

## Jason LaBau, Ph.D.

242 Clover Ridge Dr. • Sandy, UT 84070

Phone: (626) 399-4459 • E-mail: [jasonlabau@gmail.com](mailto:jasonlabau@gmail.com)

### SUMMARY

Dynamic, engaging history teacher with 8 years experience teaching grades 8–12 and 5 years at the university level. Built trusting, supportive teams as both Class Dean and Department Chair. Track record of initiating positive traditions in the classroom and beyond.

### EDUCATION

**Ph.D.** in U.S. Political History – **University of Southern California**

**M.A.** in U.S. History – **University of Southern California**

**B.A.** in U.S. History – **Pomona College**

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Waterford School** – Sandy, UT (2015-present)

**Human Geography** — 8 years, Grade 9

- Lead teacher guiding our foundational Upper School history course
- Spearheading curriculum redesign each year to incorporate current events
- Introducing students to new social science frameworks, from social constructs to models of urban land use, expanding their ability to make sense of the world around them

**Ancient History and Exchanges & Encounters** — 4 years, Grade 8

- Developing new global medieval course with the grade level team
- Developed and taught my own Ancient History curriculum over 3 years

**U.S. History** — 3 years, Grade 11

- Built on my expertise and previous college-level teaching to craft rigorous history course
- Trained students in document analysis, the foundation of historical thinking

**Senior Electives** — 5 terms, Grade 12

- **Fake History** — Created a historical methods course around *Dracula*, *World War Z*, etc.
- **Du Bois's America** — Introduced students to the life and thought of W.E.B. Du Bois
- **Campaigns & Elections** — Studied the 2016 election in real time

### LEADERSHIP ROLES

**Department Chair** (2021-present)

- Facilitating collaboration at the grade-level, department-level, and across disciplines
- Directing efforts for professional development and curriculum review
- Leading a department-wide shift to skills-based grading
- Onboarded three new faculty members in the department

**Dean of the Class of 2022 (2019-2022)**

- Guided faculty advisors and student government representatives
- Partnered with parents, administrators, and counselors to support struggling students
- Celebrated and supported seniors throughout their final year
- Planned and accomplished a host of large and small of community building events

**Tabletop Game Club Advisor (2016-present)**

- Established a twice-weekly board and card game club for students during lunch
- Sparked a cultural shift at Waterford, which now has dozens of student-led clubs
- Cultivated a relaxed atmosphere where students and faculty meet to play

**Student-Facing Roles**

- **Morning Meeting Mentor** (2022-present) — Grade 8
- **Upper School Advisor** (2015-2018) — Grade 10 and 11
- **Ethics & Citizenship Coach** (2016)

**RECENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT****Emerging Leaders Institute — NWAIS (2022-2023 cohort)**

- Year-long leadership training for mid-level school leaders
- Monthly in-person and zoom training sessions

**Managing to Change the World — The Management Center (2022)**

- Professional course on delegation, managing up, and building a team

**Teaching Challenging Topics in the 21st Century Classroom — University of Utah (2022)**

- Week-long course on navigating topics related to LGBTQ+, CRT, and antisemitism

**FACULTY COMMITTEES**

- Task Force on School Schedule (2021-2022)
- Task Force on Compensation, Retention, and Hiring (2019-2020)
- Task Force on Teacher Evaluation and Professional Development (2018-2019)
- Strategic Plan Working Group on Financial Sustainability (2018)
- Working Group on Homework and Workload (2017)

**INTERESTS**

Crafting clever *Dungeons & Dragons* scenarios based on film, literature, and music

Discovering the right tabletop game for each potential player

Spontaneous singing — usually at home, but sometimes as I walk across an empty quad