



# BUILDING BRIDGES

A ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL INITIATIVE

**SPRING 2026 TEACHING PRACTICUM**





## Contact

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### Address

102 Huntcliff Drive  
Columbia South Carolina

## Education

2018-2022

### Daegu Middle Highschool

Daegu, South Korea 96218

2022-2026

### Morehouse College

Atlanta, Georgia 30314

## Expertise

- Bilingual
- Digital Designing
- Public Speaking
- Communication
- networking
- leadership skills

## Language

English (Native Speaker)

Korean (Native Speaker)

# Michael Jones

## Student

Driven and passionate Education Studies major with a strong commitment to social justice, inclusive learning, and student empowerment. Experienced in leadership, digital media, and community engagement, with a focus on creating meaningful educational experiences that inspire growth and connection.

## Experience

### May 2025 - Present

Morehouse College Admissions

#### Presidential Ambassador

- Selected to lead personalized campus tours for Morehouse College President and Board of Trustees, including high-profile guests and dignitaries.
- Represented the college with professionalism, delivering detailed historical, academic, and cultural insights during curated tour experiences.
- Acted as a student liaison, showcasing campus life and leadership through strong communication and interpersonal skills.

### March 2025

Class council

#### Campaign manager

- Organized and managed the campaign for Senior Class President and Vice President.
- Created digital media content—including campaign graphics, videos, and social media posts—to boost visibility and engagement.
- Coordinated promotional materials, outreach events, and campaign messaging.
- Led a small campaign team to manage timelines and increase student participation in the election.

### June 2024 - July 2025

Breakthrough Atlanta

#### Teaching Fellow

- Taught engaging, student-centered lessons in STEM to middle school students in a rigorous 6-week academic program.
- Developed lesson plans, managed classroom behavior, and assessed student progress.
- Collaborated with peers and received coaching to improve instructional skills and foster student growth.

### February 2024 - August 2025

Maroon Tiger Gaming Club

#### Socials Team

- The Maroon Tiger Gaming Club's Socials Team cultivates a vibrant online community, organizing events, fostering discussions, and connecting gamers across campus. They leverage social media platforms to create engaging content, build excitement, and foster a sense of belonging within the gaming community at Morehouse College.

### November 2023 - Present

Building Bridges Program

#### HBCU student representative

- The Building Bridges Program empowers HBCU students to engage with and inspire young minds in charter schools. Through mentorship, educational activities, and community involvement, HBCU students serve as role models and advocates, fostering academic success and a sense of possibility among students in charter school communities.

### June 2023 - July 2023

Amazon

#### Book Production Specialist

- Managing the process of creating physical and digital books, from manuscript to final product. It might include tasks such as coordinating with authors, editors, designers, printers, and digital publishing platforms to ensure timely and quality production of books.

## Reference

### Kristen Moody

Professor at Morehouse College

Phone: (404) 308-8025

Email: kristin.moody@morehouse.edu

### Wanda Ellis

Teaching instructional Coach

Phone: (770) 366-4890

Email: wandaellis1908@gmail.com

Michael Jones

4/7/2026

## Teaching Philosophy

Education has been a bridge in my life, between cultures, identities, and even possibilities. I grew up in South Korea and had to navigate two cultures, often in conflict with each other. I learned that school was more than just a place for academic instruction; it was a space where people knew they belonged and explored different worldviews. My teaching philosophy is rooted in the principles of existentialism and progressivism, two educational perspectives that prioritize student agency, meaningful learning, and real-world application. Existentialism, coined by the Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard, emphasizes individualism, freedom, authenticity, and the quest for meaning. Progressivism, coined by the American Philosopher John Dewey, focuses on the student experience, student-centered education, critical thinking, collaboration, and holistic development. Education should not simply be about mastering subject matter from the teacher; it is an opportunity to create critical thinkers who will construct their own understanding and develop a sense of identity, purpose, and belonging.

From a progressivist perspective, education is an interactive student-centered process. I see myself as a facilitator who guides students through the learning process, asking questions, engaging in discussions, and providing support while students remain independent. By balancing structure with flexibility, I will create a classroom where students feel supported and empowered. Project-based learning centers students, emphasizing curiosity, challenges, and student-driven exploration. Through project-based learning, students use content in meaningful ways that mirror real-life experiences. This helps students develop essential skills, such as

collaboration, communication, and most importantly, critical thinking. This makes learning more enjoyable and relevant.

My belief in project-based learning is not only theoretical but personal. I attended a high school where project-based learning was an integral part of the curriculum. One of my favorite PBL experiences was when a group of my friends wanted to build a rocket after watching the movie "October Sky." We spent weeks figuring out which fuel worked and even more time determining the ratio of potassium nitrate to sugar for our hybrid rocket. I want to recreate that same sense of energy and engagement in my own classroom. I want my students to feel that learning is something they can voluntarily participate in, not something they are told to do.

From an existentialist perspective, education is personal and focused on individual growth and awareness. Existentialists emphasize that freedom and responsibility encourage students to find meaning in their own learning experiences. Everyone's unique stories are valued as an essential part of their learning, which helps students better understand themselves and develop their identity. Whether it's selecting projects or choosing how to present their work, I want my students to take ownership of their learning and present it in their own way. This autonomy increases motivation and helps students to gain a sense of responsibility for their education and their experiences.

I bring a unique perspective shaped by my upbringing, and my personal background has strongly influenced how I approach teaching and learning. As an Education Studies Major and History Minor at Morehouse College, I have developed a deeper understanding and appreciation for leadership and service in education. Morehouse challenged me to think critically about how education can empower individuals and communities. My education in Korea emphasized

discipline and academic intensity; my experiences in the United States have highlighted creativity and expression. These contrasting experiences allow me to strike a balance in the classroom that values both structure and creativity. I will use this to connect with students from diverse backgrounds and to encourage them to develop their own identities and strengths.

# ITINERARY

## Wednesday, April 8

- 11:44 a.m. Arrival Boston, M.A., Logan International Airport
- 3 p.m. Arrive at Atlantic Beach Hotel *28 Aquidneck Ave., Middletown, RI*
- 7:30 p.m. Dinner Downtown

## Thursday, April 9

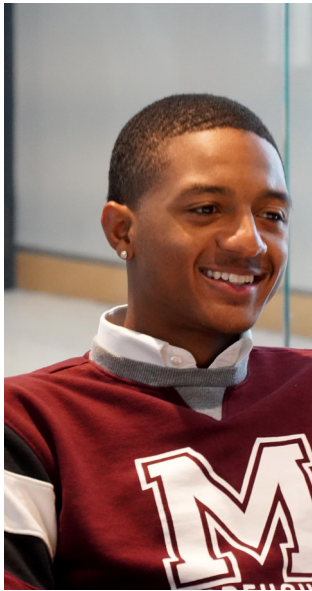
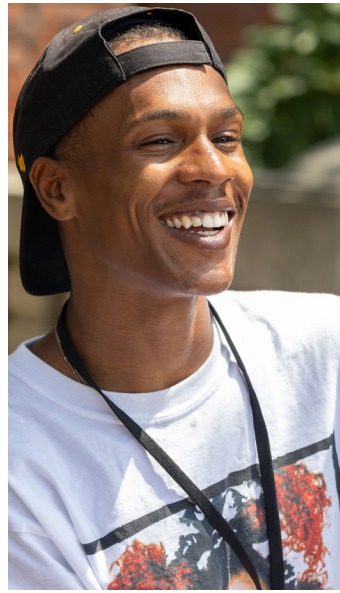
- 7:30 a.m. Pick Up From Hotel
- 7:45 a.m. Breakfast *King Hall*
- 8:30 a.m. Faculty Meeting
- 9 a.m. Campus Tour
- 9:35 a.m. Chapel
- 10:30 a.m. Meet with Michael Wirtz, *Head of School*
- 11 a.m. Meet with Tanita Williams, *Associate Director of Admission*
- 11:30 a.m. Meet with Dr. Kim W. Bullock, *Director of Equity and Inclusion*
- 12p.m. Lunch *King Hall*  
Kim Bullock, *Director of Equity and Inclusion*  
Mervan Osborne, *Associate Head of School for Student Life*
- 12:40 p.m. D-Block Class Visit 1  
Sports Journalism with C. Ploskina *AC102*
- 1:15 p.m. D-Block Class Visit 2  
Humanities III: American History with D. Taradash *SH23*
- 2:05 p.m. E-Block Class Visit  
Creative Writing with M. Mogollon *SH15*
- 4:30 p.m. Return to Hotel
- 6:15 p.m. Dinner *King Hall*
- 7 p.m. Dorm Duty
- 8:15 p.m. Return to Hotel

# ITINERARY

## Friday, April 10

- 7:30 a.m.**                    **Pick Up From Hotel**
- 7:45 a.m.**                    **Breakfast** *King Hall*
- 8:30 a.m.**                    **F-Block Class Visit**  
Humanities 130: Historical Inquiry with N. Waters *SH11*
- 9:15 a.m.**                    **Meet with Building Bridges Teaching Fellows** *Callen Reading Room*  
Jasmine Prime, *Humanities*  
Morgan Willis-Hill, *STEM*
- 9:55 a.m.**                    **Advisory**  
Dwayne Pina
- 10:30 a.m.**                    **Meet with Erin Wilson, Humanities Department Co-Chair** *SH15*
- 11 a.m.**                      **G-Block Class Visit**  
Humanities 120: Journey in Literature with the M. Coffin *SH21*
- 12 p.m.**                      **Lunch** *King Hall*  
Abigail Isom, *STEM Department Chair*  
Catherine Rodero Scholhamer, *Language and Culture Studies Department Chair*
- 1 p.m.**                        **Depart to Logan International Airport**





  
**BUILDING BRIDGES**  
Invest in diversity, equity, and **education.**

