



**POSITION TITLE:** MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER

**SUPERVISOR:** PRINCIPAL

**HOURS/STATUS:** Monday-Friday / 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. / 10-month Exempt

**PRIMARY DESCRIPTOR:** The Middle School Social Studies teachers are responsible for developing in each student: a coherent knowledge and understanding of America's past and present within a global context; proficiency in the use of social studies inquiry skills and understanding of key concepts; an understanding of the privileges, and responsibilities of citizenship both national and global. Social Studies helps students understand the complexity of people's lives now and in the past, the processes of change, the diversity of societies, the relationship of peoples and their environment, as well as the pupil's own identity and the challenges of their time. Your classes will equip students to move from knowledge to action, confidently exercising their rights as citizens and knowing that they are as important as anyone in helping to make the world a better place. You are responsible for the progress made by your students, ensuring that they can work confidently with texts at or above grade level. This position supports the mission of the UCCS and works to achieve the goals described in the charter.

**ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Plan and prepare lessons with clear and ambitious learning objectives, aligned to NYS Social Studies Standards
- Align curriculum to include World and United States history and geography, placing emphasis on American government, political science and humanities and how the world is globally connected
- Ensure that students are working with grade level appropriate text and maximizing the time students spend exploring social studies related topics and activities
- Provide frequent, actionable feedback to students; adapting instruction either to respond to errors and misunderstandings or to raise the bar
- Ensure that 100% of students are engaged in learning; making skilled use of questioning and academic discussion to challenge students' thinking and increase rigor
- Provide daily writing opportunities and instruction to develop student thinking and enhance their skill and stamina in writing
- Explicit planning and monitoring to build student vocabulary range by at least 400 words per year
- Analyze data from assessments to ensure that instruction is focused on what students most need to learn and practice

- Establish and maintain a welcoming and respectful classroom environment, with a strong sense of collective responsibility
- Establish effective classroom routines that maximize learning time in each class
- Actively build positive, supportive relationships with all students
- Support and use the school culture expectations and routines established by the Leadership and Student Success team
- Collaborate with Special Education, ELL, RTI, Speech and Language and other teaching specialists to appropriately support students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan
- Run an effective Homeroom, taking accurate attendance and supporting the social and emotional development of students
- Maintain accurate and complete records of student progress and achievement and use these to create accurate quarterly grade report cards and other academic reports
- Liaise with families and the wider UCCS community; in particular, reaching out to parents systematically to discuss student progress
- Participate in grade level team meetings; subject meetings and whole school meetings
- Make full use of all professional learning opportunities provided by the school; implement with fidelity the instructional methods and programs adopted by the school
- Effectively communicate with and utilizing the support of staff that work within the UCCS building

**ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Accomplish all other duties and tasks as appropriately assigned or requested by school leadership
- Maintain appropriate certification
- Ability to implement technology into daily lessons

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:**

- Outstanding subject knowledge and passion for teaching
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with other adults
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to show care and compassion for others
- Effective conflict management and problem resolution skills
- Skillful organization and time management skills
- Values and promotes diversity
- Compassionate attitude and strong understanding of child development
- Nurturing teaching approach

**EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE & CERTIFICATION:**

- New York State Initial, Provisional or Permanent Certification in Middle School Childhood Social Studies or specific content within Social Studies preferred
- NYS Fingerprint Clearance

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit; stand, walk, use hands to handle or feel objects, tools or controls; and reach with hands and arms; climb stairs; balance; stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl; talk or hear; taste or smell. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by the job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

I can, with or without reasonable accommodation(s), perform the essential functions of this position:

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Employee Signature Date

DATE CREATED/REVISED: April 2020