

# Maria Kelley, MAT

## Adjunct Faculty



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Through my love of learning and writing, I am able to share that passion with others. I began teaching adults in 2008 in Seoul, South Korea. My focus was on academic and admissions essays for graduate schools. My desire to help students continue on to graduate school allowed me to incorporate my belief of communicating effectively through clear and concise writing. I firmly believe that anyone can learn to write clearly and, hopefully, in turn fall in love with the art of writing.

### **Academic Background**

- MAT, English, Willamette University (2008)
- BA, Sociology, Willamette University (2003)

### **Expertise and Interests**

My interest lies in authenticity and eliminating fear of failure. Creating an environment where people feel comfortable to stretch outside their comfort zone is a method of pushing toward a better version of his/her self. By creating a safe environment, students feel comfortable being vulnerable, which in turn allows him/her to strive to become their best self without fear of failure. This is an area I have a passion for in terms of research and use to apply in the classroom.

### **Primary Teaching Responsibilities**

- LACC 101: Writing for Adults I
- LACC 102: Writing for Adults II
- MGOL 260: Personal and Profession Assessment

### **Outside the Classroom**

I spend my days with my adorable children (6, 4, and 2) exploring all that Portland has to offer: walks at Tryon Creek, plays at the NW Children's Theatre, and drinking copious amounts of coffee to juggle our family of five. During my spare time, I enjoy running, biking, or hiking outdoors. Connecting with God in his glorious creation allows clarity and peace to fill my heart.