



WILLOWS ACADEMY

Open Position: Middle School Humanities Teacher
Reports to: Assistant Head of School
Member of: Middle School Faculty

Start Date: August 8, 2024

Duties:

Willows seeks a candidate to teach Literature, Language Arts and/or History to middle school girls. This full-time position requires a background and expertise in this developmental stage of adolescence and its pedagogy, with the ability to communicate well with parents and colleagues. Background and experience with IEW (Institute for Excellence in Writing) is a plus. Candidates should have a passion for engaging classical liberal arts approach, and be able to contribute to a strong middle school team.

History Department Philosophy:

The Willows Academy History Department challenges students to become critical thinkers and readers, and provides a foundation for understanding the issues of the rapidly changing 21st century. Our curriculum seeks to develop an appreciation of the world's cultural diversity and the commonality of human aspirations, and to cultivate an understanding of American history and a sense of civic responsibility. In all courses, attention is given to helping students improve their skills of critical reading, analytical thinking, and effective writing.

English Department Philosophy:

The English department at Willows Academy guides students toward the harmonious development of both contemplative and critical thinking, not only in reading and speaking but also in creative, analytical, and persuasive writing.

The curriculum exposes students to a comprehensive collection of literature in its various forms, including poetry, drama, fiction, nonfiction, essays, historical documents, and speeches. During the course of their studies students 1) refine reading and comprehension skills; 2) analyze literature for style, technique and themes; 3) connect literature to themselves and contemporary society; and 4) recognize the importance of those pieces of literature throughout the ages.

Major works of the Western intellectual tradition inspire our Middle and High School students to seek the true, the good, and the beautiful with determination in order to



WILLOWS ACADEMY

pursue right order in their own hearts and relationships, as well as in society and civilization itself. Our classical texts enkindle students' desires not only to achieve more, but, more importantly, to become more, more fully human—to clarify convictions and to grow in virtue. While sparking students' passion for reading, our English program inspires awe in worlds beyond their own as discussions draw them to discover new avenues of self-giving.

We accomplish these goals incrementally throughout Middle School and High School in collaboration with IEW, the Institute for Excellence in Writing, a program which

teaches and integrates the rudiments of writing with the teaching of literature. With specific goals to be reached by the end of each year, our students learn to write effectively in many modes. By first honing foundational skills in grammar and organization as well as rhetorical, persuasive and literary techniques, the English curriculum progressively strengthens students' analytical writing skills so that they are writing at college level before graduating. Willows offers students opportunities to demonstrate such mastery on both the Language and Literature Advanced Placement Exams.

Application process:

Please submit cover letter expressing interest in a particular position and resume to employment@willowsacademy.org

Teaching at Willows

School Context and Mission:

Willows Academy challenges young women to transform society for the good. In partnership with parents, we facilitate the development of their character, intellect, and love of God. Guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church, we focus on providing a rigorous liberal arts curriculum, personalized mentoring, and vibrant student life.

What Willows Offers

1. An authentically Catholic school that supports traditional values.
2. A joyful, welcoming, all-girl environment with measurable social and learning benefits.
3. A strong partnership with parents, where parents are supported as the primary educators of their daughters.



WILLOWS ACADEMY

4. A personalized experience with one-on-one monthly mentoring, small class sizes, and vibrant student life programs in athletics, performing arts, clubs, and co-curriculars.
5. An integrated educational approach uniting a rigorous liberal arts curriculum with faith, character and personal formation.
6. A tradition of excellence, our graduates consistently attend some of the best universities in America and our graduates were awarded \$8 million in scholarships last year.

Portrait of a Willows Teacher

A Willows teacher:

- Reflects on teaching practice to make instruction meaningful and engaging for students.
- Partners with parents as students' primary educators.
- Strives to educate the whole person in and out of the classroom.
- Works with optimism and professionalism.
- Contributes to a collegial, professional learning community.

Teacher Responsibilities:

- Use professional expertise to develop unit and lesson plans aligned with the course description and department mission.
- Design formative and summative assessments that show evidence of student understanding and offer feedback for students to grow.
- Establish a classroom culture of respect, rapport, and love of learning.
- Supervise 2-3 study hall periods during the week.
- Work closely with department head(s) and dean(s) to make curricular decisions and address student needs.
- Participate in school sponsored professional development and mentoring including regular department meetings, grade level meetings, and faculty

in-service days. Additional support for outside professional development is available.

- Communicate with parents at Back-to-School Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and via email, phone, or in-person meetings.
- Serve as a mentor to 3-5 students.
- Collaborate with a teacher team to lead a homeroom.
- Participate in school traditions.



WILLOWS ACADEMY

- Teachers are welcome to further support student life as club moderators and sports coaches.
- Support admissions office with school visitors and open houses.
- Uphold school policies and perform other job responsibilities as requested.

Teacher Qualifications:

According to its mission and vision, Willows Academy is an all-female teaching and learning environment. The applicant must hold at least a bachelor's degree; master's degree and teaching certification in the subject area is preferred.

Applicants will be chosen based on their in-depth understanding and commitment to the school's vision and mission; on their ability to work closely and communicate successfully with individual students/parents/coworkers; on their degree of subject matter expertise; and on their breadth and flexibility of instructional strategies.

Benefits:

Salary commensurate with experience and educational qualifications. Full time employees are eligible for medical, dental, and vision insurance in addition to long-term disability, short-term disability, and life insurance.

See Willows in Action:

[Willows Website](#)

[You Belong Here Video](#)

[Willows on Fox 32 Pep Rally Friday](#)