Amy Barrios
Educator in Private Practice

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## Background

Amy will earn full certification in Educational Therapy in 2016 from UC Riverside and received both elementary and secondary teaching credentials from San Francisco State University. She has over 15 years experience teaching in both Marin and San Francisco, teaching as a general education and inclusion teacher, working with students of all levels, from remedial to Advanced Placement courses.

Amy is trained in current best pedagogical practices and the Common Core Curriculum, has extensive experience with diverse learners, and is able to meet learners' unique needs with appropriate, relevant curriculum. In addition to classroom teaching, Amy has extensive experience as a Special Education paraprofessional helping with reading remediation and implementing IEP goals. For three years, Amy wrote high school curriculum aligned with national curriculum for the Pearson Foundation.

In addition to her current work in Educational Therapy, Amy has been trained by the National Academy Foundation, the Buck Institute, Stanford University's Protocol for Language Arts Teaching Observation, Kate Kinsella, Jane Schaffer and the Bay Area Writing Project. Amy is a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant Recipient, UC San Diego Outstanding Teacher, and National Alliance of Artists and Writers Silver Medal Recipient and will begin her Educational Therapy coursework in 2015.

## Frequently Asked Questions

*What academic areas do you tutor?*

I am credentialed in secondary (grades 6-12) English, Social Studies, and English Language Development. Along with my husband David (credentialed in secondary Chemistry and Physics), we tutor almost all academic subjects in grades 6-12. In tandem with academic remediation, we help students improve their literacy skills, executive functioning, and school confidence and work with students who have a wide variety of learning challenges and diagnoses.

*What happens at the first session?*

Students receive a short learning styles assessment to determine their dominant learning modalities and discuss their school strengths and challenges. I provide them some strategies they can implement immediately based on the results of the assessment. Parents complete an intake form explaining their concerns and then we all discuss goals for tutoring. The first session lasts approximately 30 minutes and the fee is $50.

*How are the sessions structured?*

Each session is customized for the student and based on current needs. Typically, sessions focus on understanding and completing academic work successfully while embedding executive skills such as self-direction, problem solving, and information literacy. I work in tandem with teachers and other allied professionals in service to the student's needs. I communicate with parents via weekly emails.

*What results can we expect from tutoring?*
Most students begin to relax in areas of school that stress them out once they begin tutoring. Grades usually improve steadily and kids show more and more ownership and understanding of how they are being graded and why. They also start to make more meaningful connections across the curriculum and to their own lives and begin to navigate school, classes, and assessments confidently and intentionally.

*When and where do you tutor?*
I tutor students after school at my home in Mill Valley, a quiet space conducive to learning. Snacks are provided for all kids.

*What happens during school breaks?*
Typically, students do not attend tutoring during school breaks, but I am often available by request during these times. Many students choose to attend tutoring on breaks, including summer, to supplement or remediate curriculum. Test preparation and other projects, like college essay writing, are ideal to work on during break times.

*What if I need to reschedule or cancel an appointment?*
Please let me know ASAP if you'd like to change or cancel and appointment so I can try to accommodate you. If you need to cancel a session that you have already confirmed, please give 24 hours notice to avoid being charged.

## Testimonials

"I felt comfortable talking to her and she always explained the material I was having trouble with in clear, concise language while challenging me with a question or two of her own to help jumpstart my thinking."
*B.K., student*

"Amy taught me how to "close read," write a thesis statement, and construct an argument with evidence. And they were skills I used throughout my college career (particularly for those pesky poetry classes I took). I highly recommend her! Plus, she's also great at helping with personal statements; I'm certain her advice helped me with getting into the college of my choice."
*J.W., student*

"I wanted to thank you for your support of M. Meeting with you and taking steps to catch up and organize have made a difference. I see a happier boy at home who feels better about school and about himself because he felt well prepared on the recent writing assessment. Again, our family thanks you."
*J.T., parent*

"Your kind, gentle way of teaching is exactly what he needs and I've watched him begin to blossom under your loving care. Thank you so, so much and for helping him along, for really teaching him, step by step, how to handle these big overwhelming assignments. Thank you for listening and working with me, for taking the time to hear my concerns and for your genuine care and concern for O.'s well being. I am so appreciative and grateful."
*A.H., parent*