



Courtney Rice

Board Member

Courtney's love for the French language started as far back as middle school and has continued up to the present. Having lived and worked in France, French became the common thread that intertwined all her professional experiences. Before becoming a French teacher, Courtney worked as an export control analyst at Matra, a French aerospace company based in Washington, D.C. Her desire to teach French was prompted by her visit to a French Immersion elementary school. She was inspired by how American students in second grade were able to understand the French-speaking teacher and use French to communicate in the classroom. Her desire to teach in this kind of environment led her to a Master's in Education. While studying for her degree, Courtney had twins and immersed them in French through books and playgroups. Her own children attended the same French Immersion school for four years, where she was teaching.

Courtney has worked since 2003 in elementary and middle schools, both in-person and online, and also tutored privately. She has taught in both immersion and traditional settings and was a department chair in the middle school World Languages Department for two years.

She attended ongoing professional development workshops, including in France, to learn and implement elements of a method called Comprehensible Input (CI) into her traditionally taught French classes. This allowed her to integrate CI and French novels into her classes to simulate immersion. She was and is still part of a Facebook group that addresses all concerns about CI, where various methods and materials are shared, and successful teachers of this method are brought to light.

Courtney is currently tutoring a student online and continues to enjoy making the lessons meaningful, interesting, fun, and challenging for all of her students.

Educational Background

B.A. French and English – Hollins University

M.A. Teaching – Johns Hopkins University