

CHRISTOPHER RHYS BROWN

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CURRICULUM SPECIALIST | TEACHER TRAINER | PROFESSOR

With many years in education, I have a wide variety of experience, with a special focus on experiential and service based learning. I have taught middle school, high school, undergraduate and graduate level college students and have experience in program and school administration. I have been a founding member of three different schools. I have also taught and developed education programs in several other countries. I have experience in budget management, teacher training and coaching, strategic planning, recruiting, and working with a wide array of people from diverse backgrounds.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Curriculum Design and Development | Teachers Coaching and Training | Program Management | Budgeting | Strategic Planning | Education Policy Analysis and Advocacy | Program Evaluation | Experiential and Service Learning | Authentic Assessment | Cooperative Learning Methodology | ELL | Diverse Learners

EDUCATION

University of Sydney, Australia Sydney

- Master of Education – Curriculum & Instruction

Bush Educators Program - Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota

- Education Leadership and Reform

University of Minnesota

- Graduate Program Coursework: International Development and Curriculum

University of South Pacific, Suva, Fiji - U.S. Peace Corps, Kiribati

- ESL Teacher Certification: Cross-Cultural Teacher Training

Bemidji State University

- BS Degree in Secondary Education: Social Studies / History - MN Secondary License

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Beyond the Walls Education - Minneapolis, MN www.beyondthewallseducation.com 2002 - Present

Founder - Curriculum Development Consultant

- Education consultant focused on developing curricula for schools that incorporates experience, service, community engagement, environmental education and diversity into the academic curriculum.
- Develop curricula that incorporate state standards as well as integrating literacy and arts into all learning situations.
- Services include staff development, climate change workshops, developing school gardens, writing curriculum, program evaluation, advising in curriculum implementation and development of engaging learning activities.

Augsburg College - Minneapolis, MN

2003 - 2015

Professor / Field Experience Coordinator / Charter School Authorizer Liaison / Student Teacher Supervisor

- Taught the following courses: Orientation to Education in an Urban Setting; 6 - 12 Methods for Social Studies; School and Society – Philosophy of Education.
- Advised undergraduate and graduate students.
- Developed and managed the Field Experience program coordinating relationships with many metro area schools.
- Created and managed authorizing related activities for the Charter School Authorization program;
- Organized and taught summer culture programs for visiting Chinese students.
- Co led trip to Guatemala with 18 students.

University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Adjunct Student Teacher Supervisor

- Supervised two student teachers each semester in the St. Louis Park school district.

Uni-World Language College and School - Sydney, Australia

ELL Teacher and Curriculum Development Specialist

- Designed and implemented experiential learning curriculum for English Language Learners who had recently arrived in Australia from People Republic of China.
- Responsibilities included curriculum design, implementation and assessment for English language learning, assisting in the preparation for the International English Language Test, and daily instruction.

Learning Adventures Middle School - St. Paul, MN

Founder / Director / Teacher

- The Director and founding member of a small innovative charter middle school based on the Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound principals.
- Responsibilities included: curriculum development and implementation, community outreach and relations, budget management, personnel/teacher management, records management with state, calendar and schedule development,
- Coordinated fieldwork activities, leading wilderness outings,
- Taught interdisciplinary social studies, physical education and language arts.

St. Paul Public Schools – St. Paul MN

Design Consultant for Cross Winds Middle School

- Coordinated research/development team in the design and implementation of a new, year round middle school.
- Responsibilities included curriculum and assessment research, design creation, and coordination of superintendents from seven cooperating school districts.
- The school opened in the fall of 1998 as Inter-district Arts and Science Middle School.

Institute for Education and Advocacy - Minneapolis, MN

Director of School for New Americans / Lincoln International

- Founder and Director of a contract alternative high school for non-English speaking refugees and immigrants.
- Designed and implemented school concept, hired and supervised teaching and support staff, led curriculum development team, student recruitment, managed relationships between Minneapolis Public Schools, IEA and other cooperating organizations.

Director of Gateway to English

- A work focused ESL program for adult refugees and immigrants receiving public assistance. Developed program concept, hired and supervised teachers and a job coach, oversaw curriculum and evaluation tools.
- Reported regularly to the State of Minnesota and the Federal Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs.

Director of Study Connections

- A cross-cultural peer-tutoring program for refugee and immigrant students.
- The service-learning program operated in five urban Twin Cities high schools and utilized cooperative learning methodology. Responsible for hiring and supervising teachers, overseeing curriculum development and program evaluation.
- Maintained relations with participating schools, school districts, private and public funding sources while maintaining records and authoring reports for funding agencies.

United States Peace Corps, Kiribati, South Pacific

Director - Community Development Center

- Trained youth in academic and vocational skills; developed curriculum, identified, hired and trained local teachers;
- Maintained relations between island council and the sponsoring organization;
- Coordinated community development meetings;
- Obtained USAID funding installing 40 well pumps improving local water supply;
- Developed and implemented training program for new volunteers;

Benilde-St. Margaret's High School - St. Louis Park, MN

Teacher/ Coach

- Secondary Social Studies Teacher for grades 9-12.
- Subjects taught included: American History, European and Asian History, World History, Political Science, Philosophy, Current Affairs, Psychology, and Sociology.
- Extra Curricular included; Girls Swim Team coach, Ski team coach, Junior Class Advisor, Mock Trial coordinator.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Ongoing workshops addressing global warming issues and climate change refugees

- *Workshops are designed for middle, high school and adult audiences*

Augsburg College Education Awareness

- *“Implicit Bias and Impact On Students’ Success” 2013*

Minnesota Council of Social Studies

- *Workshop: “Connecting Family History To Make History Real” 2011*

Augsburg College Faculty Development Retreat – Led weekend workshop

- *“Connecting To The Land – Exploring the Impact of Aldo Leopold” 2008*

Minnesota Association of Charter Schools

- *“Why Sponsorship Matters” 2005*
- *“Developing Responsible Sponsorship Guidelines” 2004*

Minnesota Association of Alternative Programs, Rochester MN

- *“Incorporating Standards in Experiential Learning” 2003*

Sydney University Faculty of Education

- *“Charter Schools in America” 2002*

Association of Experiential Education - St. Paul, MN

- *“Experience and Academics” 2002*

National Charter School Conference - Washington DC

- *“Performance Pay Systems” 2000*
- *“Creating an Annual Report” 2000*

Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound - Cincinnati, OH

- *“Struggles of Starting with ELOB” 1999*

Minnesota ESL Conference - St. Paul, MN

- *“Service Learning and Language Acquisition” 1995*

Minnesota ESL Conference - Brooklyn Park, MN

- *“Cross Cultural Peer Tutoring” 1994*

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION, RELATED ACTIVITIES, AND MEMBERSHIPS

Toastmasters – Vice President of Public Relations, 2016 - 2017

Board member and chair of Minnesota Association of Charter Schools, 2012 - 2015

Member of Minnesota Association of Social Studies, 2008 - 2019

Marcy Arts Partnership Board Member, 2008 - 2014

Member of National Middle School Association, 2005 - 2015

Member of National Youth Leadership Council

Volunteer building and developing a rural school in northern Thailand

Member of National Council for Social Studies