

Debbie Austin, DBA, PMP

Adjunct Faculty

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I began developing curriculum for courses in the Department of Professional Studies at George Fox in 2017 and teaching in 2018 and am delighted to be a part of this program. I have also taught for a number of years at other schools; Marylhurst, Azusa Pacific Online, and Portland Community College, both online and in-seat. I have led projects and teams for instructional design and truly enjoy the challenges in creating engaging and rewarding courses for students.



Being a technologist at heart, I am constantly in-tune with the ways technology can support and enhance learning. I love to learn, which fuels my passion for teaching! I also love to help students actively apply what they are learning to skills on the job. It gives me great joy to help students achieve their goals.

Academic Background

- DBA, Strategic Leadership with an emphasis in teaching, George Fox University
- MBA, IT Management, Western Governors University
- BS, Business Administration, Western Governors University
- Advanced Graduate Certificate in eCommerce, North Central University
- Project Management Professional (PMP) certification, Project Management Institute

Expertise and Interests

I worked in corporate business leadership in Fortune 500 companies for over 20 years. I held a variety of leadership roles including project management, directing a project management office and departmental IT leadership.

I decided to change my career and my life and moved into higher education teaching and leadership in 2006. I have been working full time in online higher education since then and feel this is my true calling in life. I earned my degrees online as a working adult, which has grown my passion for online teaching and learning. For my doctorate research, I explored the online teacher/student connection, specifically looking at what helps students feel connected to their online instructors.

Outside the Classroom

I have lived my entire life in the beautiful Pacific NW and enjoy spending time in God's magnificent creation. I have been married for over 30 years and enjoy traveling and spending time with my husband. I am also an avid reader and I love to cook, make jewelry, and explore my creative side as a way to unwind after a day of screen time.

God has blessed me with two grown children and four adorable grandchildren that are my greatest passion in life. He has also walked me through many challenges in life where I learned to trust his hand of mercy and provision of grace. One of my most recent challenges was a battle with cancer in 2010 where I endured chemo and radiation treatments for complete healing all the while learning to find joy in spite of difficult circumstances.

My motto in life is this: *Do everything with great passion so you can experience great joy, because through Him, all things are possible!*