas. After returning to Los Angeles, California, he again worked part-time as a tutor for Ivy West Educational Services preparing high school students to take the SAT and SAT II university entrance exams. After many years working as a journalist for various noted publications, including *the Los Angeles Times*, *SPIN Magazine*, *LA Weekly* and *the A.V. Club*, Liam returned to education in 2015, spending over two years as a classroom instructor with Kaplan Test Prep, preparing university students and graduates to take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT).

### LSAT TEST PREP: Logical Reasoning, Analytical Reasoning and Reading Comprehension

As an LSAT instructor, Liam taught a rigorous 40-hour course split into the areas of Logical Reasoning, Analytical Reasoning (aka Logic Games) and Reading Comprehension. In addition to providing classroom instruction, Liam worked as a tutor for Kaplan, teaching the same material in a private, one-on-one setting, while helping students prepare, write and edit their LSAT writing samples and personal statements.

By the time of his final LSAT prep course in 2017, Liam's students rated him either a 9 or a 10 (out of 10) as a teacher. One student, who gave him a perfect 10 in overall teaching said, "He really shows an interest in helping his students, and is always encouraging. His positive attitude really helped me gain confidence throughout the course!"

For more information on Kaplan's LSAT courses: <https://www.kaptest.com/lsat>



### ESL TEACHER: Conversational English, Phonetics and Public Speaking



After moving to Shanghai, China in the fall of 2017, Liam spent one year as an instructor with the Shanghai Institute of Tourism (SIT), a division of Shanghai Normal University, teaching a conversational English class based on materials created by the Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press as well as an English phonetics course based on the classic Cambridge University Press text, *Ship or Sheep*. In the fall, he also developed a special presentation and discussion course for advanced students, helping them improve their public speaking and debating skills. In the spring, he tutored a small group of standout students, helping them perfect their English in preparation for a national competition.

Liam was so well liked by his students [see photo at left] that the administration asked him to return to SIT temporarily in the middle of the 2019 spring semester, when the contract of the teacher hired to replace him was terminated early.

For more information on SIT: [www.sitsh.edu.cn](http://www.sitsh.edu.cn)

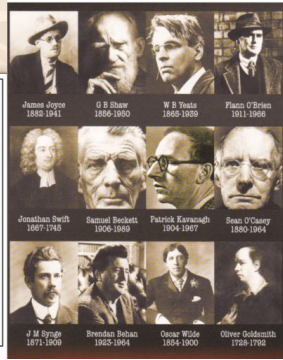
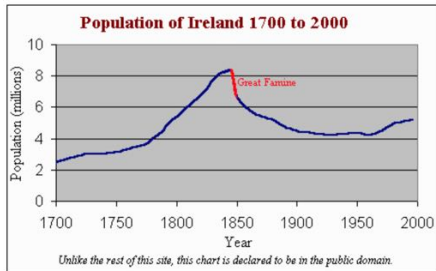
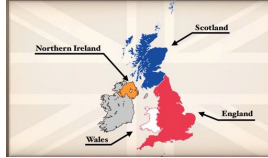
UNIVERSITY LECTURER: AV English Listening & Speaking, English Lit Writing Program head

In August of 2018, Liam began working at the School of Foreign Languages on the Minhang campus of Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), which was recently ranked as the #3 university in China by *US News and World Report*. While at SJTU, he taught Audio-visual English Listening and Speaking I and II, a mandatory year-long course for English majors.

Liam also oversaw the crucial first half of the English Department's book reports project, a standalone English Literature classics reading and writing program. Integrating the lives of the authors and the historical and literary movements that influenced their works into his teaching, Liam gave his students a better understanding of the following plays, novels and collections:

**Irish Debtors Prisons**

There were serious consequences if you owed money and could not pay the debt in 19th century Ireland. The debtor was imprisoned until the money was paid. If they could not afford to pay the debt, then it was not uncommon for the person to stay in the prison until they died there.



- *Through the Looking-glass* by Lewis Carroll
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde
- *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-four* by George Orwell
- *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway
- *Travesties* by Tom Stoppard
- *Possession* by A.S. Byatt
- *True History of the Kelly Gang* by Peter Carey

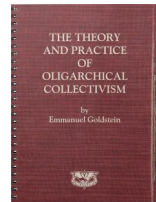
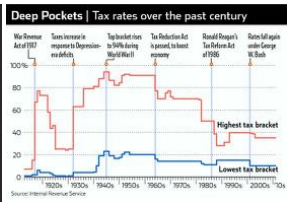


**Domino Theory**

April 7, 1954

You have a row of dominoes set up, you knock over the first one, and what will happen to the last one is the certainty that it will go over very quickly.

Worried about SE Asia & Japan



**George Kennan and Containment**

July 1947, article in Foreign Affairs appears authored by "X"

"The main element of any United States policy toward the Soviet Union must be that of a long-term patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies."

This becomes the basis for Containment and what will later become an ABC foreign policy

**Napoleon = Joseph Stalin**

- **Napoleon**
  - First and last the emperor against France's enemies.
  - After his defeat at Waterloo, he was exiled to the island of St. Helena.
  - He died there in 1821.
- **Joseph Stalin**
  - The general secretary of the Soviet Union from 1929-1953 who tried to push the USSR into a world war.
  - He died in 1953 and was buried in the Kremlin.

By incorporating the authors and their works as fodder for discussion in his AV Listening and Speaking classes, while interweaving modern artists and entertainers into the curriculum, Liam managed to offer a course that touched on a little bit of everything: History, culture, politics and government, music, film and television, social media and gaming, as well as English Literature.



As his reputation as a 宝藏外教 (“treasure foreign teacher”) who provided broad, compelling lessons in a light-hearted and openminded setting grew, several of his students wrote about him in the Student Union and local press.

SJTU Student Union Interview | Liam Gowing: Never-ending Exploration: <https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/TvRy36ffj-lbsNOTqbh-w>



Independent student publication 益友 (“Good Friend”) feature on Liam: <https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/80hP5NXyBWE1E22U3Pb1yA>

Slow Boat podcast on Liam’s philosophy of teaching: <https://www.xiaoyuzhoufm.com/podcast/6211b99e762f4df88f253d72>

Such was the popularity of his courses for the School of Foreign Languages that in his final year at SJTU, Liam was approached and contracted to teach a brand-new Advanced English course for first-year medical students at the Shanghai Jiao Tong School of Medicine on the university system’s Xintiandi campus.

Despite having a great experience working at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Liam decided not to renew his employment contract for the 2022-2023 school year during the drastic COVID-19 lockdown of Shanghai in April and May of 2022.

After tendering a farewell email to his colleagues at the SJTU School of Foreign Languages, Liam received the following commendation from Professor Bingjun Yang who headed the English Department during his employment there: “You have been one of the most meticulous and most enlightening teachers the students have ever had. Thank you so much for your great work.”

For more information on SJTU: <https://en.sjtu.edu.cn/>



More than 73 million Americans – 11% of the population – were at home as the Liverpool group were performing on the radio.



That time the KKK threatened The Beatles for John Lennon's statement



August 1966: A two-photo collage of “burn-the-Beatles” protests following John Lennon’s “more-popular-than-Jesus” remarks. Top: sign advertising a Beatles burning. Bottom: A radio station disc jockey – center w/microphone – possibly delivering “on-the-air” reporting during a “Beatles bonfire.”