Carl Spetzler was inspired to become a Social Studies teacher in order to share his love of Cultural Geography and Experiential Education. International travel has fueled these interests beginning with bicycling through Europe at the age of fourteen and, later, circumnavigating the globe by ship while studying with Semester at Sea. Over the years, he has explored more than 35 countries and six continents. Most recently, he completed a sabbatical semester studying Spanish in the Lake District of Patagonia and successfully trained and accomplished his goal of snowboard-mountaineering in Antarctica. His previous adventures have taken him to the top of Kilimanjaro in Africa, into the Andes and Amazonian  rain forests of South America, and helicopter-assisted snowboarding in the Canadian Rockies.

As a student, Mr. Spetzler has earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography and Psychology and a Master of Arts Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Denver. He recently completed his Educational Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at University of Colorado, Denver. He is a trained mediator and a facilitator of Restorative Justice. He has served as a consultant with the Decision Education Foundation and is a Stanford University certified practitioner in the field of Strategic Decisions and Risk Management.

His twenty-eight year teaching career began in Crested Butte where he taught multiple subjects and grade levels from pre-school to post-secondary. It was during this time that he was enthused by the Colorado Writing Project to teach Language Arts. Since then he has taught Secondary English in Fort Collins and worked as a Teacher on Special Assignment in Denver Public Schools where he taught Economics and Cross-Cultural Communications at the magnet school Denver Center for International Studies. Here he had the pleasure of leading student trips to Mongolia and pre-thaw Cuba.

His current assignment is at Lakewood High School teaching AP Human Geography and World History. Mr. Spetzler and his wife Joanna live in Golden, Colorado and have three sons: Jacob(22), Zachary(19), and Nolan(11). While snowboarding is his main jam and yoga his primary vehicle for health, he spends much of his time listening to books on tape while exploring the trails in the nearby foothills with his dog Woodrow.