

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Aubrey Southall, Ph. D.

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Education is Key – Civics Education Oral History project

Interview # ECE-A-L-2019-080

Dr. Aubrey Southall, chair of the Secondary Education Department at Aurora University, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key – Civics Education* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Oct 25, 2019 Location: Aurora, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:23 / 1.38 hrs

Interview being
processed

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on February 11, 2020.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Aubrey Southall, *Education is Key – Civics*, ECE-A-L-2019-080

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Aubrey Southall was born in Statesboro, Georgia in April 1987. She grew up in Statesboro and graduated from Statesboro High School in 2005. She attended Georgia Southern for one year, then transferred to the University of Georgia, where she graduated in 2009, majoring in secondary education, political science, and TESOL. She earned a master's in education from the University of Georgia in 2010, a Ed. S. degree from Georgia State in 2012, then a Ph.D. in 2016. Southall began her teaching career at George Walton Academy, serving as a 6-12 social studies teacher from 2009-2012 followed by Riverwood High School, where she taught social studies, was the varsity cheer coach and varsity tennis coach until 2015. Later that year Dr. Southall took a position at Aurora University. At the time of the interview she was chair of the Secondary Education Department. Her areas of expertise include ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), social studies instruction, diverse children's literature, culturally relevant instruction, minority perspectives in secondary content, and student centered classrooms. She has presented nationally on civics education content in youth juvenile centers.

Dr. Aubrey talks about the secondary education (social studies) program at Aurora University. She reviews course content requirements and the amount of in-school pre-teaching requirements students take during the four years. She discussed how to teach students about controversial topics, the types of service learning at the University, and the University's civic partnerships with area school districts and the Kane County Regional Office. Other topics covered including ESSA (Every Student Succeed Act), understanding the new Illinois state social studies standards, understanding news literacy, and working with area museums.

Subject Headings/Key Words: secondary social studies teacher requirements; Illinois's civics education law; Aurora University; Illinois Social Studies Standards; ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act); ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) education; Kane County Juvenile Centers; Hugh Dunham STEM Elementary School

Notes to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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