

# Barbara Lybarger, MA, NCC

Adjunct Faculty



Email: [blybarger@georgefox.edu](mailto:blybarger@georgefox.edu)

In 2008, I began taking classes toward my undergraduate degree in the Adult Degree Program. I graduated with a major in Social and Behavioral Studies and a minor in Management and Organizational Leadership. My time as a student in the undergraduate program was life changing. Not only did I gain a meaningful and Christ-centered education, a spark was ignited in me, compelling me to continue on to obtain my MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

I am fortunate to work daily with clients in a community mental health setting, and I have also been given the opportunity to come back to my alma mater and share my experiences. It is thrilling to be a part of helping students prepare for a career in the helping profession.

I am the daughter of an educator, and my earliest desire was to follow in my father's footsteps. It is a dream come true to apply my passion for people and my desire to empower students in a classroom setting. It is an honor and a pleasure to come back and serve students at George Fox University.

## Academic Background

- MA, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, George Fox University (2016)
- BA, Social & Behavioral Studies, Minor in Management and Organizational Leadership, George Fox University (2012)

## Expertise and Interests

My deep concern for the marginalized has always been a driving force in my life. I'm drawn to those without a voice and to those that society often overlooks. This has always propelled me forward in finding ways to touch the lives of the hurting in meaningful ways.

I have an innate curiosity and respect for those whose experiences are culturally different than my own, and this has motivated me to use every educational project and learning opportunity as a vehicle to deepen my understanding and empathy for the marginalized. From an undergraduate

project exploring the marginalization of the LGBTQ community to attending seminars on sex trafficking and interviewing members of the Islamic faith, I continue to grow in the understanding and compassion necessary to effectively serve. I possess a strong social justice inclination and have used it to connect with inmates during my internship experience at the Washington County Jail. I now serve in a Community Mental Health setting, and I continue to learn and grow, striving to find common ground with others.

### **Primary Teaching Responsibilities**

- MSBS 429 – Assessment and Referral
- PSYCH 330 – Theory of Personality
- MSBS 432 – Personal and Professional Ethics

### **Outside the Classroom**

I have a wonderful family that I adore, and I spend as much time as possible with my children and grandchildren. Because they are scattered across the country, one of my favorite things is traveling to see them as often as possible. I love cozy winter days, curled up by the fire with a good book or watching a movie with my pups and my husband.