

Sara Irwin

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Objective

To obtain a position teaching social studies in a community that will appreciate a joyful and passionate teacher eager to engage with my students, colleagues, and community.

Education

Masters of Arts in Education • Technology and Learning	Michigan State University	2014-2015
Michigan Secondary Certification • Completed in April 2010 • Social Studies Major (RX) • Geography Minor (CB)	Michigan State University	2009-2010
Bachelor of Arts • Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science	Michigan State University	2005-2009

Teaching and Related Experience

Professional Experience

Forest Hills Northern High School • Teacher of United States History and World History • Enlightening students in the history of the United States and the world by drawing connections between where we are today and what happened in the past • Advanced Placement World History • Prepare students for the Advanced Placement test, including three separate essays that are a part of the test.	Grand Rapids, MI	2013-Present
Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies • Lead Teacher of the 6 th grade team and 8 th grade team • Responsible for all functions related to the 6 th grade and 8 th grade teachers and students • Similar to department chair but on a grade level basis • Teacher of World Studies in a Project Based Learning Classroom and School • Focused on a range of topics including the Industrial Revolution, the Holocaust, the French Revolution, Early Civilization, Empires and Imperialism • Encouraged students to think creatively and question the course of history • Implemented design thinking into the World Studies curriculum • Co-planned and Taught Design Challenges for both the 6 th , 7 th and 8 th grade teams • Coached students through quarterly design challenges focused on an array of subject matters • A variety of technology was used by students as well as during instruction • Students used cameras to take pictures for a photo essay on the effects of the Industrial Revolution	Detroit, MI	2010-2013

- Adviser for Middle and High School Student Council
 - Aided students in organizing multiple school dances, fundraisers and spirit week
 - Work with students to develop leadership skills within the council as well as within the school community

Teacher Certification Internship Year

Otto Middle School

Lansing, MI

2009-2010
(September-May)

- Lead teacher in Western Hemisphere, including one honors section, to a culturally and economically diverse group of 6th graders
 - Independently constructed and implemented authentic lesson plans and unit plans around geographical themes as well as historical and economic frameworks
 - Included diverse delivery of instruction, student learning opportunities, and assessments
- Co-planned and implemented a unit in an inclusion class with a colleague specializing in Special Education and English
 - Linked Michigan GLCEs within lesson designs
 - Integrated Google Earth, a program that displays satellite imagery of the world, into multiple lessons
 - Actively engaged students in exploring North and South America
 - Instructed students on using Prezi.com, a new zooming presentation tool
 - Organized school wide fundraiser "Hats for Haiti", resulting in a \$1750 donation to the American Red Cross
 - Received front-page acknowledgement from the major local newspaper for the effort
- Assisted mentor teacher in planning and setting up incentive activities for students such as dances and movies
- Voluntarily D-Jayed school dances, timed swim meets, volunteered at an all-city track meet

Substitute Teaching

Ingham Intermediate School District

Ingham County

2008-Present

- Substitute taught within both urban and suburban contexts in Ingham County (3rd-12th grade)

Other Field Experiences

Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit

West Bloomfield, MI

Summer 2010

- Assistant Unit Head at the center's day camp
 - Oversee counselors and 1st and 2nd grade campers

Refugee Development Center

Lansing, MI

Fall 2006

- Tutored refugee students of all ages who attended urban schools
 - Aided them in every day homework (Science, Math, English, Social Studies)
 - Worked with students on their English skills

Camp Invention

Rockford, MI

2004-2005

- Worked as a counselor in charge of approximately 20-second graders during a week-long day camp that encouraged students to use their imaginations

Professional Development and Affiliations

Shelter Instruction Observation Protocol	Grand Rapids, MI	2015
Advanced Placement World History Summer Institute	Grand Rapids, MI	2015
ASCD Conference	Philadelphia, MI	2012
Design Challenge Workshop <i>Henry Ford Learning Institute</i>	Detroit, MI	2011
Social Studies New Teacher/Intern Panel	Michigan State University	2010
Membership in Michigan Council for the Social Studies		2009
Michigan Council for the Social Studies Conference	Grand Rapids, MI	2009
• Learned about different approaches in teaching subjects of Social Studies		
Michigan History Conference	Detroit, MI	2009
• Attended a speech given on the preservation of history in Michigan		

Additional Technology Fluencies

Experience with:

- GradeQuick and Edline
- Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher)
- MAC OSX, Safari
- Google Earth
- Prezi
- Weebly
- Haiku

References

Justin Bruner, Field Instructor 2009-2010
Michigan State University
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Jon Gregory, Principal
Forest Hills Northern High School
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Vicki Bohannon, Internship Mentor
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