

Randal P. Wolfinger

EDUCATIONAL PROFESSIONAL

Summary

Passionate and innovative Social Studies educator with 20 years of experience teaching U.S. and World History, including AP U.S. History. As Department Chair, I lead curriculum development, interdisciplinary collaboration, and teacher mentorship. Known for integrating tech-rich, inquiry-based, and gamified strategies that align with Illinois Learning and Common Core Standards.



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wolfingersvirtualclassroom.com

Skills

- AP U.S. History & ACT-Aligned Assessment Design
- Curriculum Development (UbD, Standards-Aligned)
- Project-Based & Inquiry-Driven Learning
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Cross-Curricular Collaboration
- Department Chair Leadership & Team Coaching

Education

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Northeastern Illinois University

MA. Political Science

2012-2014

Roosevelt University

MA. Secondary Education / LBSI

2003-2007

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Roosevelt University

Political Science

2001-2003

Experience

SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER & DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Orr Academy High School

2014 - Present

- Direct department-level curriculum planning and mentor social science team members
- Teach AP U.S. History and World Studies using project-based and gamified strategies
- Lead professional development and collaborate on interdisciplinary units
- Drive gains in student performance using ACT-style assessments and data feedback
- Coordinate schoolwide civic engagement and cultural awareness initiatives

DIVERSE LEARNERS TEACHER / CASE MANAGER

CICS Charter Schools

- Taught Senior Discrete Math (Self-Contained) and co-taught Freshman Algebra and Biology in an inclusive classroom setting
- Performed duties as case manager, overseeing student files and facilitating IEP meetings (annual reviews and reevaluations)
- Used formal and informal assessment data to guide instruction and promote skill mastery
- Developed and implemented formative and summative assessments aligned with district standards and growth targets
- Collaborated across departments to support differentiated instruction and student progress monitoring

Certifications

- **Illinois Professional Educator Licence (6-12)**
- **Texas Professional Educator Licence (6-12)**

Extracurriculars

- Coach, Boys' and Girls' Bowling and Golf teams
- Sponsor, Photography Club, Travel Club, Website Design Club, Computer Building Club, and Investment Club
- Organized and led student enrichment in creative arts, STEM, financial literacy, and global awareness
- Mentored students in collaboration, problem-solving, and leadership through club activities and competitions
- Promoted student engagement and community building through diverse extracurricular programming

Professional Organizations

- Vice President, Pi Sigma Alpha – NEIU Chapter (2013-2014)
- CRS Global Fellow, Ghana & Burkina Faso (2010–2011)
- Member, American Political Science Association
- Member, American History Association
- Member, Midwest Political Science Association
- Member, National Council on Economic Education
- Member, Learning Disabilities Association of America
- Member, National Association of Special Education Teachers
- AVID Certified Educator
- TCI / History Alive Certified
- **Trained in:** Reading Horizons, Read 180, Achieve 3000, and Right Question Institute strategies

Experience (Continued)

DIVERSE LEARNERS TEACHER

Chicago Vocational Career Academy

- Taught Freshman World Studies (Self-Contained and Regular Ed), Contemporary American History (Self-Contained), and Reading Intervention using Achieve3000 and Read 180
- Used data from formative assessments and benchmark testing to guide instruction and improve student outcomes
- Increased network benchmark performance from 10% to 70% of students meeting or exceeding standards, with several scoring over 90% on the Gains Assessment
- Prepared students for and administered the U.S. Constitution Test, with a 95% pass rate toward graduation requirement
- Differentiated instruction across self-contained and inclusive classrooms to support a wide range of learners

DIVERSE LEARNERS TEACHER

Urban Prep Charter School

- Taught Freshman Algebra and Sophomore English, and co-taught core content courses across grades 9 and 10
- Served as case manager, facilitating IEP meetings and ensuring compliance with student support plans
- Designed and implemented formative and summative assessments aligned with district standards
- Used data to differentiate instruction and monitor student progress toward academic goals
- Increased network assessment performance from 0% to 55% of students meeting or exceeding standards

SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER

Manley Career Academy

- Taught AP U.S. Government, Honors Economics, and U.S. History, integrating AP skill subsets and standards-based instruction
- Designed AP Government curriculum using past College Board exams to build academic rigor and test readiness
- Achieved a 96% pass rate on the U.S. Constitution Test and 100% pass rate on Consumer Education graduation requirements
- Emphasized civic engagement, financial literacy, and primary source analysis across all courses