

RSD

Rachel Sweitzer DINES

French & English Instructor

PROFILE

teacher, mentor, and leader with integrity and passion to shape globally proficient citizens

CORE COMPETENCIES

Purposeful, visionary leadership

Relationship building

Developing globally savvy programs

Engaging students to build critical thinking and language skills

Fluent in French with near-native accent, conversational in Spanish

EXPERIENCE

2012-2022

Cambridge High School • Fulton County Schools • Milton, GA

High-performing public school in north Atlanta suburbs (Fulton County Schools) opened in 2012. Profile: [Cambridge High School in Milton, GA - US News Best High Schools](#)

World Languages Department Chair • French & English Teacher

Implemented strategies to increase enrollment and student outcomes in French, Spanish, and Latin courses through collaboration, research, and mentoring teachers

- Taught all levels of French, including college-level courses integrating diverse francophone cultures and perspectives through current events, film, music, and literature (AP French Language & Culture, French 4 & 5 Honors).
- Taught Advanced Composition English course for upper-level world language students in preparation for AP Seminar track
- Built World Languages department from 14 to 22 courses and from 6 to 10 teachers in 5 years
- Increased French students from 17% to 26% of all World Language students
- Raised upper-level French student numbers from 7% of all French students to 16% in 4 years
- Increased AP French Exam pass rate from 75% to 97% over 4 years; grew class size from 10 to 32 over 7 years
- Implemented unique college-level high school courses: AP Spanish Literature, French 5 Literature and Culture, English Composition course for advanced world language students
- Researched and coordinated annual French homestay exchange with the Lycée Vilgénis, Massy, France for 7 years; total of 197 participants

1992-1997

University of Notre Dame, Indiana University

Associate Instructor

Taught French 102, 103, 115, 169 (French for Reading), 200, 250, and 315 (advanced conversation) using immersion and proficiency methods

Led 20 Indiana high school students on 7-week language study in France

TEACHING CERTIFICATION

Tennessee level 5
French, English (6-
12), ESL, Personal
Finance certificate

Georgia level 5
French, ESOL (P-12)
English (6-12)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Council on
Teaching of Foreign
Languages (ACTFL)

American Association
of Teachers of French

Tennessee World
Language Teachers
Association

College Board AP
French Exam Scoring
Pool

PERSONAL

Enjoy travel, hiking,
reading, history
podcasts

Present nutrition and
bread baking
workshops

Volunteer with
church youth group
and internationals

EDUCATION

Milligan University

B.A. English, French & Secondary Education minors, magna cum laude.
Study abroad: Springdale College, Birmingham, England & Université
Grenoble, France; Student taught at Dobyys-Bennet High School

University of Notre Dame

M.A. French Language & Literature, magna cum laude. Thesis in Renaissance
lyrical poetry (Italian, French, English)

Indiana University

PhD coursework, French Literature (35 hours). Interest in medieval and
Renaissance literature, French Reformation history, comparative literature

Instructional Coaching Pathway

Year-long Fulton County Schools course for qualification as district-level
instructional coach. Of 270 applicants, only 30 were accepted (including only 2
high school teachers); Coached 2 teachers on chosen areas of desired
improvement.

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNICATION

Presented at GADOE Regional AP French workshop on enhancing student
success and proficiency

Created and implemented schoolwide Instructional Coaching initiative using
Robert Marzano's high-yield instructional strategies

Developed ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview-based assessments and
implemented in department after attending OPI workshop

Led school in high-performing PLCs (Professional Learning Communities),
creating rubrics and conducting observations

Hosted district-wide World Languages workshop with sessions on
communication, performance-based assessments, and engagement

Participated in Crucial Conversations workshop with school admin and
implemented follow-up strategies and applications

Redelivered latest research and methodologies from frequent conferences and
workshops to department and schoolwide sessions

Advocated at district level for pre-AP rigor and research-based instruction in
middle and high schools

Liaised with teachers, admin, and counselors as ESOL Contact to ensure
proper testing, placement, and accommodations for ELL student success

