

Writing Your 100-Word Instructor Bio in 3 Easy Steps

1. Brainstorm

Write down everything in your background that could possibly relate to your courses (and even the experiences that may not). Don't edit at this point, just write as much and as quickly as you can.

Don't be afraid to include personal or unique information about yourself to reflect who you are.

Some suggested content:

- Education (completed and/or ongoing): This includes degrees, certifications, coursework (from any learning environment), training, mentoring, study, research, projects, etc.
- Awards, honors, publications, accomplishments, testimonials, student comments
- Job(s), professional experience, volunteer experience, courses/seminars/presentations conducted
- Professional memberships
- Hobbies, passions, interests

2. Cull

You only have 100 words. Make them count! Focus on what best promotes you as an expert in your industry, and what best conveys that students will learn valuable information/skills from you, more than from any other instructor in your field.

3. Write

Use a natural flow, use 3rd person, and write in a tone you feel is appropriate for your subject. See the attached examples for inspiration.

Keep in mind that you are basically saying to future students:

Not only am I qualified to teach this course, I have this specific experience/background to provide you the best course experience possible, resulting in your gaining valuable knowledge/skills and enjoying the experience.

In addition to your instructor bio, consider providing a short quote about your teaching philosophy or why you love to teach this particular subject.

Student testimonials have great impact on potential students. Please share them!

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE Maria Coons



Dr. Maria Coons holds a doctorate in higher education from National Louis University, an MBA from Loyola University's Quinlan School of Business, and a BS degree from Indiana University's Kelley School of Business. She is the Chief of Staff and Vice President of Workforce, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness at Harper College. Previously, Coons served as AVP of Check Operations at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

"Teaching is about instilling a love for lifelong learning."

Testimonials:

"What you've taught me goes far beyond the classroom and still influences who I am and how I think. I'll always remember your passion for teaching and how it changed lives, like mine."

"Best Marketing teacher ever. She explains things so well and she tells us her experiences that relate to what we are talking about. Very enjoyable class."

Available Course Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LRN 5033	Power Selling	Nov. 6

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE Peter Prakash



Peter Prakash holds an MBA from Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. A management consulting executive for over twenty years, Prakash's industry experience includes work for Ernst & Young/Capgemini, Ericsson, and Tellabs. He leads consulting practices including Big Data, Cloud, Digital Services, Revenue Assurance and Sales Effectiveness, and is interested in machine learning, artificial intelligence and automation.

"Having recruited a lot of students from school, I see a need to train students to understand how to solve business problems rather than just focusing on a specific skill or set of techniques. This understanding of how to solve business problems using software and statistics is the key driver in the Big Data Analytics class."

Testimonial: *"Thanks for a really good class. I interviewed with IBM today and was able to speak to what I learned from you and my class project. There seemed to be a very positive response."*

Available Course Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LCT 8400	Big Data Analytics	Sept. 30

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE Brian Hamm



Brian Hamm, a Harper College Alumnus, is the Mobile Unit Specialist. He holds a degree in finance, investment and financial institution management, and has twenty years of experience in business and IT. Hamm works closely with Harper College faculty, local community organizations, and businesses to provide for their mobile computer classroom needs.

"I am thrilled about the capabilities of the 'Computer Classroom on Wheels'. It is very motivating to see the Mobile Unit being utilized to fulfill the mission of Harper College!"

Testimonial: *"Harper College's Computer Classroom on Wheels truly enhanced our Maker Day event. Brian engaged participants of all ages, providing each and every one with an entertaining computer experience. I can't wait to have the Mobile Unit back!"*

Elk Grove Village Public Library

Amy Kaminski



Amy Kaminski holds a masters in technology in education from the University of Illinois and is currently pursuing her doctorate in community college leadership through Ferris State University. Amy currently works in the Harper College IT department after spending four years at Apple Inc. She is a certified Apple Trainer. Amy's teaching philosophy is to create a learning environment that engages all learners through practical real-world projects.

"The best part about teaching is helping students succeed in the course, find a job, or advance in their current careers."

Available Courses January-May 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LCT0036	Adobe Photoshop CC I	January 30
LCT0136	Adobe Photoshop CC II	March 6
LCT0040	Adobe InDesign CC I	February 7
LCT0140	Adobe InDesign CC II	March 7
LCT0050	Introduction to Mac	January 23
LCT8020	CompTIA A+ Computer Technician	March 6
LCT 8021	CompTIA Network+	April 24

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Ed Gallagher



Ed Gallagher is a Microsoft Certified Trainer (MCT) and holds nearly 100 certifications in his portfolio. He has over forty years of hands-on experience in the Information Technology industry, and has been granted the Microsoft Most Valuable Professional Award for the past ten consecutive years.

"Success in the IT industry today is not about knowing the technology. Success is about using the technology correctly to meet business goals, solve problems and increase productivity and security. While it can be easy today to learn about the tech online, how to use it correctly is not intuitively obvious. Classroom training, guided by an instructor who has current field experience with best practice implementation, can make the ultimate difference in a student's career."

Testimonial: *"Ed takes his Microsoft knowledge seriously. He knows more about Desktop and Server than most people can fathom to exist. His knowledge of business networking makes him unique in the field of Microsoft & Networking instructors. He is always willing to share this information, be it configuration architecture, network design, software or hardware selection. Given the opportunity, I would gladly take more classes from Ed."*

Available Courses Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LAP 8021	CompTIA Network+	Sept. 18
LNT 8740	Installation, Storage, and Compute with Windows Server 2016	Oct. 3

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

George Vroustouris



George Vroustouris is a Nationally Certified Identity Protection Advisor® (CIPA), UIT trainer, public speaker, and adjunct instructor. With thirty-plus years of experience in communications technology, George now focuses on data management, analysis, and cyber security. He provides the vetted resources, protection and comprehensive training needed to secure and manage identity, reputation and digital assets.

"As a lifelong learner, I love that moment of new understanding, and enlightenment. As an instructor, I love knowing that my students leave my course with new understanding and an improved sense of control in their lives."

Available Course Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LRN 5124	Identity Theft	Oct. 2

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Pamela Rak



Pamela Rak holds MSW, LCSW, and DCSW degrees, earned with honors from George Williams College and Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is also certified in Critical Incident Stress Management. In addition to her thirty years of clinical experience, Rak is a highly respected speaker and teacher.

"Realizing your potential is within your reach."

Testimonials:

"The course I took with [you] has brought me farther along in my personal life than the years I have spent in individual therapy. I still apply what I have learned about myself and others using the skills, formulas, and self-awareness I learned. I am making much better choices and decisions for myself; I am happy again, and in some ways, happy for the first time."

"Pamela, I am quite sure I could not have recognized the destructive pattern of relationships I was in without the guidance, resource recommendations, and material you presented in this class. You have a gift for being able to take sensitive issues seriously while instilling hope. Thank you!"

Available Course Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LIO 0053	Relationships: Raising the B.A.R.	Sept. 14

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Sue Priebe



Sue Priebe is a certified American Heart Association BLS Instructor and Training Center Faculty. Priebe's career as a CPR professional began with her desire for a job that made a difference in the lives of others. She has been teaching first aid, CPR and AED classes for eighteen years, empowering students to take charge in emergency situations and save lives.

"I develop student's critical thinking skills through hands-on practice and simulations. By making the learning environment an enjoyable and comfortable place, students are able to effectively learn and retain the information."

Testimonial: *"I no longer fear doing CPR and feel prepared to save a life, should the opportunity arise."*

Available Courses Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LCP 0084	Healthcare Provider CPR	multiple
LCP 0043	Healthcare Provider CPR Renewal	multiple
LCP 0110	Heartsaver First Aid with CPR and AED	Oct. 28

Deborah Connery



Deborah Connery holds degrees in clinical social work, mathematics, and philosophy from the University of Illinois. She is the vice president of consultation for HealthPro Rehabilitation, responsible for developing educational programs for staff working in long term care facilities. With over thirty years of experience in the industry, Deborah enjoys helping students discover the rewards of this career.

"So many students are nervous about returning to the classroom. I love to help them relax, have fun, and learn how to be successful both in the classroom and in their jobs as activity directors."

Available Courses Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LAH0243	Activity Director 36-Hour Training	November 7

Issa Boulos



Issa Boulos holds a bachelor's degree in music composition from Columbia College and a masters from Roosevelt University. He is the Harper College Community Music and Arts Center program coordinator, Chicago World Music Ensemble director and Issa Boulos Ensemble founder. Boulos composes for internationally-acclaimed orchestras, chamber groups, and ensembles. Many documentaries feature his original scores, including the award-winning "Nice Bombs" and PBS's "The New Americans." He performs and lectures at institutions and universities around the world. As a researcher, Boulos fosters understanding about world music.

"Through music, individuals can become enlightened citizens, seek their potential to the fullest, and lead productive and meaningful lives."

Available Courses January-May 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LMU0336	World Music Ensemble	January 18
LLJ0810	What Kind of Music Is That?	February 7

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Steve Vazquez



Steve Vazquez holds a bachelor's degree in music from DePaul University and a master's degree from Northwestern University. A Chicago Artists International Program award recipient, he studied with Stepan Rak in Prague. Vazquez is the Director of the Harper College Guitar Ensemble and a faculty member. Vazquez is renowned for both his classical performances and indie/underground band Blue Eyed Jesus, among others.

"Twenty-plus years of experience has allowed me to hone my communication skills and get the most out of students at any level, any age. Passion, patience, work ethic, keen analysis skills and intuition are passed on to my students through a 'music first' approach. Many of my students have been awarded generous scholarships and have placed well in prestigious competitions."

Testimonials:

"He's an insanely good guitar player and he loves seeing his students succeed. I would recommend him for anything."

"Mr. Vazquez is the nicest teacher I have ever had, he made class fun every day. He is also very understanding and kind; he cares about students and wants to see them succeed! I would take his class again in a heartbeat."

Visit harpercollege.edu/cmac for private lessons and course offerings.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Ralph Nicksarian



Ralph Nicksarian is a registered yoga instructor, certified by the Yoga Alliance. For thirty years, he has studied methods to restore the body and prolong youthfulness, including yoga and techniques such as body rolling, therapeutic massage, cupping, and vacuum therapy.

"My desire is that my students learn how the activities we do will help them improve their overall health and vitality. I want them to leave my class empowered with knowledge and inspired enough to be self-motivated to continue over the long term."

Testimonial: *"I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the Yoga and More class taught by Ralph Nicksarian this past semester. The approach to the idea of aging, and its prevention, was both enlightening and empowering. I hope to see more of this type of class offered."*

Available Courses Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LPE 0125	Yoga	Aug. 23 & Oct. 18
LPE 0133	Yoga and More: Maintaining and Regaining Your Youthfulness	Sept. 5 & Nov. 7

Dan Sarrett



Daniel Sarrett has over thirty years of experience in real estate education and training. He is one of the few instructors to hold both DRE and CDEI designations. Daniel is the former president of the Real Estate Education Company and has served as vice president for the National Association of Realtors.

"Knowledge is Power. I love teaching because I help empower our students to direct their lives in pursuit of professional career success in the real estate business, an industry that is so exciting, unique and ever-changing."

Available Courses January-May 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LREB170	Real Estate Broker Pre-License	February 7
LREB170	Real Estate Broker Pre-License (On-line)	February 14
LREB171	Applied Real Estate Principles	April 22

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE Victoria Akinde



Victoria Akinde holds a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Illinois. She is the Director of Access Services for the Schaumburg Township District Library. During her fourteen years in the field, libraries evolved from being providers of materials to being information commons, technology education and assistance providers, and community gathering spaces.

"Over the past seven years, it has been a privilege to introduce students of the Library Assistant Program to the diversity of libraries, and to illustrate how integral libraries are to the lives of patrons, and students in their communities."

Testimonial: *"I loved your class so much that I made the choice to make the jump and go for it."*

Available Course Aug. – Dec. 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Date
LCE 8019	Library Assistant	Sept 14

Rene Castellanos



René Enrique Castellanos-Brandón's university studies include linguistic anthropology, comparative and social linguistics, and language reconstruction. A native Spanish speaker, he also speaks English and French, and is studying Romanian and Italian. René holds national rankings and classifications in the sport of Olympic-style fencing, and continues to compete at the highest levels.

"Languages, world cultures and fencing are my passions, and at these I find it a duty to share my knowledge with those who want to learn what I have learned. This is the driving force behind my enthusiasm for teaching."

Available Courses January-May 2017

Course #	Course Title	Start Dates
See page 68	Conversational Spanish (Levels 1-4)	numerous
LLL0327	Discusión en español: a Spanish Immersion course	January 19
LLL0013	Spanish As A Second Language: an Online Certificate Program (Conversational Spanish Digital Badge)	January 17 March 31
LPS0022	En Garde Fencing for Beginners	January 21 March 18
LPS0122	En Garde Intermediate Fencing	January 21 March 18