



# Nicaragua Christian Academy

“ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE WITH A CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION”



## MS English/Social Studies Teacher

### Overview:

In our middle school (grades 7-8), we have one teacher that is responsible to teach all English and Social Studies classes. We use a rotating curriculum in secondary Social Studies, which is designed to reduce the number of different classes for which the teacher is planning during a given school year. As such, the same Social Studies class is taught to seventh and eighth grade students each year, alternating between Latin America and World Studies.

### Schedule:

A sample schedule is as follows:

Time	Period	Class	Notes
7:30-7:40	0H	Homeroom, devotional	10-15 students; same gender as teacher
7:43-8:33	1	Latin America	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grades (mixed groups)
8:36-9:26	2	Latin America	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grades (mixed groups)
9:26-9:41	Break		
9:41-10:31	3	Planning time	(2 planning periods each semester)
10:34-11:24	4	MS Elective (Accelerated Reader or other)	Second semester, 5 days per week
11:24-11:54	Lunch		
11:54-12:44	5	HS Elective (Student Leadership or other)	First semester, 5 days per week
12:47-1:37	6	English 8	22-26 students
1:40-2:30	7	English 7	22-26 students

### Curriculum:

The Latin America class uses a textbook from Pearson Education, and World Studies uses Bob Jones World Studies, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Both of these are supplemented with a number of other resources, materials and well-developed lesson plans. Each of the English classes has a Houghton Mifflin teacher guide and student textbooks, which are used for grammar units. We use “Write Shop I and II” for the writing process, “Wordly Wise 3000” for vocabulary, and “Easy Grammar Plus” as a supplement to this text. This approach to grammar has proven very helpful for ESL students. In addition, a number of selected novels are built into the class for reading and analysis. Descriptions of specific classes are provided below.

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: *Silverwing* (Kenneth Oppel), *The Giver* (Lois Lowry), *The Diary of a Young Girl* (Anne Frank) and *A Christmas Carol* (Charles Dickens).

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: *The Hobbit* (J.R.R. Tolkien), *The Outsiders* (S.E. Hinton), *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (Mark Twain) and *Lord of the Flies* (William Golding).

Latin America (taught odd years, like 2017-2018): We offer two sections of Latin American History and Geography, each containing a mix of seventh and eighth grades students. 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 receive a historical, political, and cultural overview of all of the Latin American countries.

World Studies (taught even years, like 2018-2019): World Studies is a year-long course 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. We will also focus on governments, religions, explorers, inventions and the arts that have helped to shape our world.

Elective: The middle school English teacher will offer two elective classes, one each semester. Possibilities might include Drama, Public Speaking, Works of J.R.R. Tolkien, Creative Writing, or another elective suggested by the teacher.

**Qualifications:**

- 4-year degree in English, Language Arts, Writing, English 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 third-world setting
- Willingness to make a three (or more) year commitment
- English is first language