

# Courtney Walker

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATOR

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## PROFILE

Enthusiastic and passionate advocate for students, agriculture, and rural America with 6+ years of relevant experience. Creative and energetic educator who hopes to lead young minds to success. Life-long learner skilled in developing problem-based learning lessons and hands-on educational opportunities with real-world applications. Driven and committed activator with aspirations for a long and prosperous teaching career.

## EDUCATION

### **Master of Science, University of Illinois | May 2018**

- Agricultural Education, Teaching emphasis
- 4.0/4.0 GPA
- Thesis focus: Agricultural career development in high school students

### **Bachelor of Science, University of Missouri | May 2014**

- Agricultural Education, Leadership emphasis
- Minor in Sustainable Agriculture

## EXPERIENCE & COMPETENCIES

### **Classroom Instruction**

Taught undergraduate courses under the supervision of tenured agricultural education faculty and advised the Collegiate FFA & Post-Secondary Agriculture Student organization at the University of Illinois

### **Communications & Marketing**

Created marketing materials and outreach essays to enhance the reach of the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois to students and industry stakeholders

### **Career Counseling**

Supported undergraduate students' professional development by coordinating and promoting career-focused events for the College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources at the University of Missouri

### **Agricultural Product Sales**

Built business relationships based on customer-centered sales tactics and product education tailored to an agricultural audience for Monsanto Company's DEKALB and Asgrow seed brands

### **Youth Advocacy & Programing**

Maintained relationships between Monsanto Company and its youth development partners, including the National FFA and 4-H, to drive rural youth development projects as a part of the America's Farmers campaign

### **Industry Outreach**

Facilitated member engagement for the Missouri Agribusiness Association by coordinating events, providing agribusiness updates, and promoting agricultural advocacy efforts

## EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Agricultural education is a tool by which we can equip the future of rural America with skills to succeed. As an ag ed teacher, I play a key role in putting this tool into students' hands. My mission is to emphasize my students' roles as potential world-changers and to open their minds to new ways of thinking while providing opportunities to discover what excites them most.

This mission is guided by encouraging and cultivating students' individual values: their personal definitions of success, their motivations and passions, and their abilities to stretch and grow. These elements paired with an intracurricular agricultural education program creates the vehicle by which I can fulfill my calling to touch students' lives by encouraging them to change the world.