



## Job Description: Middle School Humanities Teacher

---

Position Title	Department	Reports to
Middle School Humanities Teacher	Middle School	Marja Brandon
Employment Status	FLSA Status	Effective Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full-Time <input type="checkbox"/> Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Exempt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt	August 1, 2019

### **OVERVIEW OF WOODLAND SCHOOL**

Located just west of Stanford University, Woodland is an independent day school that offers a joyful approach to learning in a diverse, respectful, and inclusive environment for approximately 300 students in early childhood through eighth-grade. We have two sections of each grade level K- 8 with class sizes that average from 14-18 per class.

Woodland School specializes in education that inspires students by nurturing each individual's voice, intellect, and character. With rich content and an emphasis on inquiry-based and student-driven projects, students are empowered and encouraged to be active and engaged learners.

Our students' innate sense of wonder is the foundation of learning at Woodland School. Teachers craft meaningful, multisensory learning experiences which enable creativity, ingenuity, and deep interdisciplinary connections. Students explore and develop complex understandings that engender a sense of self and purpose in the world.

Woodland School's faculty create a school environment that is as supportive and nurturing as it is challenging, and they embody the core values of the school—stewardship, integrity, curiosity, resilience, equity, and respect. Our teachers apply best practices through collaboration, integrated curriculum, brain-based teaching and learning methods, and continued professional development. Our teachers are themselves learners, constantly searching for ways to improve their practice. A robust professional development program supports our faculty by connecting them to the best practices in pedagogy, curriculum development, educational technology, and student assessment.

Woodland School is dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse and pluralistic faculty committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment and strongly encourages applications from candidates who reflect such diversity.

### **Overview of the Department**

The Middle School humanities program blends the conceptual learning of history, English and current events with core literacy skills. The team uses a workshop model and asks students to actively take the role of historian and author. The Humanities department consists of four teachers over grades 5-8 collaborating within and across disciplines to build a passion for reading and writing. These skills are developed through activities that challenge students and inspire them to explore across genres. Woodland

School's teachers are no longer the keepers of knowledge and are instead facilitators of student-centered learning. They accomplish this by engaging learners in authentic scholarship that connects them through fun and engaging real-world situations. Teachers are encouraged to immerse students in collaborative learning experiences, critical thinking skills, and evidence based explanations.

### **POSITION OVERVIEW**

Woodland School seeks an inspiring Middle School Humanities teacher who develops students' passions and curiosities, and helps them think deeply about the world through various lenses of history, literature, and media. We want our students to find their voices and express their ideas confidently through the spoken and written word. The position requires maintaining a full teaching load, serving as an advisor to a small cohort of students, and active support of various student life activities.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES)**

We seek a dynamic teacher who inspires students and who works collaboratively and creatively with colleagues in various curricular areas and divisions. Candidates should be passionate about teaching and have a love for the Humanities as well as middle school students.

- Bachelor's degree in English, History or related field, a teaching certificate or credential or equivalent professional experience which would which would translate to successful classroom teaching. Advanced degree preferred but not required.
- Strong interpersonal and collaboration skills with the ability to communicate effectively and respectfully with all constituents.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills are required.
- Collaborates well with colleagues of diverse backgrounds on pedagogical approaches, curricular alignment and instructional strategies.
- Promotes the use of multiple methods in solving problems, identifying more efficient strategies and generalizing principles to a broad variety of applications.
- Encourages collaborative teamwork in the classroom, teaching students to communicate effectively and thoughtfully, justify their reasoning and to consider multiple perspectives when solving problems.
- Invests in the life of the school by participating in the advisory program, social and emotional learning, weekly department meetings and multidisciplinary team meetings, anti-bias training, and any and all aspects that support the student experience.
- Demonstrated professional behavior, including discretion, judgment and integrity.
- Effectively interacts with a diverse population of students and faculty.
- All prospective employees must be able to clear a background check, LiveScan fingerprinting and TB screening.

### **PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT**

The position can be physically demanding. Reasonable accommodations may be made if requested in advance.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Candidates for this position should submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for a minimum of three references. Please combine all documents into a single PDF and send to [HR@woodland-school.org](mailto:HR@woodland-school.org).

### **NOTE**

This job description in no way states or implies that these are the only duties to be performed by the employee(s) incumbent in this position. Employees will be required to follow any other job-related instructions and to perform any other job-related duties requested by any person authorized to give instructions or assignments. All duties and responsibilities are essential functions and requirements and are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities. To perform this job successfully, the incumbents will possess the skills, aptitudes, and abilities to perform each duty proficiently. Some requirements may exclude individuals who pose a direct threat or significant risk to the health or safety of themselves or others. The requirements listed in this document are the minimum levels of knowledge, skills, or abilities. This document does not create an employment contract, implied or otherwise, other than an “at will” relationship.

*Woodland School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or national origin in the administration of its educational or admission policies, financial aid distribution, or other school programs. Woodland School is dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse and pluralistic faculty committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment and strongly encourages applications from candidates who reflect such diversity.*

**[WWW.WOODLAND-SCHOOL.ORG](http://WWW.WOODLAND-SCHOOL.ORG)**