

Torey Ray Culbertson

PURPOSE

As a teacher since 1994, I have created classrooms that foster safety and respect; ensure access to rigorous curriculum and historical scholarship for all learners; and motivate and empower young historians to connect the past and American institutions to their lives and public memory. I am looking to teach United States History at the secondary level in my home community.

EXPERIENCE

MEDIEVAL WORLD HISTORY 7 TEACHER, SIERRA VISTA MIDDLE SCHOOL – 2014-PRESENT

To prepare students for high school, college, and citizenship, developed lesson plans to meet a wide variety of student needs. Provided scaffolds for student thinking, connected topics to past and future learnings, and allowed for student choice and multiple ways to show mastery, while utilizing the California HSS Framework and C.L.I.C.

US HISTORY 8 TEACHER, SIERRA VISTA MIDDLE SCHOOL – 2014-PRESENT

Served as History Department Chair from 2017-2019. To prepare students for high school, college, and citizenship, developed lesson plans to meet a wide variety of student needs. Provided scaffolds for student thinking, connected topics to past and future learnings, and allowed for student choice and multiple ways to show mastery.

WORLD HISTORY 7 TEACHER, SIERRA VISTA MIDDLE SCHOOL – 2014-2016

Used AVID notebook strategies to teach Medieval and Early Modern World History. Scaffolded student thinking, connected topics to student interests, allowing for student choice and multiple ways to show mastery to meet a wide variety of student needs.

AVID SITE COORDINATOR AND TEACHER, SIERRA VISTA MIDDLE SCHOOL – 2018

Worked with districtwide AVID faculty and BPUSD Student Achievement office to direct site activities, apply Title I data to secure AVID certification. Coordinated college field trips and career guest speaker series. Participated in trainings to implement AVID curriculum and share school-wide AVID strategies: AVID Write Path, building relational capacity, Interactive Personal Notebooks.

HISTORY-SOCIAL SCIENCE TEACHER, NORTH PARK HIGH SCHOOL – 2005-2014

Built trust with the district's most at-risk students to maintain a positive, productive classroom environment to help students with credit recovery by meeting students where they were and demonstrating connections between history and their own lived experience. Implemented the Reconnecting Youth Program and started two new course electives to engage students to make healthier choices: Youth and the Law, and Computer Research.

SPEF SOCIAL SCIENCE TEACHER, SOUTH PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL – 2004-2017

Developed an accelerated course for high-achieving learners in preparation for university and professional careers. With highly impacted schedules, college-bound students and athletes needed to open up their fall schedule. Challenged students to learn beyond the textbook with an emphasis on deeper retention and application of historical analysis skills.

MT. SAC SUMMER SCHOOL TEACHER – 2015

Designed a condensed 10th grade Modern World History course for both accelerated students and those in credit recovery. Maintained a positive, safe classroom climate. Aligned curriculum with relevant framework and standards, and assessed student work toward learning targets, using AVID Write Path strategies.

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR LA VERNE UNIVERSITY – 2004-2005

A required course for ULV teacher education program, “Foundations in Teaching” examined philosophy and history of education, and explored basic skills needed for prospective educators to teach in a classroom setting and pursue a valid teaching credential.

EDUCATION

Northwestern California University School of Law	2013-15	
Student in B.S. in Law/J.D. Program–California Bar Association Student ID#432001		
California State University, Northridge	2003-06	
Graduate Program, <i>Dean's List</i> 2003		
Emphasis: American Government, Public Law, Jurisprudence & Philosophy		
University of La Verne	1997	M.Ed.
Environmental Education		
University of California, Los Angeles	1994	B.A.
Geography-Environmental Studies		
Golden West College	1991	A.A.
Communications Studies		
University of California, Irvine	1989-90	

LEADERSHIP

- **Sierra Vista Middle School** History Dept. Chair
- **BPUSD**
 - Superintendent's Advisory Committee 2022
 - SVMS Safety Committee 2023-24, 2025-2026
 - Ethnic Studies Curriculum Committee 2024-2025
 - Social Science Textbook Committee
- **Baldwin Park Education Association**
 - Middle School Director
 - Site Representative
 - Alternate Site Representative
- **CTA** State Council Alternate Representative

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **UCLA History-Geography Project**
 - Invitation Accepted: Center X/*Carnegie Young Scholars Civic Engagement Program Fellow Summer 2026*
 - *Anti-Racist Curriculum*, Panelists: Cindy Mata, Daniel Diaz, Amparo Chavez-Gonzalez, Stacey Greer
 - *History Lab: Narratives of Enslaved People*, Professor Brenda Stevenson
 - *Empire Liberty: The Civil War & The West*, Primary Source Curriculum Building at The Huntington Library
 - *Reconstruction and the Past: "Until Justice Be Done,"* speaker Professor Kate Masur
- **TCI Virtual Summit**
- **Online Lecture:** *How to be an Anti-Racist Teacher*, Dr. Ibram X. Kendi
- **LACOE-CHSSP CLIC California Framework Roll-out**, 2 day seminar, Michelle Herczog
- **Gilder Lehrman Book Breaks**
 - Khalil G. Muhammad: *The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America*
 - Peniel Joseph: *The Sword and the Shield*
 - Annette Gordon Reed: *The Hemingses of Monticello*

SKILLS

- **LMS:** Google Classroom, Classlink
- **Special Education:** Tobii Dynavox augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) device; Phonak Roger Touchscreen Microphone, FrontRow Juno® Speaker for Deaf-Hard of Hearing students
- **Grades-Student Data Programs:** Illuminate, Aeries, Synergy
- **Instructional Engagement:** Eno Board, Airtame, NOTEBOOK, Google Suite, Lib Guides, Kami, Nearpod, Adobe, Peardeck, EdPuzzle, Quizlet, Kahoot, Padlet, Loom, ExamBuilder, Prezi, NWU Knightlabs

- **CUE Conference**, San Gabriel Valley technology conference, 3 sessions
- **California Teachers Association**
 - Virtual State Conference– Civil Rights in Education (CRE) Committee
 - Covid-19: Science & the Law/Health Conference, Dr. Bob Harrison, MD, MPH York Chang, JD, Laura Kurre, MPH
 - CTA Summer Institute 2016 *Keynote California Attorney General Kamala Harris*, 2017, 2020
 - **CTA Regional Conference**
- **California History Social Science Project (CHSSP)**
 - Teaching HSS Online Collaborative working group
 - *Teaching for Civic Empowerment*, Stacey Greer - The CHSSP, UC Davis - UC Berkeley
- **Bureau of Education & Research**, *Best Use of Google Classroom to Strengthen Social Studies Instruction*, Bethany Petty