



# Middle School English/Social Studies

## Overview

We're looking for a teacher with the ability to teach a variety of English and/or Social Studies classes, with an emphasis in middle school (grades 7-8). There is some flexibility about the specific assignment, based on the strengths of the teacher we hire. Our complete set of secondary English and Social Studies classes is as follows:

Grade	English	Social Studies
7	English 7	Latin America
8	English 8	World Studies
9	English 9	World History
10	English 10	World Geography
11	AP English Language or English 11	AP Economics, Economics, Comparative Government or U.S. History
12	AP English Literature or English 12	AP Economics, Economics, Comparative Government or U.S. History

## Qualifications

- 4-year degree in English, History, Geography, Middle or Secondary Education, or related field
- Teacher certification and 2 years experience preferred
- Evangelical Christian testimony with active local church experience
- Sense of calling to teach in a developing country setting
- Willingness to make a three (or more) year commitment (negotiable)
- Full fluency and expertise in English required; conversational Spanish preferred but not required

## Sample Schedule

We use a modified block schedule with 7 classes that meet 4 times per week in a daily schedule of 6 one-hour class periods each day. A full-time teacher would teach 5 of the 7 class periods. Although the actual assignment will be created based on the strengths of the teacher, and the schedule varies throughout the week, a sample schedule is as follows:

Time	Period	Class	Notes
7:15-7:30	0H	Homeroom, devotional	10-12 students
7:34-8:31	1	World Studies 8	
8:36-9:33	2	Latin America 7	
9:33-9:48	Break		
9:48-10:45	3	English 7	
10:50-11:47	4	English 8	
11:47-12:18	Lunch		
12:18-1:14	5	Planning Period or Elective (Drama, Creative Writing, Accelerated Reader)	Could be 1 semester for 5 days per week
1:19-2:15	6	Planning Period	

## Social Studies Curriculum (subject to revision)

The Latin America class uses a textbook from Pearson Education, and World Studies uses Bob Jones World Studies, 3rd edition. Both of these are supplemented with a number of other resources, materials and well-developed lesson plans.

Latin America: Students will identify major geographical features and countries in Latin America. Students will experience and comprehend key concepts in the text World Explorer. Students will deeply learn the history of all of the Latin American countries, and build practical projects relating to Native American and Spanish History.

World Studies: World Studies is a year-long course designed that begins with the history of Europe in 1100, traces the development of world cultures through the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, and continues through the present times. The focus is on governments, religions, explorers, inventions and the arts that have helped to shape our world.

World History: Students will know that God directs world history, starting in the Ancient Near East and moving throughout the various civilizations. Students will learn how one civilization borrows concepts from previous ones and memorize key points and persons throughout history. Students are to be aware of the unique spread of Christianity and how they are recipients of God's blessing. Class projects will enhance learning and understanding. Two textbooks are used for the course: Human Legacy (Holt) and World History (BJU Press).

World Geography: This is a standard World Geography course focusing on the five themes in geography. Using a regional approach to the world, students study countries from each continent. Using a variety of media along with traditional textbooks, students will gain a better understanding of how geography affects the culture and history of people living in different places. Two textbooks are used: Cultural Geography (BJU Press) and Geography (Holt).

U.S. History: Students will develop an awareness of the formation of early British colonies in the 13 states, focusing on the autonomy and independent culture that developed. Students will look at the cultural values at the birth of the United States and learn about historical events from 1776 to the present. Students will participate in class activities including a section on invention. Finally, students will explore the importance of the United States in a world setting.

Comparative Government: This introductory course in Comparative Government will offer students the opportunity to investigate various political systems, their underlying philosophies and ideologies, and the similarities and differences between the different ones. Background information on political philosophy, outlines of contemporary regimes, a brief study of American government as a reference, and individual country studies of nations classified under Industrialized Democracies, Current and Former Communist Regimes, and the Third World, will give students the tools for analysis of government in its many forms. The comparative nature of the class will also require students to apply a Christian worldview to a right interpretation of government and power as seen in the various examples studied.

Economics: This introductory one-semester course presents basic microeconomic and macroeconomic concepts from a perspective guided by the truth that God created mankind to inhabit an earth full of resources and that man is accountable to God to use properly and productively the wealth that has been given to him by the Creator. Textbook: Economics (A Beka Books)

AP Microeconomics: A semester-long course which is aligned to AP standards. Success in the regular economics course, along with high averages in social studies and English, are prerequisites. All students are required to take the AP exam when it is offered in May.

# English Curriculum

**Fall 2023 update:** The Secondary English courses have been under development the past couple of years as we have adopted the Common Core English standards. For Middle School, our primary resource has been the EngageNY curriculum. All courses cover Reading (Literature and Non-Fiction), Writing, Speaking and Listening skills.

Each of our English courses provide a comprehensive study of various aspects of English Language Arts, including literature, composition, grammar, and communications skills development.

English 7: This class focuses on literature grouped into several themes. Students will begin building understanding of theme, plot, and conflict. They will work on critical reading and thinking skills. They will work on the writing process, including peer conferencing and mechanics. Literature titles: *A Long Walk to Water* (Linda Sue Park), *Pygmalion* (George Bernard Shaw), and various selections.

English 8: Students use a different textbook and read a different set of novels, but continue developing their understanding of literature, composition, and grammar. Literature titles: *Inside Out & Back Again* (Thanhha Lai), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Harper Lee), *Unbroken* (Laura Hillenbrand) and *An Omnivore's Dilemma* (Michael Pollan).

English 9-12: The high school courses include unit based reading selections from a variety genres and authors as well as different writing modules.

Elective classes: Many of our faculty members teach semester-long elective classes for middle school and/or high school students. Teachers are encouraged to develop courses of interest to themselves and our students. Possibilities might classes include drama, public speaking, debate strategies, works of J.R.R. Tolkien or C.S. Lewis, journalism or creative writing.

AP English Language and Composition 11: The AP English Language and Composition course is designed to help students become skilled readers of non-fiction prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and to become skilled writers who can compose for a variety of purposes. By their writing and reading in this course, students should become aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effective writing. Textbook: *The Language of Composition: Reading, Writing, Rhetoric, Second Edition* by Renee H. Shea, et al.. Supplementary titles: excerpts from *Blood of Brothers* (Stephen Kinzer).

AP English Literature and Composition 12: This course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. Writing assignments focus on the critical analysis of literature and include expository analytical and argumentative essays. Although critical analysis makes up

the bulk of student writing for the course, well-constructed creative writing assignments will help students see from the inside how literature is written. Literature titles: *The Good Earth* (Pearl S. Buck), *Pride and Prejudice* (Jane Austen), *A Tale of Two Cities* (Charles Dickens), and various poems and short stories.