

Jay D'Ambrosio, M.A.

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EDUCATION

Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania

Bachelor of Arts Degrees (December 1994)

- Major: Secondary Education Social Science
- Second Major: History
- Presidential Scholars' Award (1994)

Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania

Master of Arts Degree (December 2002)

History

- Masters thesis - "Egyptian Influence upon Early Israelite Literature"
- Member of the Slippery Rock University History Department Advisory Board (2005-present)
- Internship - Harmony Museum, Harmony, PA (Summer 1999)
 - Conducted an archaeological dig
 - Excavated and cataloged artifacts for museum display

Certification Areas

Social Studies 7-12

English 7-12

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Hampton Middle School, Allison Park, Pennsylvania

Position: American History (2008-present)

- **2010 Keynote Speaker for the Pennsylvania Middle School Association (PMSA Western Region) Conference – Topic: “Teaching with Direction: Using the Brain as a Guide”**
- **Named one of the “50 most innovative teachers in the nation” by PBS in 2010**
- **Received a unanimously approved stipend from the Hampton Township School Board for “extraordinary performance” during the 2009-2010 school year.**
- Created and presented workshops focusing on the integration of brain-based teaching strategies into Microsoft PowerPoint presentations (This is your brain on powerpoint – <http://brain.eteaching101.com>)
- Developed the Adventures in American History Web site
 - <http://america.eteaching101.com>
- Led a homeroom effort to raise funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
 - Homeroom was recognized as having raised the most money in the state of Pennsylvania in 2009.
- Served on the Hampton Technology Committee
 - Assisted in the development of the “Talbot Township Techno Tour” (Technology Expo - Hampton Township Community Center, March 2009 & 2011)
 - Demonstrated district utilization of technology to the larger community
 - Established the “What is Reality?” exhibit, showcasing augmented reality and virtual reality in the classroom.

Seneca Valley Middle School, Harmony, Pennsylvania

Position: Ancient & Medieval History (1995-2008)

School Award: 2006 Winner of the Don Eichhorn Award (Named one of the best middle schools in Pennsylvania)

- Created the district-wide Guidance E-Portfolio System
 - Authored the district's Ancient Civilizations and Adventures in World History curriculum
 - Developed methods for implementing cutting-edge technology into the classroom, including virtual reality modeling, satellite imaging, and educational alternate reality games.
 - Designed two national award-winning educational Web sites – *USA Today*
 - Initiated the process of integrating language arts and social studies in order to bolster PSSA reading scores (SVMS middle school reading test scores have steadily increased in subsequent years.)
 - Served as a mentor and cooperating teacher for new teachers and student teachers
 - Differentiated instruction to meet the needs of learning support, regular and gifted education students.
 - Pioneered the middle level-teaming concept at Seneca Valley School District as a member of the pilot middle school team.
 - Produced the Seneca Valley Middle School handbook as a member of the Duquesne Middle Level Academy
 - Established cultural exchange programs with students and teachers
 - Guizhou University of Technology, People's Republic of China
 - Omiya Middle School, Omiya, Japan & Tokyo International YMCA, Japan
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BOOKS & OTHER WORKS PUBLISHED

- **Books**
 - *Rethinking Adolescence: Using Story to Navigate Life's Uncharted Years* (Rowman & Littlefield Education, 2006)
 - *E-Teaching: Creating Web Sites and Student Web Portfolios Using Microsoft Power Point* (Linworth Publishing, Inc., 2003)
- **Magazine and Journal Articles**
 - *Ordered Disorder: Finding Divine Patterns in the Midst of Life's Chaos* (Amazon Shorts/Kindle, 2008/2010)
- Amazon.com Bestsellers List 2008
 - *Enhancing Learning with Technology* (Pennsylvania Middle School Association Newsletter, May 2008)
 - *The Mythic Teacher* (Mythic Passages: Magazine of Imagination, September 2007)
 - *Peter, Son of Jonah* (Mythic Passages: Magazine of Imagination, July 2007)
 - *The Mermaid of Zennor* (Mythic Passages: Magazine of Imagination, June 2007)
 - *The Initiation of Perseus* (Mythic Passages: Magazine of Imagination, May 2007)
 - *The Secret of Christmas* (Northern Connections Magazine, December 2006)
 - *Egyptian Influence Upon Early Israelite Literature* (Aeon: Journal of Myth, Science, and Ancient History, 2005)
 - *Integrating Web Portfolios into the Learning Process* (Library Media Connections, March 2004)
 - *Techno Tips: Ancient Civilizations* (NEA Today, September 2002)

COUNSELING EXPERIENCE

- **North Way Counseling Services, Wexford, Pennsylvania (2004-present)**
 - Curriculum Development
 - Youth Mentor and Family and Relationship Mediator
 - Trained in Conflict Mediation
 - Certified in Critical Incident Stress Management
 - Certified in School Crisis Response
 - Certified member of Pennsylvania Student Assistance Program
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CURRICULUM AUTHORED

- *American History* course (review committee - Hampton Middle School – 2009)
 - *Adventures in World History* course (Seneca Valley School District – 2003 & 2008)
 - *KIDZ Matter*, a film-based curriculum for students ages 6-12 (North Way Counseling Services - 2007)
 - *Modern America*, online course (Mastery Learning Network - 2004)
 - *Ancient Civilizations* course (Seneca Valley School District - 1997)
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CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS DEVELOPED

- **2010 Keynote Speaker for the Pennsylvania Middle School Association (PMSA Western Region) Conference – Topic: “Teaching with Direction: Using the Brain as a Guide”**
 - FinalSite Web Design Workshop (Hampton Township School District, professional development)
 - This is your brain on powerpoint (Hampton Township School District, professional development) - <http://brain.eteaching101.com>
 - E-Teaching workshop series (Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV, the Allegheny Intermediate Unit III, and the Pennsylvania State Education Association)
 - Web portfolio workshop (Rotary Youth Leadership Association, Westminster College)
 - "E-teaching: From A-Z " seminar (Penn State Conference Center - Pennsylvania Middle School Association)
 - Macromedia/Adobe Fireworks (Seneca Valley School District)
 - Microsoft PowerPoint (Butler County Community College)
 - Microsoft FrontPage & Macromedia/Adobe Dreamweaver (Created and taught multiple Act 48 approved Web design training programs for the SVMS Social Studies and Multimedia Departments)
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AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- **2010 PBS Teacher Innovation Award Winner**
- **Received a unanimously approved stipend from the Hampton Township School Board for “extraordinary performance” during the 2009-2010 school year.**
- Recognized as a Star Educator by the Discovery Channel (2009)
- *Adventures in World History* and *Ancient Adventures* Web sites were both named "Best Bets in Education" by *USA Today* (2002)
 - <http://world.eteaching101.com>
- "Ordered Disorder: Finding Divine Patterns in the Midst of Life's Chaos" was named a "Hot New Release" by Amazon.com.

- Nominated for Disney's American Teacher Awards (2002)
- Nominated for the Pennsylvania Teacher Excellence Center (2006 & 2007)
- Pennsylvania State Education Association Communications Award Winner (Website category – 2008)
- Robinson Family Fund Outstanding Teacher of the Year (2001)
- *KIDz in Cranberry Magazine* — Star Teacher (June 2004)
- Six Time NCAA All-American Swimmer (1992-1994)
- Grove City College Sportsman of the Year Award (1994)
- CSCAA All-Academic Team (1992-1994)
- Presidential Scholars' Award (1994)
- Grove City College Swimming & Diving Hall of Fame (2001)
- Erie County Aquatic Hall of Fame (2002)
- Officially commended by PA State Senator Jane Orie for promoting the use of technology in education and for youth advocacy work in the community (2002 & 2006)

HONORARIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

- O2Max Fitness – National Advisory Board (2007-present)
- Omicron Delta Kappa (National Leadership Honorary)
- Pan Sophic Club (Chaplain 1993)
- Kappa Delta Pi (International Education Honorary)
- National Education Association
- Phi Alpha Theta (International History Honorary)
- Political Lyceum

TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

- **Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico (2001)**
 - Studied the Mayan pyramid complex at Chichen Itza
- **London, England (2001)**
 - Led a group of 30 students
 - Visited major historical sites
 - Led educational tours of St. Paul's Cathedral, Hampton Court, and Trafalgar Square
- **Paris, France (2001)**
 - Led a group of 30 students
 - Visited major historical sites
 - Led educational tours of the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, and Versailles Palace
- **Ensenada & Tijuana, Mexico (1999)**
 - Led a group of 21 students in a community service project
- **Society Island Chain, French Polynesia (1997)**
 - Studied "marae", ancient stone temples, in the rainforests on the island of Moorea
 - Studied the tribal culture, ceremonies, and customs of the Polynesian islanders
 - Observed Spinner dolphins in the wild with the Director of the Marine Mammal Research Program of French Polynesia, Dr. Michael Poole
 - Studied the geologic formation of the Society Island chain
- **Washington, D.C., November (1995)**
 - Tour leader for 80 middle school students