FACULTY PROFILE

Department

CSU College: Arts and Sciences
CSU Discipline: English Composition

Basic Info

Name: Julie A. Hirschboeck
Title: Part-Time Faculty
Email: julie.hirschboeck@columbiasouthern.edu
Personal Preferred Availability: Weekdays

Education

Master of Arts in English
Minnesota State University

Bachelor of Arts in Humanities
Minnesota State University

Biography

Background
I received both my bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Minnesota University Mankato in Mankato, Minnesota. I have been teaching at the university level for the last 25 years. Along with teaching at CSU, I taught at Mankato in the English and Humanities departments as well as teaching 17 years at a university in Iowa.

CSU Story
Although I have been teaching at CSU for some years, my real CSU story began in February of 2016. I became ill and had a long hospital stay and recovery. Because of that illness I had to learn how to walk again. Do you know how many muscles it takes to get out of bed? Or how to hold both a knife and a fork? I had to relearn those skills as well. CSU was wonderful. They were concerned and let me know it. After my recovery, I had a course waiting for me. Everyone at CSU was willing to take a chance on me. I relearned skills many take for granted. I am here to help you learn skills that you may need to learn for the first time or relearn. I am an example of that.

Hobbies/Interests
I am an avid reader. I also enjoy stained glass work and photography. I got into stained glass after my illness. I was going to be older whether I learned it or not. Photography has always been a love of mine, and I am reacquainting myself with the art.

Additional Information

Teaching Philosophy
I suppose my teaching philosophy is more a life philosophy. I believe that trying new experiences and gaining new skills enrich both my professional and personal lives. Two important sayings I repeat every day are: “Every expert was once a beginner” and “Someday is not a day of the week.”

Teaching and learning are about bettering yourself. All learning is beneficial. It takes time and patience but is always well worth the effort.

Advice for Current Students
Don’t let the idea of English composition overwhelm you. It takes practice and thought like any other skill. I am sure that many of you can do things I can’t, but we have all learned how to do difficult things. Things like riding a bike, driving a car, tying our shoe, s and walking -- think of all the skills you have acquired related to your work.

Writing is a skill that must be learned. No one is born knowing how to do it. It comes with practice and persistence. Think of it as a jigsaw puzzle to be put together. I know I don’t always put every piece in the right spot first time around, but I eventually get the puzzle together.