

IONELA CRISTINA POPESCU

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HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS TEACHER

- **Student-focused and multi-lingual (English, Romanian, French) educator** with a solid commitment toward academic excellence and providing students with fundamental and advanced math skills
- Extremely knowledgeable professional with **over 16 years of solid, hands-on teaching experience within diverse classroom environments**, which has produced a practical skill set to enhance instruction
- Adept at reaching all students through the use of manipulatives, group discussions, and hands-on activities, as well as at effectively simplifying complex math concepts to facilitate comprehension
- Dynamic individual, who possesses outstanding communication and interpersonal skills to develop strong relationships within the school community

Areas of Expertise Include:

- Multisensory Lessons
- Student-Centred Learning
- Team Teaching Approach
- Classroom Management
- Problem Based Learning
- Individualized Instruction
- Integration of Technology
- Visual & Graphic Organizers
- Mnemonic Devices
- Reciprocal Teaching
- Use of Manipulatives
- Assessment Tools

“The attention to detail in her planning is a testament to her program delivery and pedagogical knowledge. When observing Cristina’s classes it became evident that she observes and interprets student learning to diagnose instructional needs to determine student progress.”

– Thomas Sullivan, Principal, Bishop Grandin High School 2012-2013

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

ALBERTA INTERIM TEACHING CERTIFICATION – EXPIRES: 08/31/2014
ROMANIA PERMANENT TEACHING CERTIFICATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
Transitions to Alberta Classrooms (TAC) Program Certification, 03/2010

ALEXANDRU IOAN CUZA UNIVERSITY
Master’s Degree—Applied Mathematics, 2000
Bachelor’s Degree—Mathematics; Teacher of Mathematics, 1998

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

BISHOP GRANDIN HIGH SCHOOL, Calgary, AB
Senior High School Math Teacher

08/2012 – Present

Develop multisensory lesson plans and implement comprehensive instruction to students in Math 10C, Math 20-1, Math 20-2, Math 20-3, and Math 30-1, 30-2 (both in class and online courses), 30-3 and Math 31 (Calculus) AP (equivalent of first year university course Calculus). Increase motivation and time to be spend on tasks for large classes due to a positive team teaching environment.

- Make lessons interesting by thinking in students’ perspectives and by making them relevant through the use of real life examples/applications.
- Improved students’ achievement by as much as 20% over the previous year; decreased absenteeism.
- Achieved more than 75% of students writing the AP exam with scores of 4 or 5.

- Wrote questions for Field Test with Alberta Education for Math 30-1 and Math 30-2.
- Serve as Teacher Advisor, utilizing comprehensive knowledge of curriculum, courses and credits, as well as graduation requirements to provide parents with up-to-date information, and serve as a role model and trusted resource for students regarding a myriad of school issues. Served as Partner Teacher for students from U of C;
- Serve as Yearbook Advisor, advising and organizing yearbook staff on all phases of the project.

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL HIGH SCHOOL, Calgary, AB**12/2011 – 06/2012****Senior High School Math Teacher**

Designed and implemented creative lesson plans for Math 10C, Math 10-3, and Math 20-1; took over another teacher's classes more than halfway through the semester.

- Integrated technology through the use of SMART Boards and D2L to make learning engaging and to improve class organization and communication between home and school.
- Increased student achievement through excellent classroom organization, hands-on learning methods, and extra help tutorials, resulting in 20% more students passing the course.

WESTERN CANADA HIGH SCHOOL, Calgary, AB**09/2011 – 11/2011****Substitute Mathematics Teacher**

Fulfilled both short- and long-term substitute assignments across math subject area and supported the mission and objectives of the school's learning philosophy.

- Designed and implemented creative lesson plans in Pure & Applied Math subjects
- Planed and tailored lessons to successfully meet students' varying learning needs
- Ensured the safe welfare of the students in the class

MOMENTUM, Calgary, AB**04/2010 – 08/2011****Math & Science Instructor**

Taught math and science courses to adult students at the grade 7-10 levels; designed the courses, created lesson plans, and actively instructed students within properly structured, positive learning environments. Helped students to prepare for standardized testing at SAIT.

- Motivated and instructed adult learners from various cultural backgrounds; created lessons that accommodated students' very low and basic level of math and science knowledge, as well as very basic understanding of English.
- Used personal immigration story to motivate and inspire students to succeed.

DR. GLADYS MCKELVIE EGBERT COMMUNITY SCHOOL, Calgary, AB**01/2010 – 03/2010****WESTERN CANADA HIGH SCHOOL****10/2009 – 12/2009****Student Teacher**

Student taught in Math 7, Math 9, Math 20-1, Math 30-1, and Math 31 Calculus IB classrooms; took over 100% of lead teacher responsibilities after the first week of placement. Paced lesson rhythm according to age level and ensured a smooth transition lead teacher to student teacher and back again with minimal disruption to the learning process.

- Became familiar with supporting materials for math education in the school and identified and appreciated the elements of learning and teaching observing partner teachers and participating in class activities
- Understood the integrated nature and roles played by staff – teaching and support
- Achieved high student scores on end-of-unit tests due to exposing students to a variety of learning styles both within and outside their comfort zone.
- Introduced age appropriate manipulatives such as fraction tiles, building blocks, probability songs, dice, and spinners to help students visualize and memorize various math concepts.

ASASA LEARNING CENTRE, Calgary, AB
Manager & Math Instructor

06/2008 – 09/2009

As Manager of the ASASA Learning Centre, developed programs, coordinated scheduling and meetings, oversaw recruiting and hiring of new instructors, and provided leadership, guidance and support for the development of new program initiatives; taught all mathematics levels, including Algebra, Statistics, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Calculus.

- Created the “Tutor Program” that contained lesson plans to provide students with individual resources.
- Introduced computer technologies and age-appropriate software to broaden curriculum objectives.
- Grew the student population from 10 to close to 200 students in less than half a year.
- Raised students’ achievement rates in school by as much as 50%.

EDISON SCHOOL, Okotoks, AB
Math Teacher

04/2009 – 07/2009

Successfully took over another teacher’s position more than halfway through the course; covered the full curriculum, teaching Math 7, Math 9, Science 10, Physics 20, and Math 30. Created multisensory lesson plans, actively instructed students in course material, assigned and corrected homework, and prepared students for standardized testing.

GARABET IBRAILEANU SCHOOL, Iasi, Romania
Math Teacher

09/2001 – 02/2008

Developed and implemented lesson plans in the areas of Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry and math concepts that reinforced technical skills and drew connections between the classroom and the real world. Monitored student performance, assessed daily student progress, and developed individual learning plans; provided after school tutoring to at-risk and struggling students. Coordinated with colleagues to share best practices, refine teaching methods, and address academic behavioral matters.

- Instructed over 50 students, with over 60% achieving excellent levels of proficiency.
- Received Teacher of the Year Award for four consecutive years.
- Served as Chairman of the Science Department; served on the School Board; organized the school magazine; and organized local and international Math Olympics.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Workshops:

SmartBoards / Teacher Interviewing & Building Resume Seminar / Trauma of Adolescents
 Trigonometry Grades 10-12 / Touching Base with Math-2 / Google Drive / Evernote

Presentations:

Guest Speaker at University of Calgary – “Transition to Alberta Classroom”, 04/2010-04/2011
 Guest Speaker at ILVARC – “Integrated Women’s Mentorship Program”, 2011; “Teachers in Alberta”, 2009
 Guest Speaker at Momentum, 2011 & 2012

Various Interviews in Newspapers/Media – Calgary Herald; CTV News; Momentum Newsletter

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Mentor – ILVARC, 5 Years / Reader – St. Patrick Church, 3 Years / Mentor – CRIEC, 2 Years

ONLINE PORTFOLIOS

www.chrismath.ca