



INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TEACHERS SPECIALIZING IN SUMMER LEARNING

508-380-5720

josh@summerblazers.com

UPPER SCHOOL

Cassandra D.



Cassandra tutors both middle and upper school students. She is an upper school English teacher, a member of the academic support department, and the Junior Dean at an independent school in Waltham. Currently, she teaches 11th grade English and Honors English. A graduate of Holy Cross, Cassandra double majored in English and Psychology. She recently received her Master of Education specializing in Secondary English Education from Boston College. In her academic support role, Cassandra spends time with students working on skills such as **note taking, organizational strategies, time management, and executive functioning**. Cassandra is happy to tutor students on developing their **analytical and creative writing**, and she can also tutor students as they manage the challenging content of **summer reading**. In addition, Cassandra has experience tutoring the **verbal, reading, and writing sections of the SSAT and SAT**. Cassandra loves to read, watch the Patriots and Celtics, and engage

in numerous outdoor activities such as biking, golfing, tennis, and running. Cassandra is willing to drive 30-45 minutes from her home in Brighton, MA or 30-45 minutes from her location in Dennis, MA (Cape Cod).

Conor M.



Conor tutors both middle and upper school students. He is the chair of the English department at an independent school in Waltham. He is a 12-year veteran of the independent school world, 9 of which have also been in a variety of educational and administrative roles. Conor has taught every grade from 7th to 12th and has experience with a variety of pedagogies and subject matters. In the summer, he enjoys tutoring **analytical and creative writing**, and he can also tutor students as they manage the challenging content of **summer reading**. A graduate from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Conor also holds a masters degree from Middlebury College. He enjoys reading, woodworking, and the New England Patriots. Conor is willing to drive 30 minutes from his home in Waltham.

David C.



David is a high school English teacher at an independent school in Brookline, MA. He has 28 years teaching experience and has taught all high school grades. He has extensive experience teaching AP English Literature and IB English A1 SL and HL. He will work with your son or daughter on **reading comprehension, analytical writing, or SAT preparation**. He also has experience helping students develop **college application essays and supplements**. A graduate of the College of the Holy Cross, he holds a Master's Degree from Middlebury College. Outside teaching, David loves spending time with his wife and three children, reading, and running. He is willing to travel up to 30 minutes from his home in Walpole.

DEIRDRE R.



Deirdre teaches 7th -12th grade Art History, Studio Art and has taught 9th grade Literature at an independent all-boys school in Needham where she has worked for 16 years. After earning her B.A in English at Hobart & William Smith Colleges, she went on to earn a M.A in Irish Literature & History at Boston College. Deirdre approaches courses with an interdisciplinary approach to curriculum and has worked to integrate successful organizational strategies, note-taking, study techniques and pacing to her 7th and 8th grade curriculum. Teaching Art History has provided Deirdre with a broad and unique approach to tutoring. Over the years she has tutored **English, History/Social Studies, SAT prep, and college-prep essay writing**. In recent years, she has worked with **ESL students on reading and grammar** and is happy to read whatever texts students may have on their school summer reading. She has worked with students challenged by learning disabilities, intellectual challenges and emotional struggles. It gives her great joy to motivate, cheerlead and empower a young person with confidence and to foster a lifelong joy of learning! A co-moderator of the school newspaper and literary magazine, Deirdre enjoys working with students on their creative, expository, and persuasive writing. She has taught A.P Art History and Drawing & Painting Studio Art for 13 years and is happy to work with any aspiring artist. Active in various student life activities, Deirdre is also the Varsity Alpine Skiing and Varsity Sailing coach and enjoys outdoor activities and sports, cooking, and photography. She is willing to drive an hour from her home in Brookline, MA but also within Scituate, MA where she often visits her folks in summer months.

Jeff K.



Jeff earned his BA in Classics at Haverford College and ALM in Classical Civilizations at Harvard University. He has taught high school **Latin** at a boarding school on the north shore since 1991. He is familiar with a variety of texts and authors and can tutor students from the middle school level up through AP Latin. He can help with all topics relating to Latin: vocabulary; verb, noun, and adjective endings; grammar and syntax; translation; reading comprehension; standardized test preparation (**National Latin Exam, SAT Subject Test I Latin, AP Exam**); history and culture. He has several resources to help facilitate learning. Jeff enjoys reading, running, yard work, and spending time with family. He spends the summer in Dennis, MA, and he would be able to tutor your student within a 30-minute drive of his home there.

Jeremy A.



Jeremy is a high school ESL teacher at an independent school in Braintree. He has taught **English** for eight years, including **AP Literature, American Literature, and British Literature**, and he has taught ESL for two years. This included ABE (Adult Basic Education) and TOEFL Prep. He has also tutored students in **SAT, ACT, and college essay writing**. A graduate of Brown University, Jeremy holds a master's degree in English Education from BU and possesses his **TEFL certification**. He enjoys playing songs on guitar/piano and listening to live music. Jeremy is willing to drive 30-45 minutes from his home in Quincy.

JESS D.



Jess has a BA and MA in Spanish from the University of New Hampshire. She also studied for a year at the Universidad de Granada in Spain, and for a summer she studied at the Universidad de San Jose in Costa Rica. Currently, Jess teaches at an independent school in Osterville, MA where she teaches both **middle and upper school Spanish** (6-12). Her love of traveling has inspired her to take students abroad to Mexico, Spain and Costa Rica. She also coaches soccer and lacrosse, and she advises the Pink Ribbon Club, helping students to fundraise and raise awareness for breast cancer research. In her free time, Jess loves to get outside and play! She is a yoga instructor, she enjoys paddles on her SUP, and she plays in a summer lacrosse league. Jess also dedicates her time to volunteering at Falmouth Commodore games, the Falmouth Library Book Sale and the Woods Hole

Film Festival. Jess lives in Falmouth and is willing to travel to towns of Falmouth, Bourne (on the Cape side of the bridge), Sandwich, Mashpee, Cotuit, Marstons Mills, and Osterville.

Jim B.



Jim is a history teacher at an independent school in Waltham. Currently, he has taught 11th grade US History, 10th grade World Civilizations II, and a senior elective, Criminal Justice. In his courses, Jim emphasizes writing skills. He is happy to tutor students to improve their **analytical and creative writing**. He also tutors the **verbal, reading, and writing sections of the SSAT and SAT**. In addition to teaching, Jim coaches soccer, basketball, and softball. He is also an avid skier, mountain biker, and chess player. Jim is willing to drive 30-45 minutes from his home in Charlestown.

José S.



Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, José has been a **middle and upper school Spanish** teacher, coach, and advisor with over 20+ years of experience working at private day and boarding schools. Currently, he works at an independent school in Providence, RI. Additionally, he has coached baseball, basketball, tennis, soccer, squash, and cross country. He has a BA from UMass Amherst, and a Master's in Education from Leslie University. His summers are usually spent working at camps. In his downtime, José enjoys mountain biking, reading Sports Illustrated and Tom Clancy novels, listening to a wide range of music, kayaking, dining on Puerto Rican cuisine, and his wife's Italian cooking. José is willing to drive 9999 minutes from his summer home in Marion, MA.

KARA M.



Having served in a variety of administrative and teaching capacities in independent schools for the last 13 years, Kara brings a wide variety of experience to **Spanish language and ESL**. Born in Mexico and having studied in Mexico, Cuba, Guatemala, and Spain, she possesses both an understanding of the language as well as the best methods for learners to develop their language skills. She has taught students in grades four through nine and is excited to work with Spanish learners of all levels. Kara believes firmly that students succeed best when they find excitement in their learning. She works diligently to help students discover what they are passionate about and to guide them in their journey as lifelong learners. Kara currently teaches Spanish at an independent school in Southborough, and she is willing to drive up to an hour away from her home in Lunenburg.

LLOYD D.



Lloyd is a graduate of Ithaca College and has worked as a band director for various schools for various levels. While living in Vermont, Lloyd had numerous leadership experiences as the lead conductor in multiple district level festivals. He is currently the Band/Jazz Director at an independent school in Southborough. As a trombonist, pianist, percussionist, and vocalist, Lloyd can tutor **beginning piano, beginning wind, brass and percussion and advanced brass and percussion**. Lloyd can also tutor beginning to advanced music theory and jazz improvisation. His specialty is brass instruments and percussion. As a drum set player, Lloyd can tutor all styles. Beginning band students looking to get a head start before they begin instruments can study and learn the basics before starting in the fall. Lloyd is willing to drive 30 minutes from his home in Southborough.

Mike G.



Mike is an upper school mathematics teacher at an independent school on Cape Cod. His background is in pure math, having earned a BA and MA in the subject from Providence College and the University of Montana, respectively. He has worked with over 150 families in Massachusetts and Montana while working for private tutoring companies in both states. Mike's passion for math makes for a fun yet informative tutoring session; he can meet students at their level and quickly identify any gaps in learning. Mike is available to tutor **all math subjects from Pre-Algebra through AP Calculus and beyond**, as well as **standardized tests like the PSAT, SAT, ACT, and SAT II subject tests**. He can also help students prepare for high school chemistry and physics. Outside of the classroom, Mike enjoys hiking, cooking, rock climbing, and doing recreational math. He lives in the mid-region of the Cape and is willing to drive up to 45 minutes for a tutoring session.

Rary D.



Rary is a mathematics teacher at an independent school in West Roxbury. She has been teaching mathematics to 7th-12th graders for over 15 years. Courses taught include **Pre-Algebra, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry, AP Statistics, Analysis/Precalculus, and Math-Science Investigations**. She also tutored students in grades 4 through 12 for ten years prior to entering the teaching profession while working as an equity analyst in the finance industry. Rary holds an M.Ed. from Harvard University, an MBA from Boston University, and a BA from Bowdoin College, where she graduated summa cum laude/phi beta kappa as a mathematics major. She currently resides in Medfield and is looking to tutor students within a 30-40-minute drive from there. In addition to teaching, she enjoys swimming, cycling, baking, and spending time with family and friends.

Ryan B.



Ryan is an upper school **mathematics** teacher at an independent school in Byfield. She began teaching immediately after graduating from McGill University with a BA in Pure Mathematics before going on to earn an MST in mathematics from the University of New Hampshire. This is Ryan's 10th year of teaching at independent and magnet schools. She has taught a wide range of mathematics courses, from **geometry through AP calculus**. While she loves designing and presenting lessons, she particularly enjoys working with students independently to help them overcome the challenges they are facing with the material. In addition to teaching math, Ryan is an assistant coach for JV hockey and softball teams and advises the math team. She enjoys traveling, cooking, and hiking. She is willing to drive 45 minutes from Byfield.

Ryan C.



Ryan is an upper school mathematics teacher at an independent school in Milton. He earned his dual degree in Economics and Mathematics from Wesleyan University and is currently working towards his master's degree of Science in Education through the University of Pennsylvania. Ryan believes that the individualization of education to meet students' specific needs is the path to the most successful and productive learning. Ryan is available to teach **all math subjects from Pre-Algebra through calculus, both micro and macroeconomics, and the math topics of standardized tests including the SAT, ACT, and SAT II** subject tests. In his free time, Ryan is an avid reader, basketball fan, and tennis player. Ryan is willing to drive up to 30 minutes from his home in Milton.

Teresa C.



Teresa is an upper school mathematics teacher at an independent school in Brookline. She has been an independent school math educator of 30 years (M.Ed), both in boarding and day schools. Teresa specializes in **Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. She is also a qualified ISEE and SSAT test prep teacher**. Outside of the classroom, Teresa enjoys walking, cooking, and crocheting. She is willing to drive 40 minutes from Newton.



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