FACULTY PROFILE

Department
CSU College: Business
CSU Discipline: Doctor of Business Administration

Basic Info
Name: Charles Brewton
Title: Part-Time Faculty
Email: charles.brewton@columbiasouthern.edu
Personal Preferred Availability: Evenings

Education
- PhD in Public Administration
  Tennessee State University
- Master of Business Administration in Marketing
  University of Memphis
- Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Management
  Georgia Institute of Technology

Biography
Background
I retired in 2015 from the State of Tennessee after 15 years of service. Previously, I was director of operations and director of marketing for Tennessee State Parks. Before working for the state, I worked for 25 years with Holiday Inns Worldwide, Shoney's Restaurants, and Treasure Bay Casinos.

I have held middle to senior management positions in accounting, marketing, training and operations. My best assignment was at Holiday Inn University where I was brought in from field operations and instructed new managers on hotel operations. I have written more than 30 articles about business strategy and taught as an adjunct professor at Tennessee State University and Volunteer State Community College in Tennessee.

CSU Story
I was hired part-time in 2003 to write and teach hospitality courses. As the need arose, I taught courses in marketing, business strategy, market research, international business, ethics, public finance, government and society, technology, and innovation management and the DBA comprehensive review. Approximately half of the courses I teach are MBA level and the other half are DBA level. I have also been on the dissertation committee for DBA students.

Hobbies/Interests
I have an avid interest in scuba and traveling.

Additional Information
Awards:
- I am the current president of the local county Convention & Visitors Board. While not an award, it is an honor to be elected to serve.

Teaching Philosophy
Major considerations that I try to emphasize in my teaching style are:
- Emphasis on creative and critical thinking. What is most important is to teach students how to think creatively, such as how to formulate good questions or how to approach a business problem from a larger context or different perspective. I always encourage students to draw inspiration from various sources (e.g., other industries, other cultures, science, and history). I also think students should learn how to criticize their own and each other's work and learn how to improve through accepting constructive criticism.
- Emphasis on students' skills in communication (both oral and written). My class assignments frequently require written papers, reports, and oral presentations. I believe effective communication is one of the key skills of any successful business leader today.
- Emphasis on students' ability to solve problems independently. The instructor's role is to stimulate students to think and to keep their enthusiasm and interest. Instructors should provide stimulating problems that require students to use learned techniques and procedures. Letting students solve problems on their own will enable them to develop self-confidence that is so important for a future business leader.

Advice for Current Students
1. Go out of your way to learn something new.
2. Don't be afraid to fail. Failure indicates a problem. If you fix the problem, you have learned something.