

NICK NEMSGERN

Curriculum vitae

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EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

There is no greater goal than to foster a love of learning. In the STEM classroom, this is best accomplished by creating an environment based on student-centered inquiry and discovery. By giving students the opportunity to build their own knowledge, they can experience the world with an inquisitive mind and will strive to solve problems despite the difficulties they encounter. Facilitating learning and guiding constructive academic, social and emotional growth are all hallmarks of excellent teachers. My heart swells when I can help a student succeed, especially through difficult endeavors, because I know that as their mentor, I am truly sharing in that accomplishment. This is why I love to teach.

EDUCATION

University of Nevada, Reno, 1995 - 2014

BS in Biology - May, 2000

Masters in Educational Leadership – August, 2014

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES

State of Nevada License for Educational Personnel, Expires May 2019

- Secondary Endorsement – Biological Sciences
- Secondary Endorsement - General Science
- Special Endorsement – School Administrator
- Special Endorsement – Substitute

TEACHING EMPLOYMENT, EXPERIENCE & AWARDS

Science Teacher

2004-2017

- Taught both 7th and 8th grade science at Mendive Middle School for 13 years with a focus on physical, life and earth sciences. Our curriculum focus has been on STEM education, Common Core, and Next Generation Science Standards.
- Named WCSD Science Teacher of the Year, 2010.
- Taught Science Issues elective class focused on Lego Robotic Engineering. Participated in an Engineering Fellowship with UNR from 2011 to 2014.
- Awarded with Channel 4, KNRV's "Excellence in Education" in both September of 2008 and April of 2010.

Science Department Chair / Instructional Lead

2007-2016

- Helped develop the WCSD's science curriculum map/pacing guide for middle school science courses. I also developed Mendive's common assessments for 7th & 8th grade science classes.
- Helped lead the Mendive Science department to consistently high state CRT, including top scores in WCSD in 2011-2014, 2016.
- Worked as a mentor teacher for pre-probationary teachers within the department.
- In 2015, I brought Project Recharge to Mendive, an energy efficiency curriculum (NSF grant partnered by UNR's College of Education and Envirolution Inc.), bringing new technologies and learning opportunities to our students and staff.

GK12 E-Fellowship, College of Engineering, UNR

2011 - 2014

- I was a Lead teacher for 3 graduate level fellows – I helped mentor lesson planning/unit creation with backward design, inquiry lab management using the 5E model, classroom management, etc. This project helped STEM content specialists (engineering, math, and science) become competent teachers in the middle school classroom, as a collaborative partnership with this NSF grant (PI - Dr. Kam Leang).

Secondary Science Methods Instructor, UNR

Fall, 2016

- Letter of Appointment instructor of the Secondary Science Methods course (EDSC 463/663) for the College of Education, UNR. Focus on implementing Engineering into the secondary science classroom and using the 5E model of instruction.

Master Teacher, NevadaTeach, UNR

July, 2017 – Present

- Teach NVTeach classes, including: NVTC 101 (Step 1), NVTC 102 (Step 2), NVTC 202 (Classroom Interactions), NVTC 492 (Apprentice Teaching), and PHIL/HIST 480 (Science, Technology, and Society).
- Provide individual and team teaching instruction for the NevadaTeach core curriculum
- Remain current with regard to best practices in the teaching of science and mathematics for primary and secondary students.
- Identify mentor teachers for field experiences.
- Collaborate with Washoe County School District administration for the placing of students in district classrooms.
- Teach in-service classes for WCSD science teachers (*Engineering in the Secondary Classroom*) as part of the professional development science workshops.
- Provide consist and timely formative feedback to ensure student understanding of their progress in the program, and provide recommendations for success where needed.
- Identify and implement various recruiting strategies.
- Act as primary liaison with Washoe County School District to recruit potential students to the NevadaTeach program.
- Work with university science and mathematics departments to identify potential candidates.
- Attend and contribute to NevadaTeach staff meetings and participate in steering committee.
- Communicate regularly with NevadaTeach co-directors to keep them up-to-date with program implementation.
- Collect, analyze, and report on data collected during the implementation of the program to enhance understanding about STEM education.

COACHING AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Washoe County School District

Reed HS Boy's Golf Varsity and JV Team, Head Coach	2011-2016
Reed HS Girls Basketball, Freshman Team Head Coach	2005-2006
Reed HS Girls Basketball, JV Team Head Coach	2005-2010
Reed HS Girls Basketball, WCSD, Varsity Team Assistant Coach	2005-2010
Mendive MS Track Coach, Head Coach	2004-2017
Mendive MS Boy's and Girls' Basketball Coach, Head Coach	2004-2014
Mendive MS Cross Country, Head Coach	2004-2017

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Science Teachers Association
Nevada State Science Teachers Association
Northern Nevada Math Council
Association for Science Education

REFERENCES

References are available on request.