



WESTRIDGE SCHOOL

Upper School Biology Teacher

Located in Pasadena, California, Westridge is a forward-thinking independent school for girls in grades 4-12 that emphasizes adventurous thinking, courageous, compassionate leadership, equity and inclusion. Our school community is vibrant, diverse and grounded in the commitment to goodness in all aspects of life and learning. We balance challenging academics and a focus on leadership development with a priority on social emotional wellness, development of one's sense of self, values, and goals, and thoughtful consideration of individuals' responsibilities to others and the world.

The mission of the Westridge Science Department is to prepare students for lives of meaning, contribution, and impact as scientifically literate citizens. They critically analyze data and evaluate sources to make reasoned decisions and conclusions backed by evidence. Students articulate the interdependence of living and nonliving systems and the human impact on our dynamic world so they can envision a role for themselves in moving society forward responsibly. The study of science provides students with the ability to explore their innate curiosity of the natural world. Using tools of inquiry and collaborative problem-solving, they experience the joy, wonder, and inspiration of scientific discovery and the satisfaction of persevering through difficulties and challenges.

Westridge is seeking an experienced upper school biology teacher to join our team of dedicated faculty members to begin with the 2025-26 school year. They will have an approach that differentiates levels of challenge and that also builds confidence in our students. They will focus on the process of science, incorporating skills essential to scientific methodology. The ideal candidate will have an interest and skill in collaborating with colleagues as well as the potential and willingness to contribute beyond the classroom. The upper school biology teacher will inspire and challenge our students through the mission of the school. This position reports to the director of upper school.

Specific Responsibilities Include:

- Convey enthusiasm for content and intellectual inquiry
- Design instruction that emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving
- Maintain grade-level science web pages
- Integrate appropriate technology to enhance learning; Westridge is a 1:1 laptop environment
- Collaborate effectively with students, teachers, administrators, staff and parents
- Model flexibility in implementing best learning practices
- Support the well-being of all students
- Participate regularly in professional development opportunities to maintain and grow expertise in the subject matter
- Participate in ongoing skill development in diversity and equity to promote a culture of community and inclusion
- Build skills and provide opportunities that help recognize, respect and embrace diversity of all kinds, and contribute to a culture of inclusion
- Participate in the greater life of the division and school including serving as an advisor

Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree required (science preferred); advanced degree preferred
- 3 years' teaching experience, upper school students preferred
- Familiarity with the NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) and California Science Standards
- Excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrated competency in student and faculty work that promotes diversity, inclusion, equity, and community engagement
- Demonstrated experience and skill in the effective use of technology and integrating technological applications in the classroom

- Previous experience developing and implementing diversity responsive curriculum to improve teaching and student learning
- Collaborative and collegial attitude
- Diligent and well-organized work habits
- Strong understanding of the developmental needs of young girls
- Strong commitment to the mission and vision of Westridge School

Physical Demands

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions:

- Ability to work both indoors and outdoors as required (i.e. field trips, overnight trips)

Schedule and Salary

This is a full-time exempt position and is eligible for Westridge's comprehensive benefits package that includes paid time off, medical, vision, dental, and generous retirement plan. Office hours are 7:50 am – 3:30 pm; with flexibility to work evenings and weekends when necessary. Annual salary depends on qualifications and years of experience teaching with a range of \$63,000 - \$100,000+.

To Apply

Send cover letter, resume, and references to Jobs@Westridge.org. Include "Upper School Biology Teacher" in the subject line.

Westridge School is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants are evaluated without consideration of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. For more information: www.Westridge.org.