

Title: UA Science: Sky School Instructor



Reports to:

Assistant Director, UA Science: Sky School

Director, Mount Lemmon Sky Center/UA Science Sky School

Essential responsibilities:

Sky School Instructors deliver curriculum for UA Science: Sky School programs at Steward Observatory's Mount Lemmon field station, as well as other outdoor areas in Tucson and surrounding areas in Southern Arizona. Instructors are responsible for presenting previously developed lessons, assisting in development of new lessons based on their areas of expertise, and guiding participants in open-ended research projects. The Sky School staff is composed of a small team of UA professionals and graduate students who are expected to maintain a positive attitude of cooperation, upholding a model of collaboration in the sciences and demonstrating positive teamwork to program participants.

Programs of the Sky School are primarily taught outdoors at an elevation of 9,157 feet at the Steward Observatory Mt. Lemmon Field Station in the Santa Catalina Mountains. As such, Sky School Instructors must be able to work outdoors, at high altitude and in varied climate conditions, and be comfortable leading groups of individuals with varying experience in outdoor settings. Instructors work 20 nights of programming, or an equivalent of daytime only programs, over the course of the school year (September-May).

Examples of duties:

Deliver current Sky School lessons to program participants, students in grades K-12.

In consultation with Assistant Director, develop new Sky School lessons, based on the instructor's area of expertise, to align with state and national science standards.

Participate in ongoing evaluation to set and attain goals set to develop effective teaching methods and presentation skills.

Assist with inventory and maintenance of scientific equipment.

Work with Assistant Director to deliver teacher professional development on scientific inquiry and content area knowledge.

At the direction of the Assistant Director, represent UA Science: Sky School and Steward Observatory in public outreach, such as open houses at our Mt. Lemmon campus, as well as other events throughout the community.

Minimum qualifications:

Entering or continuing in a graduate program at the University of Arizona, preferably in the sciences

Current certification in CPR and First Aid

Ability to pass a UA background check, including fingerprinting

Preferred Qualifications:

Demonstrated experience in inquiry and field based science education with K – 12 youth

Demonstrated experience in outdoor education

Participation in research or well developed scientific knowledge of the Santa Catalina Mountains or other areas surrounding Tucson or related to the sky island region