



Josh Kuntzman

Student / Educator at University of California, Santa Barbara

Goleta, California | Education Management

Previous California State University, Long Beach

Education University of California, Santa Barbara

Summary

My preschool teachers called me "Professor Josh" because I liked to explain and coordinate, even before I knew much of anything – not that I know all that much now. I am an education / rhetoric-and-writing nerd: I love the challenge of shaping texts to evoke change and understanding in others; even more, I love doing that work in-person, building relationships as a foundation for learning-centered dialog.

I AM: an idealistic, pragmatic conversationalist who enjoys refining ideas and testing the boundaries of their realization. I see myself indivisibly as a learner/educator. My spare time goes to homeless dogs, traditional martial arts, mind/body science articles, morally ambiguous films, and anything else that can make me think hard and smile at the same time.

MY STRENGTHS: converge around my ability to think synthetically. Ask me to bridge disparate facts into mutual relevance, different viewpoints into a common theme, or frictive priorities into some practical action, and I will feel confident and useful. I believe sincerely in the humanitarian value of collaborative research, constructive dialog, and conciliatory social planning.

My enthusiasm is the first thing that people notice about me, or at least the main characteristic that students mention in my teaching reviews. I wrote my first poem at ten and have not stopped writing since. I began practicing martial arts at twelve and have not stopped humbling myself since. I work at the habits of being eloquent, thoughtful, and honest -- but I am also human, so I will not claim these as character traits, merely as intentions.

My friends are few but solid and I admire them: they hold me to constancy. My pupils come to respect me as a fellow learner -- at least where I'm doing my job as a teacher well. I continue to live and to grow as a coordinated whole: every peer, colleague, fellow volunteer, practice partner, student, friend, and animal knows the same "Josh," more or less. I am proud of that simplicity.

Experience

Teaching Associate

UC Santa Barbara

August 2015 – September 2015 (2 months)

ED125 - Schooling in the U.S.

Description: As instructor-of-record for two sections of “Schooling in the U.S.,” I composed lectures to give students a historical sense of how the United States developed its current approach to schooling; lead discussions which utilized students' own experiences to develop their critical awareness of those educational environments' effects on learners; and directed students through a progressive course of personal reflections, exploratory interviews, creative projects, and role-playing “labs” designed to test their educational ideals against their cultural habits—ultimately moving them toward a more informed and specific vision of the change they want to create in U.S. learning environments.

Teaching Associate

UC Santa Barbara

June 2013 – July 2013 (2 months)

ED125 - Schooling in the U.S.

Teaching Assistant

UC Santa Barbara

January 2013 – March 2013 (3 months)

ED125 - Schooling in the U.S.

Teaching Assistant

UC Santa Barbara

April 2012 – June 2012 (3 months)

ED125 - Schooling in the U.S.

Facilitator - MEd Candidate Program

UC Santa Barbara

January 2012 – June 2012 (6 months)

Description: My responsibilities as a facilitator centered around guiding MEd candidates' thesis development: this included coordinating group meetings, leading draft-review sessions, providing supportive feedback about academic research and writing, along with helping candidates to distill their research topics and clarify their chains of reasoning.

Providing emotional reassurance and motivational encouragement was also a crucial aspect of this work, since the candidates were teaching and creating lesson plans alongside their researching and writing projects.

Facilitator - MEd Candidate Program

UC Santa Barbara

January 2011 – June 2011 (6 months)

Teaching Assistant
UC Santa Barbara
January 2011 – March 2011 (3 months)
WRIT 2 - Academic Writing

Teaching Assistant
UC Santa Barbara
January 2011 – March 2011 (3 months)
ED 221G - Textual Analysis

Facilitator - MEd Candidate Program
UC Santa Barbara
January 2010 – June 2010 (6 months)

Instructor
California State University, Long Beach
June 2009 – July 2009 (2 months)
English 1E - Freshman Jumpstart Program

Instructor (Teaching Master of Arts Candidate)
California State University, Long Beach
August 2007 – December 2007 (5 months)
English 100 - Freshman Composition

Education

University of California, Santa Barbara
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Education (Teaching and Learning – Language, Literacy, and Composition)
2014 – 2016 (expected)
Master of Arts (M.A.), Education (Teaching and Learning – Language, Literacy, and Composition)
2008 – 2013

California State University-Long Beach
Master of Arts (M.A.), English (Rhetoric and Composition)
2005 – 2007
Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Creative Writing (Poetry)
2002 – 2005

Additional Info

Interests

Animals, dog-wrestling, the ocean, hiking, conversation, taking miscellaneous art/info/skills classes, meeting strangers, storytelling, drawing / painting / woodburning, piano and drums, the wind-change at sundown, standing barefoot, the discovery and fulfillment of my nature.

Skills & Expertise

- Writing – Academic
- Writing – Creative
- Teaching Writing
- University Teaching
- Public Speaking
- Illustration
- Music
- Aikido
- Karate
- Running
- Weight Training
- Computer Art
- Audio Editing
- Video Editing
- Videography

Volunteer Experience & Causes

Animal Services Volunteer

City of Los Angeles Harbor Animal Shelter

September 2011 – Present | Animal Welfare

I exercise the dogs (mainly the large ones) to maintain their sanity and sociability, introduce shelter animals to potential families, and film/edit videos for dogs who are in medical isolation or otherwise need special publicity for adoption/rescue.

Graduate Panelist - School of Education

Phi Beta Kappa (Lambda chapter at University of California, Santa Barbara)

February 2012 | Education

Panel speaker for an audience of undergraduate honors students who are contemplating graduate school: Co-hosted by Phi Beta Kappa and the Regents and Chancellor's Scholars Association (RCSA), this panel of current UCSB graduate students from a variety of disciplines shared their experiences and advice about graduate school. Topics ranged from contemplating graduate school to choosing a major, selecting schools, applying, finding funding, and pursuing one's academic passion.

Graduate Panelist

Gevirtz Graduate School of Education

October 2015 Education

Participated as a panel speaker for incoming graduate students in the ED 200 course: summarizing personal experiences as a graduate student, offering insights and tips regarding funding / TAing / developing research topics / comprehensive exams / etc., and answering students' questions about the process.

*

Honors and Awards:

Inductee – Phi Beta Kappa, Rho chapter (CSU Long Beach)

Semifinalist – Gradslam research presentations, 2015

First Dan – Aikido, Yoseikan hombu dojo, North America

Personal Details:

Genetic heritage (greatest to smallest) – Swedish, German, Irish, English, Cherokee.

Cultural heritage – Midwestern Lutherans, working-class Michigianians.

Rearing context – Coastal Southern California.

Conflicts of interest – human bias.

Food preferences – fruits and vegetables, fish and dairy, meats and eggs, always respectfully.

Color preferences – vibrant and rich (esp.: lime green and burgundy, orange and black).

Social preferences – open an earthy (plainspoken academics, world-conscious farmers, etc.).

Strong likes – art displays, street music, smiles, eye contact, night sky, Halloween.

Strong dislikes – firm judgment before personal exposure.