FACULTY PROFILE

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

Basic Info
Name: Michael Hitson
Title: Part-Time Faculty
Email: michael.hitson@columbiasouthern.edu
Personal Preferred Availability: Weekdays

Education
Doctor of Management in Organizational Leadership
University of Phoenix
Master of Business Administration
University of Phoenix
Master of Science in Education/Secondary Education
Indiana University
Bachelor of Science in Biology
Ball State University

Biography
Background
Michael lives in the city of Noblesville, Indiana, just north of Indianapolis. He was born and raised in South Bend, which lies in Northern Indiana, about 2 hours east of Chicago. He attended Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, where he received a bachelor’s degree in 1976 with a major study area in biology and minor study areas of speech / drama and chemistry.

Michael later attended Indiana University where he received his first master’s degree. That first master’s degree was presented in the area of secondary education with an emphasis in genetics. He then went into public education and taught primarily chemistry, botany, zoology, computer coding, and biology at the high school level for 23 years as a member of a large college preparation centered faculty.

Michael completed his MBA with the University of Phoenix (July 2003) and finished his doctoral program with UOP in June of 2008. He entered the world of business in 2000 with the Verizon / Frontier Corporation where he worked with program / project management, Six Sigma, disaster recovery, data protection and IT corporate research through 10/2010 and has completed his PMP certification and CompTIA Project + certification. Michael is also a certified Master Black Belt and Lean specialist as well as a SCRUM Master and has worked in this realm for over 9 years.

CSU Story
I became interested in online education and saw the job posting for CSU. I applied, was hired, and trained and now I am an instructor here.

Hobbies/Interests
Michael has been a road racer and triathlete for over 32 years, and personal fitness is a large part of his life as well as the topic of horticulture where he has delved heavily into the culture of orchids and day lilies.

Additional Information
Teaching Philosophy
One of the keys to the development of an individual is continuous education acquired and its subsequent application during lifetime. This applies to all levels from youth through adult. In our dynamic society involving a continued increase in demand for education, the development of the student through life-long learning is imperative.

It is the job of the educator to serve as a leader, counselor, facilitator, guide, friend, mentor, and information source to the student. Every student comes to the classroom with varying backgrounds, abilities, goals, and attitudes to be analyzed by the educator in development of a program to best help the student to succeed. This is especially true for the adult student, where a number of life learning experiences as well as past employment learning come with the student to class. The educator and institution must develop a dynamic, multi-based, information transmission format, which best serves the majority of the students while allowing the flexibility to adapt to the special needs which each student brings to the classroom.

Adult students need to function from a very organized, project plan format in respect to course studies. This allows the student to schedule and prepare to the best of their abilities to meet the demands of the coursework and their lives at work and home. The adult student also needs interactive experiences during the education process, which run parallel to the demands of the work place. This is especially true in the light of acquired and applied technical skills.

Advice for Current Students
Do your best, and always plan ahead.