

## Contact


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Pretoria East, Gauteng


## Registration

**SACE provisional registration**
Student teacher, 2026

## Qualifications

**PGCE (FET Phase)**
University of Pretoria
In progress

**TESOL/TEFL Certificate**
120 hours, 2026

**PhD in Philosophy**
UP, 2023

**MA in Philosophy**
UP, 2016, cum laude

**BA Honours in Philosophy**
UP, 2012, cum laude

**BA Humanities: English Literature and Philosophy**
UP, 2010

## Languages

**English**
Home language

**Afrikaans**
Fluent

# Dr Wehan M. Coombs

*English Home Language teacher, FET Phase*

## Profile

English teacher with a background in literature and philosophy and 15 years of university teaching experience. Taught Grade 10 and 11 English Home Language at Abbotts College and English First Additional Language at Hoërskool Garsfontein during PGCE practicums in 2026. Builds lessons on respectful, trusting relationships and lively discussion, treating learners as real thinking partners. Teaches what no machine can do for a learner: reading closely, arguing honestly and thinking in dialogue.

## School teaching

### Abbotts College Pretoria East

Jul – Sep 2026

*PGCE teaching practicum*

- Planned and taught Grade 10 and 11 English Home Language over seven weeks, including *Macbeth* and *The Tempest*, taking charge of classes with guidance from a mentor teacher
- Used regular informal assessments to check what learners had understood
- Mentor assessment: 95/100, with full marks for classroom competencies; 98/100 for a lesson observed by my university mentor
- Community engagement: tended the community garden, played a key role in organising a Book Day (a take-one-leave-one book donation drive) and helped with a shoe donation outreach

### Hoërskool Garsfontein

May 2026

*PGCE teaching practicum*

- Planned and taught Grade 10 and 11 English First Additional Language grammar and poetry over three weeks
- Community engagement: helped with the school's *Kersfees in die Winter* charity drive

## University teaching

### University of Pretoria

2010 – 2026

*Tutor, Assistant Lecturer and Head Lecturer, Department of Philosophy*

- Lectured undergraduate and honours modules, including first-year classes of more than 500 students
- Designed modules from scratch, wrote study guides and chose readings
- Designed marking rubrics and marked thousands of essays and exams
- Trained and supervised teams of tutors
- Taught online and hybrid classes on ClickUP and Blackboard

## Teaching strengths

- Dynamic, engaged classrooms
- Question-led class discussion
- Close reading of literature and poetry
- Essay and argument writing
- Lesson planning and module design
- Rubric design and marking
- Online and hybrid teaching
- Training and mentoring tutors
- AI-aware teaching and assessment

## Full resume

Every module taught, research, conference papers and my full teaching portfolio. Scan or click:

Open the full resume online

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## Teaching approach

> Learners do their best thinking when they feel known and respected. I start from what they already know, then set a challenge they reason through together in discussion, and end by applying the new skill to their own lives, so they leave with ideas they can call their own.

## Extramurals

- **Squash:** League player at Irene Squash Club; keen to help coach or run a school team.
- **Debating and public speaking:** Can coach debaters and adjudicate.
- **General duties:** Glad to help with sport (I know the rules of most major codes, from cricket and rugby to soccer and tennis), events and supervision wherever needed.
- **Student society:** Long-time member of Footnotes, the UP philosophy society (2010–2025), helping to organise talks and film screenings.

## Professional development

- 120-hour TESOL/TEFL certificate, World TESOL Academy (2026), covering grammar, lesson planning and classroom management
- Attended Teaching and Learning Week sessions at the University of Pretoria on AI in schools and on indigenous language literacy (2026)
- Presented 13 research papers at philosophy conferences, colloquia and workshops since 2012 (see the full resume for details)

## References

**Heloïse van der Spuy**
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