

Instructor Biography

Mrs. Crystal Jewel Crawford was born in Frankfurt, Germany in June of 1985. Crystal grew up in Augusta, Georgia with her parents and two younger siblings, Gabrielle and Katarina. Although they moved around the world, the Gaines' always made their way back to Georgia.

Crystal attended Jamestown Elementary School, Morgan Road Middle School, and finally settled at Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School (DFA) in the eighth grade. While at Davidson, Crystal excelled in the areas of English and Literature, Theatre Tech, Music (chorus), and Journalism. Attending DFA prepared Crystal to succeed in all avenues of life and she matriculated to Augusta State University where she completed her undergraduate History degree coursework and earned a Secondary Education Teaching Certificate. Crystal was inducted into Alpha Mu Gamma, Collegiate Foreign Language Honor Society for Spanish, and Kappa Delta Epsilon, Honorary Professional Education Fraternity.

Attending Augusta State University allowed Crystal the opportunity to study a variety of interesting topics. Some of her favorite college courses included:

- Human Diversity
- Human Development and Learning Theories
- Human Communication
- Psychology of Adjustment
- Exploring Sociocultural Perspectives
- Gender and Family History in WWII
- History and Culture of the Islamic World
- Latin America: Coffee and Bananas
- 16th Century English Maritime History
- Witchcraft Trials and Magical Beliefs
- Blacks in the American West
- African American History
- African American History thru Film
- Multicultural Education
- Cultural Issues and Ethics
- U.S. History since the Great Crash
- Teaching Students with Disabilities
- Identifying Outstanding Talent and Potential

While in college Crystal worked full-time and became a “fixture” in the Fort Gordon retail world. Working full-time allowed Crystal to save money for graduate school and further develop her unique character traits such as oration, radio/phone/intercom announcements, event planning, electronics testing and demonstrating, and building award-winning fashion merchandising displays. Some of the companies/brands Mrs. Crawford has managed accounts for/represented include:

- Microsoft
- Bose
- Western Digital
- Toshiba
- Fuji Film
- Coach
- Victoria's Secret
- Bath and Body Works
- Kenmore
- Kraft Foods

Although Mrs. Crawford pondered a career in the retail world, she always knew that teaching was her destiny. Upon the completion of her teaching internship at the Academy of Richmond County in 2009, Mrs. Crawford landed her first teaching job at her alma mater, DFA.

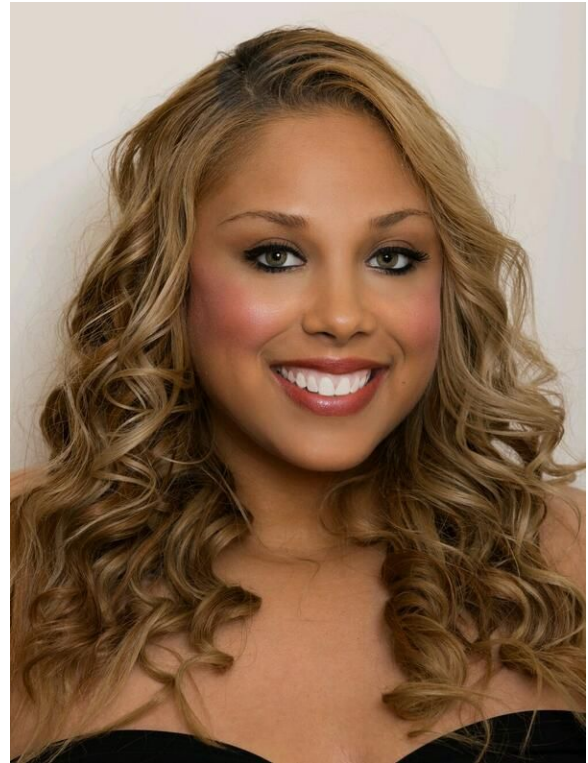
Mrs. Crawford holds Georgia teaching certificates in the fields of History, Economics, Political Science and Business Education. She also holds training certificates for Advanced Placement Microeconomics, Advanced Placement Macroeconomics, Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics and Advanced Placement Psychology.

Mrs. Crawford believes that it is her duty to properly prepare students to be college and career ready upon graduating from high school and she prides herself on exposing her students to the “realities” of the world. Since graduating with her undergraduate degree, Crystal has received her Master's Degree in Education; Curriculum and Instruction for Secondary History Education and her Education Specialist Degree; P-12 Curriculum and

Instruction. Mrs. Crawford is currently pursuing her Education Leadership Certificate at the University of West Georgia.

Despite still being in the early stages of her career, Mrs. Crawford has earned various awards and scholarships for her efforts, including the Georgia Power New Teacher Grant, the Richmond County Retired Educators Scholarship, and the Davidson Fine Arts School Teacher of The Year Award for 2012-2013. In 2014 Mrs. Crawford was selected as one of the Inaugural Jag20 Emerging Alumni Leaders by Georgia Regents University (GRU) and featured in the GRU GRavity Magazine. Spring 2015, Crystal was selected as a "Shero" in the field of education and presented the Sisters Only Club and iHeartMedia Shero Education Award. Most recently, Mrs. Crawford was presented with the WJBF News Channel Six Golden Apple Award, the Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School Teacher of the Year Award (2016-2017) and the Chick-Fil-A Teacher Leader Award. She hopes to continue to make a positive impact in the lives of her students and in the field of education.

On a more personal note, Mrs. Crawford comes from a loving and supporting family. Mrs. Crawford's parents have been married for 38 years and both of her sisters (DFA Grads) have since graduated from college and married. She also has three Dachshunds; Ali, Koltin, and Rockford. Mrs. Crawford married her college sweetheart and they have a son named Ayden Reese Crawford (3 yrs).



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