



UTOPIAN
ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS
MIDDLE SCHOOL

TALENT & RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT

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JOB TITLE: Middle School ELA Teacher

Job Code	Certification Type	Subject Type	Contract Days
230	730	108	190

About Utopian Academy for the Arts School

Utopian Academy for the Arts is the 2023 Georgia Charter School of the Year! The mission of Utopian Academy for the Arts is to develop, through a structured and supportive environment, academic and artistic students to enter and to succeed in the global society with proficiency to enroll in a college, university, or specialty school of their choice. Utopian Academy for the Arts is the only public charter school network in Georgia to offer a comprehensive educational program in the dramatic, media, and creative arts. Our educational model leverages the positive effects of arts education to engage and inspire students, develop their academic and artistic potential, and prepare them to be leaders in their communities. The Utopian Academy for the Arts was founded in 2013 as the first state-approved charter school by the State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia, to expand public school choice options for families that reside in Clayton County, GA. Recognizing its unique approach and access to arts-based education, the Clayton County Public Schools System subsequently approved the vertical expansion to add the Utopian Academy for the Arts Elementary (est. 2020) and Utopian Academy for the Arts High School (est. 2022). In 2023, the charter school network launched its second state-approved middle school, Utopian Academy for the Arts-Trilith, which features a state-wide attendance zone in Fayette County, GA.

The Role

Our greatest instructional strategy is our human capital. More than any other variable in education--more than curriculum or supplies—our faculty and staff matter. Effective teachers who are continually learning and setting high expectations are the key to student academic achievement and success. At Utopian Academy for the Arts Middle School, we believe that students will rise to meet the high expectations set by our team of educators.

Job Overview: We are seeking a dedicated and innovative Middle School ELA Teacher to join our charter school team. The ELA Teacher will be responsible for designing and delivering engaging instruction in English language arts to middle school students, fostering literacy skills, critical

thinking, and a love for reading and writing. The ideal candidate will possess strong instructional skills, creativity, and a commitment to meeting the diverse needs of students.

Key Role Responsibilities:

- Develop and implement a standards-based ELA curriculum that aligns with state standards, promotes literacy skills, and addresses the diverse interests and abilities of middle school students.
- Plan and deliver engaging and differentiated lessons and activities that develop students' reading comprehension, writing proficiency, vocabulary acquisition, and critical thinking skills.
- Select and incorporate a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts, including novels, short stories, poems, and informational texts, to engage students in literary analysis, discussion, and interpretation.
- Teach writing skills and strategies across various genres, including narrative, expository, persuasive, and argumentative writing, providing opportunities for students to practice and refine their writing craft.
- Integrate language and grammar instruction into ELA lessons, teaching students to understand and apply grammar rules, conventions, and usage in their writing and communication.
- Incorporate technology tools and resources, such as digital texts, interactive whiteboards, and educational software applications, to enhance instruction, engage students, and differentiate learning experiences.
- Assess student learning and progress through formative and summative assessments, providing timely and constructive feedback to students and parents on strengths and areas for growth.
- Differentiate instruction to meet the diverse needs and learning styles of students, including English language learners, students with disabilities, and gifted learners, providing accommodations and modifications as needed.
- Establish and maintain a positive and inclusive learning environment that fosters respect, collaboration, and active participation, while managing classroom behavior and promoting a culture of academic excellence.
- Collaborate with colleagues, including other ELA teachers, special education teachers, and instructional coaches, to share best practices, align curriculum, and support student learning and achievement.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Education, English, or related field; Master's degree preferred.
- State teaching certification or licensure in English Language Arts (ELA) for middle grades.

- Previous experience teaching ELA at the middle school level, preferably in a charter school or similar setting.
- Strong knowledge of ELA pedagogy, literacy development, and best practices in reading and writing instruction.
- Ability to design and deliver engaging and differentiated lessons that meet the diverse needs of students and promote academic growth.
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, and presentation skills, with the ability to engage and motivate students in learning.
- Familiarity with educational technology tools and resources for ELA instruction, including digital texts, interactive activities, and multimedia resources.
- Commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, with the ability to create a supportive and culturally responsive learning environment for all students.
- Passion for education and a genuine desire to inspire students to become critical thinkers, effective communicators, and lifelong learners.
- Flexibility and adaptability to meet the changing needs and demands of the school community.