

# BRIANNA PLAXE

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## EDUCATION

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA: WEST CHESTER, PA

*Bachelor of Science in Education*, May 2015

- Middle Grades Preparation (4-8) Major, Elementary Mathematics (K-8) Minor
- Honors College of West Chester University
- Summa Cum Laude – Cumulative GPA: 3.99

## CERTIFICATIONS

- PA Grades 4-8: Language Arts, Mathematics, and Social Studies, June 2015

## RELATED EXPERIENCE

PHOENIXVILLE AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL: *Aug. 2014 – Present*

*Student Teacher with Cooperating Teacher, Mr. William Scott Golightly*

- Teach five inclusive sections of seventh grade English language arts with 20-28 students in each
- Collaborate with the seventh grade team to design and implement lessons aligned to the Common Core standards
- Differentiate instruction to meet the interests and needs of all students and implement IEPs
- Participate in department meetings to discuss strategies to prepare students for the English Language Arts PSSA
- Design a broad range of assessments utilizing technology and performance-based assessments strategies
- Assist cooperating teacher in advising the Phoenixville Area Middle School National Junior Honors Society

INDEPENDENT TUTORING: *Oct. 2013 – Dec. 2014*

*7<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Algebra, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra I Weekly Private Tutor*

- Reviewed Pre-Algebra and Algebra I concepts utilizing practice problems and test reviews
- Supported the students in establishing effective homework completion and study habits at home

LEARNING ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCE CENTER, WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY: *Aug. 2012 – Dec. 2014*

*Academic Development Program Public Speaking and Fundamentals of Algebra Tutor*

- Tutored students in weekly sessions as part of an academic program tailored to students with low academic skills
- Modeled effective listening, questioning, and note-taking skills while attending all classes with the students
- Assisted professors in small group instruction while compiling weekly reports on student progress

*Pre-Service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) Mathematics Workshop Tutor*

- Designed and taught an eight-week workshop series to prepare approximately 60 teacher candidates for the PAPA
- Reviewed effective test-taking skills and concepts in algebra, geometry, measurement, statistics, and probability
- Created and utilized assessments to monitor student progress and modify test preparation materials

ABINGTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL: *Mar. 2014 – May 2014*

*West Chester University Honors College Capstone Project in collaboration with Mr. Robert Marino*

- Designed and taught lessons about the history, people, and diverse cultures of South Africa
- Authored a live travel blog to correspond with the students during the WCU Honors College trip to South Africa
- Coordinated a letter-writing project in which Abington students wrote to South African social movement leaders

## INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE SOUTH AFRICA RESEARCH & SERVICE TRIP: *May 2014*

*Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Pretoria, South Africa*

- Volunteered at a primary school, soup kitchen, and two orphanages for children affected by HIV/AIDS
- Conducted research with the Khula Development Group, a humanitarian organization supporting truant children

PENNSYLVANIA STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMER HONORS PROGRAM: *June 2013*

*London, England; Salzburg and Vienna, Austria; Venice and Rome, Italy*

- Selected as one of two West Chester University Honors students to participate in a summer study abroad program
- Analyzed the media and musical heritage of Western Europe

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

### **ACADEMIC HONORS**

- Syed Ali-Zaidi Award for Academic Excellence, West Chester University Nominee – Nominated for the award recognizing the top graduating senior in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education
- Dean's List College of Education and Honors College – All semesters
- Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honors Society, West Chester University Chapter Membership
- Kappa Delta Pi International Honors Society in Education, West Chester University Chapter Membership
- The Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges
- Board of Governors Scholarship – Full tuition scholarship for academic achievement and community engagement
- Dr. and Mrs. Charles S. Swope Memorial Scholarship, Top Swope Scholars Award – Awarded to one student from each college for scholastic achievement, community involvement, leadership qualities, and active citizenship

### **PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- Closing Speaker, West Chester University Foundation President's Circle Dinner (2013, October) – Composed and presented the closing speech on behalf of the student body to express gratitude to the university's donors
- Plaxe, B., & Hardy, C. (2013). *Lorenzo L. Langstroth*. ExplorePAHistory.com – Conducted research and composed a published essay accompanying the Lorenzo L. Langstroth marker, part of the PA Historical Marker Program

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES**

### **HONORS COLLEGE ALUMNI COMMITTEE, CHAIRPERSON: *Aug. 2014 – Present***

- Led a team to organize the first annual Honors College Fall Alumni Reunion with 50 alumni in attendance
- Maintain updated alumni contact information

### **HONORS STUDENT ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD: *Aug. 2012 – Present***

- Serve on the executive board as secretary, first vice president, and senior executive board member
- Support five committee chairs by providing guidance, suggestions, and serving as a liaison to the executive board
- Assist the organization's president in planning and leading weekly meetings with service components

### **HONORS COLLEGE RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE: *Jan. 2012 – Present***

- Interview 15-20 potential candidates for the West Chester University Honors College at ten recruitment sessions
- Evaluate each candidate's responses based on a rubric and evaluation guide
- Recommend candidates for admission to the Honors College based on scholarship, service, and leadership

### **LEADERSHIP LESSONS THROUGH FILM, SMALL GROUP FACILITATOR HON 110: *Aug. 2013 – Dec. 2013***

- Led a weekly discussion group of 12 first-year students analyzing leadership theory through readings and films
- Selected to collaborate with the course professor, Dr. Kevin Dean, and fellow facilitators to plan weekly instruction

### **ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, PEER MENTOR: *June 2013 – Aug. 2013***

- Mentored a diverse group of first-year students in a summer session tailored to students with low academic skills
- Planned and led weekly recreational, social, and educational hall programs
- Implemented and enforced all Residence Life and Housing Services and Academic Development Program policies

### **OSCAR LASKO YOUTH PROGRAM CENTER YPAL AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: *Jan. 2012 – May 2013***

- Volunteered as a weekly mentor for a diverse group of K-8 students by helping with homework, reading, and art

## **RELATED SKILLS**

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SMART Board Technology, Promethean Board Technology, ActivInspire, Microsoft Office, Public Speaking, Grant Writing