

# Francesca Alonso

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## Summary

Educator, who believe in the power of higher education and the importance of historical engagement. Dedicated lifelong learner, who seek professional development to continue to grow and improve as an educator in the borderland region of El Paso, Texas. Understands the importance of collaborating with administrators, colleagues and the community to ensure students' success.

## Teaching Certificates

History Grades 8-12

Social Studies Grades 8-12

AP World History

## Education

Sul Ross State University

Post Baccalaureate Teaching Certification Program, 2011-2012

University of Texas at El Paso

Master of Arts in History, December 2010

Thesis: *Buffalo Soldiers through the Eyes of African American El Pasoans*

Areas of Concentration: Race and Identity, American History, Public History, and Postcolonial Literature

Bachelor of Arts in History, December 2007

Areas of Concentration: 19th Century Imperialism, World History, and Mexican History

Minor: Art History

## Teaching Experience

### **Northwest Early College High School, Canutillo Independent School District**

Dual Credit Social Studies Teacher

August 2016-Present

American History

Teach U.S. History dual credit to students of various learning backgrounds and skills. Follow the course requirements by El Paso Community College and the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Students are required to maintain an interactive notebook. Student participate in critical thinking assignments such as Document Based Question and analyzes of primary and secondary sources. Students are required to complete an end of semester research project using primary and secondary sources. Foster real world connections, collaborative learning, and safe learning environment. Plan field trip to the El Paso Museum of History and the El Paso Museum of Art. Actively promote the local historical connections with the larger narratives. Prepare students for the U.S. History STAAR E.O.C. exam to ensure that all students are successfully pass.

### Special Topics Courses

Design courses with specific topics of special interest. The curriculum for these courses are developed and created by the teachers. These courses provide students with an opportunity to engage and learn about topics within history outside of the required social studies courses. Special topic course taught in the fall was "Taking a Stand in History." Modeled course after National History Day theme. Students learned how to research, formulate thesis statements, and analyze documents. Students created a final research project using scholarly sources and primary and secondary sources. Currently teaching, "American Empire", focusing on topics such as identity, borders, race, and power. Created and designed a course reading list and syllabus. Students engage in analyzing primary and secondary sources, document based questions, and class discussion.

### **El Paso Community College - Transmountain Campus**

History Instructor

August 2011-Present

Teach History 1302: US History from 1877 according to the EPCC course curriculum. Provide students with lecture, primary and secondary sources, and class discussion. Maintain a gradebooks for the course, provide students with feedback on assignments.

Honors Faculty

August 2011-Present

Provide high school students enrolled in Hist 1301 and Hist 1302 the opportunity to obtain honors credit for the course. Design a honors project personalized honors project for the students that promote and encourage local and regional history. Students engage in researching various topics within the borderlands.

### **Transmountain Early College High School STEM Academy, El Paso Independent School District**

Dual Credit Social Studies Teacher

August 2011-June 2016

Taught 11th grade U.S. History dual credit to students of various learning backgrounds and skills. Follow the course requirements by El Paso Community College. Incorporate the use of technology and STEM related assignments. Assign a problem based learning and project based learning project each semester. Foster real world connections, collaborative learning, and safe learning environment. Organized field trip to the El Paso Museum of History and El Paso Museum of Art. Prepare students for the U.S. History STAAR E.O.C. exam to ensure that all students are successfully pass.

*Re-Encentro: Seeing El Paso Through New Eyes* project at the El Paso Museum of History  
2011-2012

Facilitated student involvement in the program. Students engaged in researching and learning about the history of El Paso. Students selected a topic within downtown El Paso's history to research. Students used resources from UTEP's special collections and El Paso Library. Students were trained to conduct oral histories. Students final projects were published in a walking tour guide for downtown El Paso.

Social Studies Department Chair  
Fall 2015-June 2016

Department leader, organize and plan PLC meetings, provide agenda and minutes to department and administrator, analyze state exam data to determine areas of improvement, and provide a space for collaborative lesson planning. Advocate for department's budgetary needs, courses, scheduling, and professional development.

Campus Improvement Team, Member  
Spring 2015-June 2016

Work as a team to ensure the campus needs are met. Address budgetary needs for the school year, campus and students goals, and department's needs.

Summer Bridge Reading and Writing Teacher

2012-2014 Teach incoming 9th grade students testing strategies and study skill for reading and writing TSI college entrance exam.

## **University of Texas at El Paso-History Department**

Teaching Assistant  
Fall 2007-Spring 2010

History of U.S. to 1865 and History of U.S. Since 1865 Grading responsibility of exams and assignments. Responsible for administrative tasks of maintain grade sheet and attendance sheet, and regulating classroom behavior. Provide individual tutorial and conference sessions for students. Conducted review sessions for students.

## **Conferences/Professional Development**

2017 “Tales from the Chihuahuan Desert: Borderland Narratives about Identity and Binationalism” National Endowment for the Humanities at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Summer Scholar, author of lesson plan “Smokestack Memories: A borderlands history during the Gilded Age.”

2016 El Paso Community College 's Borderland Learning Conference

*Presenter*, “Transmountain Early College High School Ranking # 3 in 2015 Newsweek Beating the Odds”

## **Memberships/Volunteer**

Member, El Paso Council for Social Studies

Spring 2016-Present

Member, Texas Council for Social Studies

Fall 2015

Member , El Paso Museum of History Teacher Advisory Board

August 2015-Present