

Max Meirhaeghe

Secondary English Language Arts Teacher

Chicago, IL · (224) 436-7323

maxmeirhaeghe@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/max-meirhaeghe-224960406](https://www.linkedin.com/in/max-meirhaeghe-224960406)

Portfolio: sites.google.com/view/maxmeirhaeghe

Licensed Illinois English teacher (PEL) trained at the University of Illinois Chicago, with a semester of student teaching in Chicago Public Schools classrooms with a high share of English learners. Builds data-driven literacy instruction, from fluency and comprehension through synthesis writing and research, and pairs it with a warm, structured classroom culture.

LICENSURE & EDUCATION

Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL) · *English Language Arts, Grades 9–12* Illinois State Board of Education

B.A., Teaching of English · *University of Illinois Chicago* 2024 – 2026

Undergraduate coursework (60 credit hours) · *University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa* 2022 – 2024

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Student Teacher · *Social Justice High School, Little Village · Chicago Public Schools* Jan – Apr 2026

- Co-taught and solo-taught five periods of junior and senior English (English III, African/Latin American Literature, Senior Seminar) in classes with a high share of English learners.
- Redesigned instruction around fluency, comprehension and literacy gaps identified in standardized test and survey data.
- Led juniors through ACT preparation and summarization and synthesis writing with *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.
- Guided seniors through semester-long, social-justice research projects, using concept maps, APA citation review and final presentations.
- Wrote original and adapted Common Core-aligned lesson plans and assessments; contributed to department meetings on curriculum alignment and unit planning.
- Held informal lunchtime “office hours” for one-on-one and small-group help; supported the student-run Social Justice Coffee Shop fundraiser.

Participant Observer · *Westinghouse College Prep · Chicago Public Schools* Sep – Oct 2025

- Completed 60 hours in 12th-grade Honors Latine Literature and Creative Writing; led several class periods, including one original lesson.

Participant Observer · *Benito Juarez Community Academy · Chicago Public Schools* Feb 2025

- Observed a co-taught senior English class (primary and resource teacher) with a high share of English learners.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE WITH STUDENTS

Therapeutic Aide · *Blue Bird Day, Chicago* May 2026 – Present

- Supports classroom management and therapeutic activities in a kindergarten program, working with ABA, occupational therapy, speech-language and social work teams on individualized plans.
- Records client progress data in CentralReach to track growth toward therapeutic goals.

Teaching Assistant & Camp Counselor · *Science and Arts Academy, Des Plaines* May – Aug 2024

- Helped lead instruction and plan activities across three elementary classes; supervised group activities in a safe, inclusive summer program.

Volunteer Tutor, K–12 · *Bama Tutors for Service, Tuscaloosa Public Library* Sep 2023 – May 2024

- Tutored K–12 students in reading, writing and math, adapting to each learner and building academic confidence.

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Instruction	Lesson and unit design · Common Core ELA · data-driven literacy instruction · supporting English learners · ACT prep · research and writing instruction
Classroom	Routines and classroom management · checks for understanding · student engagement · progress monitoring (CentralReach)
Languages	English (native) · French (intermediate)
Interests	Fish-keeping · botany · reading · badminton · soccer