



UNIV 100

Instructor Bios

Fall 2025

1. **Maylen Aldana**

- a. Maylen Aldana has been the director of Residential Life at University of Louisiana- Lafayette since 2016. She has worked at various institutions in residential life (Auburn University, Eastern Washington University, Appalachian State University, Tulane University, and Louisiana State University). She is passionate about wellness and mindfulness practices and loves to learn new wellness ideas. She loves to travel and is always learning new techniques about wellness.

2. **Samantha Amos**

- a. Samantha is a published author of two books, *My Journey to Wholeness: Was it Physical, Mental, or Spiritual* and *My Journey to Wholeness Interactive Workbook and Journal*. Currently, she serves as an Integration Analyst in the Enterprise Application Services Department at UL Lafayette and brings a wealth of experience in technology, personal development, and publishing to her teaching. As the instructor for *Keys to Self-Publishing a Book*, Samantha combines her professional expertise, creative vision, and personal journey of healing to guide students through the exciting process of self-publishing. Her mission is to inspire others to share their stories and ideas, equipping them with the tools and confidence to bring their unique voices into the world. Samantha looks forward to helping students discover their potential as authors and storytellers.

3. **Amy Armstrong**

- a. Amy Armstrong, MBA, Associate VP Alumni Engagement at the University and CEO of the Alumni Association. Joining the team three years ago, Armstrong is responsible for providing leadership in setting the strategic vision for alumni engagement while providing impactful programming and services for the University's 120,000 alumni. She has served in similar roles for Baylor University, Trinity University, and the University of North Texas. Armstrong

brings real-life experiences to the classroom using actual examples with added humor.

4. Farval Atif

- a. Farval Atif is a higher education professional and is pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, where she serves as the Residential Engagement Coordinator. She specializes in student engagement, leadership development, and inclusive programming, with a strong background in event planning, advising, and research. Farval has held numerous leadership roles, including President of the International Student Council and VP of the Graduate Student Association, and is an active conference speaker and community volunteer. Originally from Pakistan, she has lived in Malaysia, Atlanta, and now Louisiana, and is passionate about community involvement and student empowerment.

5. Ellen Bennett

- a. Ellie Bennett has a strong background in student recruitment, academic advising, and transition support, she currently serves as the Assistant Director of Transfer and Re-entry Recruitment at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. In this role, she helps students navigate the admissions process and successfully transition to college life. Her academic background in psychology, combined with years of experience in admissions counseling and student engagement, provides her with a deep understanding of student development and success strategies. Passionate about mentorship and first-year programming, Ellie is dedicated to helping students build confidence, develop essential academic skills, and establish a strong foundation for their college journey.

6. Gabrielle Blevins

- a. I have taught UNIV 100: Emerging Issues in College Athletics for the past three years. The course focuses on topics such as Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL), the Transfer Portal, athletic scholarships, and student-athlete eligibility requirements. My journey in athletics began during law school when I interned with the Oregon Ducks compliance office. Since then, I have built a career in compliance, using my legal education to help student-athletes and coaches navigate complex NCAA regulations. Currently, I serve as the Director of Compliance for the Ragin' Cajuns, working directly with Baseball, Men's Basketball, Golf, and Men's and Women's Tennis. I enjoy this course because it gives me the opportunity to share real-world insights and advice to help students explore the dynamic challenges and ever-changing landscape of college athletics.

7. Katie Boudreaux

- a. I am a Customer Implementation and Success Manager with over a decade of experience in industries such as childcare, education technology, healthcare, and the legal field. My expertise lies in onboarding, project management, and guiding

clients through complex challenges—skills that directly parallel the strategies essential for first-year college success. With a proven track record of leading cross-functional teams and streamlining intricate processes, I recognize the importance of staying organized, adapting to change, and fostering strong relationships. These are the principles I strive to instill in students. Holding an MBA in Project Management and a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification, I am dedicated to continuous learning and growth—values I hope to inspire as students navigate their own journeys.

8. Taylor Bourgeois

- a. I have taught University 100 since Fall 2017. I am passionate about working with students and giving them the ultimate first-year experience. I am applying to teach UNIV 100-Healthcare Innovators LLC course. This will be my second year teaching this class. My master's is in health studies, and I enjoy teaching students about various healthcare fields and giving them real-life experiences. I also think teaching students topics such as: self-care, health and wellness, and teaching students to be independent are skills needed to be a young adult.

9. Terrell Briggs

- a. Terrell Briggs is an experienced educator and higher education professional passionate about student success and engagement. He currently serves as the Associate Director of Advising, Student Retention, and Success at South Louisiana Community College, where he supports diverse student populations in achieving their academic goals. In addition to his administrative role, he is an adjunct professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, teaching courses that empower first-year students to thrive academically and personally. Terrell holds a bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and a master's in Sports Administration from Grambling State University, where he was also a cheerleading squad member and later an assistant coach. He is pursuing his doctoral degree in Developmental Education, focusing on strategies that enhance student self-efficacy and retention. With a background in student engagement, advising, and program development, Terrell is dedicated to helping students navigate their transition to college life through the UNIV 100 course. His professional experience and passion for holistic student development equip him to guide first-year students in mastering the skills needed to succeed during and beyond their first year of college.

10. Cassidy Broussard

- a. Having once navigated through the UNIV 100 course at UL Lafayette as a student, and now as an instructor, I bring a fresh and unique perspective to Mastering the First Year. Starting my career in finance shortly before earning my bachelor's degree from UL Lafayette, I later transitioned into computer science. Today, I work as a computer analyst for a large healthcare firm, finding additional fulfillment in teaching business management, finance, and accounting online at

LSU Alexandria, as well as mentoring students in their first year at UL Lafayette. I take pride in building meaningful connections with my students, grounded in my personal experiences and dedication to understanding their journeys.

11. Jonathan R. Brown

- a. Jonathan is the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Sustainability Coordinator. He has been in this position since April 2022. His role requires him to engage with student groups and campus departments to provide sustainability education and initiatives, manage hazardous waste collection and disposal, coordinate plastic bag and film recycling and the campus Zero Waste campaign. He is also the chair of Keep UL Lafayette Beautiful, a university affiliate of Keep Louisiana Beautiful. Jonathan has worked for UL Lafayette since Fall 2017, previously working as an Area Coordinator for the Office of Residential Life. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communications from Louisiana State University and a Master of Arts degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Northwestern State University of Louisiana. As a UNIV 100 instructor, Jonathan enjoys educating new students about the realities of college life. He will engage students with staff and faculty of the institution who can provide students with knowledge of their majors and career paths. Also, he will allow students to participate in research and service opportunities that can benefit them in their academic career, whether through scholarship opportunities, or internships.

12. Carrie Chretien

- a. Dr. Carrie C. Chretien, a New Orleans native, is an Academic Success Coach for the Louisiana Educate Program and an adjunct instructor for the UNIV 100 First-Year Seminar at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She advises and supports underrepresented students from New Orleans and Lafayette to improve retention and academic success. Previously, she served as an Academic Counselor for TRIO SSS STEM and has experience in K-12 education and financial aid. Dr. Chretien holds an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership (Higher Education Administration) from UL Lafayette, an MBA from the University of Phoenix, and a B.S. from UL Lafayette. Her research focuses on access, equity, and support systems in higher education, particularly in STEM. She is a member of RAMP and the UL Alumni Association.

13. Wilfred J. Christian

- a. Mr. Christian is a retired Army JAG officer and licensed attorney with over 25 years of legal experience. He served as an Operational Law Attorney at the Pentagon, where he conducted national investigations. He began his legal career as a prosecutor in Louisiana's 16th Judicial District and has worked as a senior law clerk with the U.S. Attorney's Office. Attorney Mr. Christian earned a Master's Degree in Historical and Systematic Theology with an emphasis in morality and ethics from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

He is a graduate of Southern University Law School, where he participated in moot court and worked as a contract law teaching assistant. He earned his undergraduate degree from Loyola University of New Orleans where he majored in English Literature and minored in History. Mr. Christian is a licensed attorney and member of the Louisiana State Bar Association, the District of Columbia Bar Association, and the Maryland State Bar Association. Furthermore, he is known for his expertise in military law, constitutional law, legal ethics, and historical research, as well as his dedication to education and mentorship.

14. Candice Dazet

- a. Candice is an alum of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette where she completed her undergraduate degree in Mass Communications. She is also an alum of the University of New Orleans where she obtained her master's in Higher Education Administration. At the University of Louisiana at Lafayette she holds the position of Assistant Director of Student Engagement and Leadership. In this role Ms. Dazet's primary responsibility includes working with all student organizations to facilitate their use of university resources and to empower students in their provision of services, programs, and activities that enhance the academic experience, extend learning, and build community here at UL.

15. Elizabeth de Mahy

- a. Elizabeth de Mahy attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and then went on to get her master's and PhD in English at The Catholic University of America in D.C. She wrote her doctoral dissertation on virtue ethics in Jane Austen and is interested in the intersection of literature with politics, religion, and culture. She is currently a writer and editor for The Acadiana Catholic Worker newspaper.

16. Tonya Duffy

- a. My name is Tonya Duffy, and I am excited to share my journey with first-year students as an instructor for the UNIV 100 course. With a master's degree in law, specializing in Advanced Paralegal Studies, I bring a unique blend of legal expertise and educational passion to the classroom. My professional background in various legal environments has equipped me with essential skills in critical thinking, research, and effective communication, all of which are crucial as students embark on their academic endeavors. Having taught UNIV 100 during my first semester, I found immense joy in guiding young minds as they navigated the transition to university life. It was a pleasure to witness their growth and enthusiasm, and I cherish the opportunity to help them build a strong foundation for their future. I believe in creating a supportive and engaging learning environment where students feel empowered to explore their interests, ask questions, and collaborate with their peers. In our course, we will delve into the importance of legal literacy and its relevance to everyday life, encouraging

students to become informed and active participants in their communities. I look forward to sharing my passion for education and helping each student discover their potential as they embark on this exciting chapter of their life. Together, we will make this journey both enriching and enjoyable.

17. Kyle Duplantis

- a. By trade, I am a higher ed practitioner with over 6 years of field experience in areas such as advising, fraternity & sorority life, athlete development, university housing, and career development. My academic background includes a bachelor's degree in behavioral sciences from UL, a master's degree in education from the University of Arkansas, a graduate certificate in economic development from The University of Southern Mississippi, and I am a current Doctoral student studying Educational Leadership (higher education administration) at UL. My research topic is focused on male students, student success, community and belonging, student development, and the value of higher education. Originally from Abbeville, LA, Kyle enjoys concerts, movies, reading, road trips, the outdoors, and sports.

18. Andrea Eggenberger

- a. Dr. Eggenberger is an instructor in the Psychology Department. She has been teaching in higher education since 2015. In her experience as an instructor, she has seen the value in helping students learn how to manage their time and set goals that help them achieve in their academic pursuits.

19. Latasha Holt

- a. Latasha Holt is an Associate Professor in Curriculum and Instruction and the Assessment Coordinator for the College of Education & Human Development at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She received her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from Texas Tech University. She holds a Master of Science degree in reading, special education, and English as a second language. Her Bachelor of Science degree is in early childhood education. Dr. Holt is a first-generation student. In 2023, her book “Revisiting John Dewey: Applying What He Said 100 Years Ago to Today’s Need” was released. She is also passionate about using AI in today's classroom. Dr. Holt is a volunteer for the Make-a-Wish Foundation, Adrenal Insufficiency United, National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD), and Hospice of Acadiana. She is a board member for Danny’s Dose: Changing Emergency Medical Protocols for Chronic and Rare Disease and the Lafayette Public Library Board Foundation. For the past nineteen years, she has worked with children and families, teachers, preservice teachers, and other members of the educational community to promote education. Dr. Holt’s mission is to teach, research, and serve in the field of education bridging theory and practice, promoting culturally responsive teaching, and advocating for the whole child.

20. Telvin James

- a. Telvin James is the Assistant Director of Student Engagement and Leadership at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Telvin is from Texarkana, Texas. He has worked at the institution for 2 years. During his time, he has advised the Student Activities Board, BlackP.R.I.N.T., led the Ragin' Recognition Awards, Co-Advisor of NPHC and many other roles. Telvin has had a successful run at UL, being awarded the Fall 2023 UNIV 100 Instructor of the Year and also winning 2 National Awards at the National Association for Campus Activities national conference. Telvin makes sure to make your learning experience the best! He ensures that students have fun but also learn about all the available resources that UL offers. Students will connect, innovate, and prosper throughout their time in his course.

21. Ashlee Jennings

- a. My name is Ashlee Jennings, and I serve as Director of Learning Services in Student-Athlete Academic Services. My work with college student-athletes over the past 8 years has brought with it a passion for this field and anything that affects college athletics. This course gives us a chance to dive into the changing dynamic of what college sports looks like as well as acclimating to college academics and how to be successful at this level. My background as a high school English teacher also allows me to serve as a resource for college level writing and research. I'm a Tennessee girl turned Cajun, and my class gives back to the Lafayette community through our final project.

22. Laura Guichard Latiolais

- a. Dr. Laura Guichard Latiolais is an Assistant Professor of Accounting at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, specializing in auditing, accounting education, and auditor decision-making. She holds a Ph.D. in Accounting from LSU and multiple degrees from UL Lafayette, including an M.S. in Accountancy, MBA, and B.S. in Business Administration (summa cum laude). Her research is published in top journals and explores auditor-client dynamics, social media's impact on judgment, and AI in education. Dr. Latiolais teaches a range of accounting courses and has earned numerous honors, including the MCOBA Rising Star Award and multiple endowed professorships. She has served as Acting Department Head, co-leads a Faculty Learning Community on AI, and mentors students across several programs and courses, including the NSF ExLent Program.

23. Jessica Leger

- a. Dr. Jessica Leger is the Deputy Director of Athletics and Senior Woman Administrator for Louisiana Ragin' Cajuns Athletics, where she has served since 2007. A former Ragin' Cajuns softball player, she oversees Compliance, Student-Athlete Academic Services, Athletic Performance, Sports Medicine, and serves as sport administrator for softball and Title IX Coordinator. She earned her B.S. in

Marketing and M.Ed. in Education Administration from UL Lafayette and a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from LSU. A former SGA President, Homecoming Queen, and Outstanding Graduate, Dr. Leger is a key member of the department's Executive Leadership Team and has built strong ties with the NCAA, Sun Belt Conference, and other national organizations. She lives in Lafayette with her husband, Lance, and their two children.

24. Zachary Licciardi

- a. My name is Zachary Licciardi. I am a follower of Jesus and a campus missionary with Chi Alpha. I'm a New Orleans native, but I call Lafayette my home after coming here for college in 2009 where I earned both my Bachelor's and master's degree in Math. I live here with my wife, Haley Kait, and my dog, Scout. I love serving students through Chi Alpha and preaching and teaching about Jesus!

25. Heidie Lindsey

- a. Heidie has been on staff at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for the past 12 years and has taught UNIV 100 for 8 of those years. She is the Associate Dean of Students and the Director of Student Engagement and Leadership. This department coordinates student entertainment, university student traditional events, cultural education events, over 200 student organizations, and 24+ fraternities and sororities. In addition, the department offers leadership training opportunities to students and student organizations. She believes that getting involved in something on campus is imperative to the success of college students. Heidie has been developing and facilitating leadership training for college students and others for over 25 years.

26. Nicole Manuel

- a. My name is Nicole Manuel, and I am a school counselor in St. Landry Parish that has success in helping students achieve educational goals and personal well-being. I am talented in meeting the objectives of the counseling program by providing preventive education, advocacy, and counseling to students and all academic stakeholders.

27. Shannon Marks

- a. Shannon Marks, MPH, embodies the transformative power of education through her own compelling journey as a first-generation college graduate. Beginning her academic path at Grambling State University as a Music Education major, Marks demonstrated remarkable resilience when family circumstances led her to transfer to the University of Southwestern Louisiana (now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette). While navigating the challenges of being a first-generation student and supporting her terminally ill mother, she successfully pivoted her studies to Criminal Justice, ultimately earning a Bachelor of Science degree with double minors in English and Psychology. Following graduation, Marks launched her teaching career in middle school English before finding her true calling in high

school education. Her commitment to lifelong learning led her to pursue advanced studies, and in 2018, she earned her Master's of Science in Public Health, further expanding her expertise and ability to serve her community. Over the past decade, she has made an indelible impact as an ACT instructor, helping countless students unlock their potential and navigate the complex college application process. Her commitment to higher education expanded three years ago when she joined the University of Louisiana at Lafayette as an Adjunct Instructor. Teaching UNIV 100 Mastering the First Year has allowed her to shape the collegiate experience of incoming freshmen, ensuring they understand and utilize the full spectrum of university resources available to them. Drawing from her own experience overcoming challenges in higher education, she fosters inclusive, supportive classrooms where students are encouraged to grow, persist, and thrive.

28. Amanda Maveaux

- a. Amanda Shuford Maveaux, Ed.D., is an associate professor and the coordinator of the Ed.D. program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in Educational Foundations and Leadership. She has worked in education for over three decades from classroom to leadership positions at various levels. Since joining the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, she has worked with aspiring school and state leaders, as well as emerging academics, in the M.Ed. and Ed.D. programs. Her research interests include teacher expertise, experiences of rural gifted students and families, reducing organizational barriers to student success, policy construction, and comprehensive training for emerging leaders. Amanda's work with doctoral students spans a wide variety of research focused on topics critical to ensuring all students are offered opportunities for fair and equal education. In 2003 she was named a Milken Family Educator and was the Disney Teacher of the Year and Disney Middle School Teacher of the Year in 2006. She is the co-author of several publications, including Expertise in Every Classroom.

29. Kathryn McKey

- a. K-Lynn McKey, M.S. is a senior instructor of K-12 health and physical education at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and Watermark Coordinator for the College of Education and Human Development. She holds degrees in health and physical education and kinesiology from LSU and is pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership. Actively involved in service, she serves on the Governor's Council of Fitness and Sport, LAHPERD, NAHPL (VP-elect, EDI committee), Girls on the Run South Louisiana, Healthy Schools Training Krewe, and both state and local School Health Advisory Councils. She helped rewrite Louisiana's PE standards. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, sports, hiking, geocaching, and time with loved ones.

30. Jorden Melton

- a. Dr. Jorden Melton is from New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Melton the Program Director for the Louisiana Educate Program. He serves as an Adjunct Instructor for the UNIV 100 Mastering the First-Year Experience Freshman Seminar with the Office of First-Year Experience. Dr. Melton has a Master of Science concentrating in Human Services Administration (MHSA) from the Wilmington University and a Bachelor of Science in General Studies from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He has previously worked at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette as an Academic Counselor for the TRIO Student Support Services, Upward Bound, and Educational Talent Search programs. He served as a Teacher with St. Landry Parish School Board and at Catholic Charities of Acadiana as a Programs Supervisor. He is a member of the UL Alumni Association, and he has presented his dissertation research at LACUSPA and RAMP conferences. He is a member of Black Faculty Staff Association (BFSA) and the UL Alumni Chapter.

31. Farren Milton

- a. Dr. Farren Milton, a native of Lafayette, Louisiana, has dedicated her career to helping undergraduate students become independent and successful learners. Her journey began at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) as a business student-athlete tutor and strategy tutor, where she equipped students with the essential skills for academic success. After earning her master's degree from ULL, Dr. Milton expanded her impact by teaching UNIV 100: Mastering the First Year, guiding first-year students through their transition into college. Committed to furthering her expertise, she pursued and attained a Doctoral degree in Business from Liberty University. Following her doctoral studies, Dr. Milton relocated to Baton Rouge, where she continued teaching Introduction to College courses at Louisiana State University (LSU). Additionally, she was granted the opportunity to serve as a Learning Specialist at LSU's Student-Athlete Academic Center, where she worked closely with students to assess their individual learning needs and monitor their academic progress. Dr. Milton's ultimate mission is to empower students with the tools necessary to succeed in both college and adulthood. Each semester, she strives to cultivate self-aware learners who recognize their strengths and weaknesses, apply effective study strategies, and take ownership of their personal and academic goals.

32. Damion Mitchell

- a. Damion Mitchell, MPA, is a dedicated educator and student affairs professional at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, with a passion for Greek Life and student development. With a Master of Public Administration, he champions leadership, academic success, and community engagement through his teaching and advocacy. Damion educates students on the values and impact of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and Interfraternity Council (IFC), emphasizing the

transformative power of Greek Life in fostering unity, service, and personal growth.

33. Sarah Monroe

- a. Sarah holds a BA in English and a Master's in Library and Information Science with a focus on public libraries. She spent 11 years working in public libraries—many of those in management—before making the jump to higher education. Now part of the Office of Distance Learning, she helps support online students by creating supportive and accessible learning environments. She's passionate about making a meaningful impact in the online education space.

34. JaWand Edwards Morris

- a. JaWand Morris is a passionate Certified Life and Mindset Coach based in Lafayette, LA dedicated to empowering women on their journey to a joyful and fulfilled life. Armed with a master's degree in organizational leadership and certified as a Professional Coach (CPC), she brings a unique blend of academic knowledge and practical coaching skills. As an ICF Associate Coach with an ACC certification, her mission revolves around helping individuals discover and embrace their authenticity while staying motivated to become the best versions of themselves. She believes in the power of empathy, coupled with a gentle yet challenging approach, to catalyze personal growth. Her coaching philosophy centers on fostering positive transformations, both mentally and emotionally. Through personalized guidance and support, she assists women in navigating life's complexities, unlocking their true potential, and cultivating a mindset that propels them toward success and fulfillment.

35. Elise Morrison

- a. My name is Elise Morrison, and I am the Area Director for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana where I oversee the operations of Clubs across Acadiana. I received a Master of Business Administration, and I am a graduate of Leadership Lafayette Class of XXXV. I am an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Lafayette, Acadiana Center for the Arts – Arts in Education Committee, an adjunct professor at UL, and a dedicated catechism teacher at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. In 2025, I was selected as a Top 20 under 40 in Acadiana award recipient. I am committed to engaging, inspiring, and empowering youth in Acadiana through my work at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana and in my community involvement. Students in this class can expect to gain the confidence to know they have what it takes to accomplish their goals and aspirations. They can also expect to develop an awareness of the strengths and challenges facing our Acadiana community, discover their personal leadership strengths, and find new areas where they can make meaningful contributions. By the end of the term, students will increase their ability to articulate their vision of the community and be able to put that vision into action confidently.

36. Rachel Rafati

- a. Rachel Rafati is a creative multimedia professional and educator with over nine years of experience in photography, videography, and visual storytelling. Currently the Distance Learning Multimedia Specialist at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, she works with the communications team to create engaging digital content that aligns with the university's brand. Her work spans everything from candid event photos to polished promotional videos. In addition to her multimedia role, Rachel is an adjunct professor who teaches first-year students and photojournalism courses. Her interactive teaching style encourages creativity and critical thinking, earning her recognition as a finalist for the Office of First-Year Experience Instructor of the Year. With a Master of Fine Arts in Photography and expertise in Adobe Creative Cloud, Rachel has worked across higher education and media, receiving accolades like the Indiana AP Managing Editor Award for Best Use of Multimedia.

37. Deven Reynolds

- a. With over 20 years of experience as a high school teacher and educator, I have dedicated my career to supporting student success and fostering both academic and personal growth. I currently hold a master's degree in Instructional Technology and a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education, which have provided me with a strong foundation in both teaching and integrating technology to enhance learning. In addition to my regular education classroom experience, I have had the privilege of teaching dual enrollment courses as well. This experience has given me a unique perspective on the challenges students face as they prepare for and transition into university-level academics. I enjoy working with eager young scholars to build essential skills such as effective study habits and time management and helping to guide them through the academic demands of higher education. I am excited to support students in navigating this critical transition, ensuring they are equipped to thrive academically and personally as they embark on their college journey.

38. Ashley Roman

- a. The last four years, I have taught UNIV100 at the University. My passion for students' success and academic achievement has led me to teach important topics in this course such as financial literacy, research skills, career exploration, critical thinking, etc. These skills are useful and beneficial to students beyond their first year of college.

39. Jonathan Shirley

- a. Jonathan Shirley is the LEED Center Program and Operations Manager. Jonathan works with the team to guide programs that will impact the university and community in the realm of entrepreneurship and leadership. Prior to joining the LEED Center, Jonathan spent time working for the University of Houston Bauer

College of Business in Leadership and with the Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship. Jonathan has an undergraduate degree in Marketing from LSU and a masters' degree in Higher Education and Leadership from the University of Houston.

40. Megan Sistrunk

- a. Megan Sistrunk is a servant leader and professional in recruitment and higher education administration. Megan has over 9 years of experience at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and is currently the Director of Undergraduate Recruitment. Megan enjoys shaping the university's approach to attracting students by providing innovative strategies that have increased student enrollment. Megan graduated from Northwestern State University with a Master of Arts in Student Affairs in Higher Education and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette with a Bachelor of Arts in English. She is currently pursuing her Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. Beyond her professional role, Megan is deeply committed to mentorship and fostering a supportive student experience. Her dedication to student success extends beyond recruitment. She actively engages in campus initiatives, teaches a first-year seminar course, mentors aspiring student leaders, and serves as chapter adviser for a Panhellenic sorority.

41. LaQuincy Smith

- a. LaQuincy Smith is an experienced educator and academic leader with over 20 years of service in early childhood, K-12, and higher education. She has worked extensively as a Director of Education and Instructor, focusing on leadership development, student success strategies, and academic growth. LaQuincy is passionate about helping first-year students build strong foundations for college success by teaching essential skills such as time management, critical thinking, and personal development. A lifelong learner herself, LaQuincy holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and an Educational Specialist Degree in Early Childhood Education. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Educational Leadership. She looks forward to supporting students in their transition to college by encouraging resilience, self-motivation, and a commitment to lifelong learning.

42. Zachary Smith

- a. Zachary Smith, PLPC is a mental health counselor passionate about education. He believes that one of the most important skills a person can develop is "psychological flexibility," the capacity to move about the world in a present and flexible way. Zach's goal as a UNIV 100 instructor is to assist students in beginning their university experience with a focus on their mental health in a way that will benefit them throughout their college career. Students will learn about

the psychology of wellness, the tenets of psychological flexibility, the importance of self-care, and much more in the pursuit of knowledge and good mental health.

43. Kayla Robles Starcher

- a. Hello! My name is Kayla Robles Starcher. I am so excited to dig deeper into the “Emerging Issues in Athletics” with you! A little about me, I am originally from Georgia. I was a soccer student-athlete at Valdosta State University. After undergrad, I was a post graduate intern at the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) working with the NCAA Compliance team on a variety of eligibility and academic issues. I have been in the High Education / College Athletics space for 5 years ready to teach you and learn from you!

44. Matthew Tarver

- a. I have more than 25 years in higher education in a variety of leadership roles. My experience includes working in student affairs, university advancement, auxiliaries services, and as a university instructor.

45. Chelsey Taylor

- a. I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communication from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in 2014. Six months later, I moved to Los Angeles, California, where I was hit with the realities of the 'real world.' Despite my qualifications, jobs were not as readily available as I had imagined, and I found myself unprepared for the challenges ahead. I worked various labor-intensive jobs before landing my first corporate position at First Legal Services, an attorney service company. As a Network Service Coordinator, I realized that my bachelor’s degree could only take me so far, which motivated me to further my education. In October 2018, I enrolled in the online MBA program at Louisiana State University at Shreveport, focusing on Human Resources Management. I graduated during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in December 2020. Shortly after, I returned to my hometown of Lafayette, Louisiana, where I faced another harsh reality: hiring freezes, workforce reductions, and a highly competitive job market. After several months working as a Transaction Coordinator, I finally secured a role that aligned with my career goals—Human Resources Analyst at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. This role became a turning point in my career. After roughly a year and a half, I was promoted to my current position as a Human Resources Business Partner. In this role, I am able to apply the skills I’ve gained throughout my career and education, combining hands-on workforce experience with the knowledge I acquired in my MBA program at LSU Shreveport. Each step of my journey has shaped my ability to navigate challenges and contribute meaningfully to my organization.

46. Chiara Theard

- a. Chiara M. Theard is the Health Equity Director for Southwest Louisiana AHEC’s and Well-Ahead LA (LDH). She has had the distinct opportunity to serve as a

Univ100 instructor for the Fall 2024 Semester. She is a native Lafayette, LA, and a proud graduate of Northside High School, Home of the Mighty Vikings! Her educational journey began at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, where she earned her Bachelor's degree in Sociology. She continued her pursuit of knowledge by obtaining a Master's degree from Prairie View A&M University in Texas. Chiara is a dedicated individual with a passion for serving her community. She is a proud graduate of the Leadership Institute of Acadiana, Class 37. Chiara is actively involved in advocating for overall health and resources within her communities. She plays a pivotal role in developing and supporting local health programs and Community Health Workers, showcasing her unwavering commitment to improving the well-being of those around her. Her goals are aimed at addressing health disparities in underserved populations. Her vision is to build a healthier, more equitable future for our community by advocating for health justice, fostering collaboration with local partners, and leveraging data-driven insights to guide our efforts. Chiara wants to make a tangible difference in the lives of those she serves and create lasting positive change. Outside of her professional endeavors, Chiara embraces her roles as a wife and mother, cherishing her family and making memories. She finds joy in engaging in activities such as traveling, baking and DIY projects.

47. Jessica Thibodeaux

- a. Jessica has been at the University for 9 years and has both her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Business from UL Lafayette. Her previous roles have allowed her to work with various types of students, as well as many different offices on campus. Currently, she is building the ASRE Pathways program for undergraduate research across campus. The goal in teaching UNIV 100 is to introduce the program at the freshman level, to enhance student's critical thinking skills, and to learn more about the needs of our students to incorporate that into the ASRE Pathways

48. Valerie Thompson

- a. Valerie Thompson was born and raised in Natchitoches, LA. After graduating from Natchitoches Central High School, in 2006, she moved to Lafayette, LA. Valerie attended the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, where she attained a bachelor's degree in Dietetics. It is also at ULL where she completed her dietetic internship. Valerie went on to earn a Master of Sciences in Nutritional Sciences from Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University in Baton Rouge, LA. Currently, she is a doctoral student at Walden University, where she is studying to earn a Ph.D. in Public Health with a concentration in Community Health. Valerie has a strong passion for ensuring her community has the knowledge and resources they need to be the healthiest version of themselves. Most recently, Valerie worked as the Community Nutrition Manager for Second Harvest Food Bank.

There she played a vital role in expanding their nutrition education program. During her three-year employment she lived for the mission of fighting hunger in south Louisiana by providing food access, education, advocacy, and disaster response. Currently, Valerie is working collaboratively with Acadiana non-profits, as a public health nutritionist, who specialize in health and wellness initiatives.

49. Angela Trahan

- a. Angela Trahan has an extensive background in education, spanning 26 years, focusing on teaching, learning, and grant management. She has served in various capacities, including 17 years as a school-level and district administrator. As the Assistant Superintendent of the Office of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Lafayette since 2016, Trahan plays a crucial role in overseeing educational initiatives within the diocese. Before serving as Assistant Superintendent of the Office of Catholic Schools, she was the Assistant Director of the Federal Programs for the Lafayette Parish School System. Trahan's commitment to education is evident in her academic achievements. She holds a master's in administration and Supervision from Southern University A&M and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Her educational journey began as a teacher in Iberia Parish. With a diverse background in both teaching and administration, Trahan brings a wealth of experience to the field. She fosters professional growth among educators, supporting them through initiatives such as professional development training, coaching, and mentoring. Her background offers valuable education perspectives that will enrich students' overall learning experience in class.

50. Micah Vidrine

- a. Hello! I am Micah Vidrine, born and raised in Lafayette. I taught UNIV 100 for 7 years. I have a master's in literature, but I am a film buff at heart. If you love film, I strongly recommend this class!

51. Brittney Williams-Wright

- a. Brittney Williams-Wright is a provisional licensed professional counselor committed to supporting individuals through their most challenging times. As the in-school grief group director, she guides students in developing productive strategies to manage grief and life stressors. Brittney brings extensive experience in case management and suicide prevention, having worked with a community nonprofit dedicated to mental health advocacy. A proud Ragin Cajun alumnus, Brittney is driven by the belief that personal wholeness and fulfillment are foundational to discovering one's purpose. Teaching UNIV 100 resonates with her life motto, "We must give to receive," as she thrives on shaping young minds during pivotal years and fostering meaningful connections through education and mentorship.

52. Gregory Zerangue

- a. Dr. Gregory G. Zerangue, before studying at UL, he served on active duty in the United States Navy. He then attended The University of Louisiana at Lafayette and received his bachelor's degree in 1998. He began working at the University of Louisiana of Lafayette in 1999 and has served in several Leadership roles within Student Affairs (University Police, Student Engagement and Leadership, Student Rights and Responsibilities, and Dean of Students Office) over the last 26 years. In 2010, he completed his master's degree in liberal studies-Organizational Leadership from Fort Hays State in Hays, Kansas. He was accepted into the Doctoral Cohort VIII at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas where he earned a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership in 2014. Currently, he serves as the Senior Associate Dean of Students in the Dean of Students Office at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.