

Mark Larson

North Hennepin Community College
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Education

- St. Cloud State University (MA).....St. Cloud, Minnesota 2002 - 2004
- Master's degree (English-TESL) *summa cum laude*
 - Minnesota teaching license (ESL K-12)
- University of Minnesota (BA).....Minneapolis, Minnesota 1994 - 1995
- Major: East Asian Studies *cum laude*
 - Minor: Japanese Language
- Minnesota State University-Akita (AA).....Akita, Japan 1992 - 1994
- Japan Studies Award Academic Dean's List
 - Association of International Education Scholarship
- Bemidji State University.....Bemidji, Minnesota 1990 - 1992
- International Students' Association Award Academic Dean's List
 - Varsity Ice Hockey Letter winner
 - Bemidji State University Honor Scholarship

Work History

- EAP, Writing, Japanese Culture and Aikido Instructor...North Hennepin Community College, August 2005 - present
- Aikido (Japanese martial art) Teacher.....Minnesota Aiki Shuren Dojo, August 2002 – present
- Assistant Director of Administration for Akita Summer ESL Program.....St. Cloud State University, summer 2006
- ALC Instructor.....Sauk Rapids-Rice School District (ISD 47), August 2004 - June 2005
- Upward Bound Instructor.....College of St. Ben's/ St. John's University, summers 2004, 2005, 2006
- Composition Instructor (TA).....St. Cloud State University, September 2002 – May 2004
- Japanese/English Translator and Counselor for Akita Summer ESL Program....St. Cloud State University, summer 2002
- Instructor of English (ESL/ELL/EFL), Culture and Aikido.....Akita City and Yuwa, Akita-ken, Japan 2001 - 2002
- English (ESL/ELL/EFL) and cultural studies teacher at Akita University
 - Japanese martial arts (aikido) and culture teacher at Minnesota State University and private dojo
 - Adult community education English (ESL/ELL/EFL) teacher
- English and Cultural Awareness Programs Director.....Iwama, Ibaraki-ken, Japan 1997 - 2001
- Designed, coordinated and supervised English (ESL/ELL/EFL) and cultural awareness programs
 - Taught English (ESL/ELL/EFL) and American culture in elementary and junior high schools
 - Supervised English club
 - Coordinated events for community and school international cultural exchanges
 - Translated Japanese/English for town officials
 - Wrote articles for town newsletter
 - Coordinated student volunteer activities in community
 - Served on Iwama Town Board
- Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program Instructor.....Yuwa, Akita-ken, Japan 1995 - 1997
- Taught primary, elementary, and junior high school English (EFL)
 - Assisted in the development of curriculum for Japanese English teachers
 - Served as liaison between schools, superintendent, and city officials
 - Created cultural awareness activities for Yuwa schools
 - Assisted with Yuwa students' cultural exchanges to St. Cloud, Minnesota

Accomplishments, Skills, and Attributes

- Award-Winning Educator, Fluent in Japanese language and culture
- Community service volunteer and presenter at various educational institutions
- Extensive travel holding martial art/cultural workshops in Asia, North and South America, and Europe
- Has written and published articles relating to martial arts
- Hard working team player with strong leadership, motivational, organizational, and people skills
- 7th degree black belt in aikido/5th degree weapons certification/1st degree certification in *jukendo*
- Founder and Chief Instructor of Minnesota Aiki Shuren Dojo www.aikido-shuren-dojo.com
- Member/player of the United States Hockey League (USHL) 1989-1990 North Iowa Huskies and Bemidji State University Beavers Ice Hockey Team (Letter winner) 1990-1992