



Residential Urban Core Teacher

CITYterm at the Masters School seeks a full time, residential Urban Core teacher to be part of an interdisciplinary teaching team. This position reports to CITYterm's Director and is a ten-month, paid teaching position that includes housing. Ideally this position will be filled by someone willing to make a three year minimum commitment.

Urban Core Teacher Position Description

This position is ideal for a teacher interested in using New York City as a classroom, designing curriculum in a collaborative setting, and thinking deeply about the conditions of transformational learning experiences. Urban Core teachers construct and teach project-based units that focus on practicing and developing skills. Teaching occurs in a variety of settings: around Harkness tables in groups of 14-16, in New York City, in smaller working sessions and one-on-one. CITYterm's Urban Core teachers inculcate exploration and intellectual engagement by modeling what it means to be curious and open. In other words, we are looking for a teacher interested in learning alongside students rather than simply being a content-area expert. Because CITYterm is a residential, semester-long program, each term is an opportunity to build a community of learners, to design and re-design projects and to learn. The ideal candidate for this position enjoys working in a collaborative, fast-paced environment and is eager to build relationships with students that support cognitive development in a variety of settings.

Responsibilities:

Urban Core teachers lead and teach not only in the classroom, but also in New York City.

- Teach and co-teach project-based Urban Core units (equivalent to 3 sections)
- Design inter-disciplinary curriculum in collaboration with a team of teachers
- Assess students based on their cognitive skills
- Join 2-3 weekly trips into New York City
- Advise 4-6 students; write midterm and end of semester Urban Core narratives as part of a collaborative comment process
- Participate in weekly curricular and residential faculty meetings to design the urban core units and build the learning community

As part of the residential team, the Urban Core teacher will also be responsible for supporting community building endeavors and contributing to the development of a cohesive residential environment:

- Collaborate with a team of seven residential faculty members to oversee a dorm of 30 students, including dorm duty (typically 1 weeknight per week and 4 weekends per semester)
- Supports the development of a group culture that is inclusive and equitable
- Attend full group activities including morning meeting, community development events, work crew and group classes that prepare for expeditions in the city
- Coordinate and attend culminating events such as student art exhibits and presentations

Skills and Characteristics:

- A belief in a flexible intelligence/growth mindset
- Ability to juggle residential and curricular demands
- Strong reading, writing and critical thinking skills
- Strong communication and relationship building skills with colleagues, students, and parents



- Sense of humor
- Energy, enthusiasm and curiosity – willingness to be a fellow learner with students
- Openness to collaboration, particularly around curricular design
- Flexibility and a “whatever it takes” attitude
- Interest in fast-paced, entrepreneurial work environments
- Highly capable in Microsoft Word (proficiency in Outlook, Excel and PowerPoint strongly preferred)

Qualifications:

- Bachelor’s degree, required, Master’s degree, preferred
- 3 or more years teaching in a related field: Literature, Humanities, American Studies, Urban Studies, Environmental Studies, Sociology or other related disciplines; interdisciplinary teaching and team teaching experience are a plus
- Understanding of and/or openness to constructivist learning theory, experience-based learning and/or deep learning theory
- Experience with group dynamics, approaches to creative collaboration and/or student leadership (preferred, but not required)
- Prior experience in residential learning communities as a camp counselor, residential advisor or dorm parent (strongly preferred, but not required)
- Valid Driver’s License (required)

To Apply

To apply, please email your resume and a cover letter to Cotter Donnell, CITYterm Director, at cotter.donnell@cityterm.org.

About CITYterm at the Masters School:

CITYterm is a semester program founded in 1996 for 11th and 12th graders in high school. CITYterm students engage in an interdisciplinary and experience-based curriculum that focuses on New York City. In addition to math, language and/or science, all CITYterm students participate in the Urban Core, an honors level curriculum that focuses exclusively on New York City. CITYterm faculty members work to collaboratively design and teach the Urban Core as a three-credit, interdisciplinary course that blends history, literature and the urban environment. CITYterm is a residential program located in Dobbs Ferry, New York (just 30 minutes north of New York City). Students engage in Urban Core studies six-days a week. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays students are typically in Dobbs Ferry engaged in seminar-style classes and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays students use New York City as their classroom.

- **Experience-based:** At CITYterm we believe that the most profound learning takes place when it is rooted in experience. Students spend every other day in New York City linking their classroom work to the endless array of opportunities available.
- **Interdisciplinary:** With a shared text of New York City, CITYterm's three-credit Urban Core curriculum is fully interdisciplinary. CITYterm's faculty works together to teach the Urban Core as a unified whole, creating an interconnectedness between literature, history and urban environments.
- **Authentic:** Learning at CITYterm is based on authentic experience and assessment. Whether a presentation of housing plans to New York architects, or a round table discussion with an author, final assessments put students in real life settings. Students experience the authentic success of hard work coupled with a deeper understanding of the limitations of solutions to issues in the real world.
- **Student-centered:** CITYterm is student-centered, as our students are empowered to see themselves as the authors of their own learning experiences. Through regular feedback from both faculty and peers, our



THE MASTERS SCHOOL
CITYterm

curriculum moves towards increased academic independence, ultimately affording students more and more opportunities to design their own learning processes and products.

This position announcement is intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by employees assigned to this job title and the education and skills required. This is not intended to be a complete list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills that are required or may be required in the future.

Background Screening: *The Masters School conducts background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer and may use a third party administrator to conduct background checks. Background checks will be performed in compliance with the Fair Credit Reporting Act.*

The Masters School actively seeks to forward diversity through its students, faculty and programs. The Masters School is an Equal Opportunity Employer.