

INSTRUCTOR BIOS

Sharon Abrams has over 25 years' experience in Management and Administration in both Hospital and Medical Office settings.

Sandra Adamczyk, A.S., has taught yoga, dance, and strength training throughout Fairfield County for over 20 years. Her lifelong education has equipped her with the expertise to access students' needs, identify strengths and weaknesses, and help them to realize their full potential.

Mark Albertson is the historical research editor at Army Aviation magazine; and, historian for the Army Aviation Association of America. He has authored several books, among them *On History: A Treatise*.

Judith P. Audevard is President and Founder of the Hudson Valley Paws for a Cause Pet Therapy Program. Her work has been recognized by prominent organizations like the United States Military Academy at West Point and the American Red Cross

Joseph Aveni, MEd. is a veteran of the computer industry and adjunct Professor for NCC in the computer sciences department. Mr. Aveni is proficient in Microsoft Access, PowerPoint, Excel and Word.

Richard Barbour is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America and Michigan State University. He is currently the Chef Teacher at Brien McMahon High School. With over thirty-five years of culinary experience, he has led and managed the kitchens for The "21" Club and the Rainbow Room and has directed food and beverage activities for restaurants and hotels including positions at The Pierre, Regency and Plaza Hotels, the SoHo Wine Bar and Westchester Brewing Company.

Dr. Cynthia Barnett is a "refined" educator who has reinvented her life. She moved from the schoolhouse after thirty years as a teacher, guidance counselor and assistant high school principal to an entrepreneur venue. She is the CEO and Founder of Saturday Academy that produces Amazing Girls Science Events to ignite girls' interest and spark their enthusiasm for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and mathematics (STEAM) while building core life skills of self-confidence, self-esteem, curiosity, problem solving and risk-taking. She received the Woman of Innovation award from the Connecticut Technology Council, featured in Time magazine article about women in mid-life who have reinvented themselves and honored as a pillar of education by the Exchange Club. Her passion and other calling to inspire women over 50 to reimagine, recharge and reinvent themselves so that they could live vibrant, happy, fulfilling and meaningful lives.

Mark Basil, CPP, is a former member of the U.S. Secret Service and CPP (Certified Protection Professional) through ASIS International. Along with having written a security manual and several published articles, Mark's diverse expertise enables him to continue to provide high-level industry development, training and consultation to all sectors of the security field.

Celia M. Batan, B.A. M.A. CPC, has designed and implemented skills training programs across vertical markets for various industries in the US, Canada, and Asia, overseeing instructional methodology and business writing materials for publication. Communication programs include problem-solving/decision making, job coaching/interviewing, listening, writing, and presentation skills in academic and workplace environments.

Michael Behar, Ph.D., is the founder and CEO of Foresight Technologies Corp., a firm that specializes in developing business simulations that help companies, managers, and employees improve team performance, provide better customer service, make better decisions, and generally have more fun.

Gigi Benanti, B.A., is a certified Reiki Master Healer and teacher and a member of the International Association of Reiki Professionals. She has been a life long healer, teaches Reiki and owns the Angelic Healing Center in Norwalk. She is a popular teacher among adults seeking routes to spiritual understanding.

Jim Bergesen, M.F.A. is an artist and curator; he teaches studio art and photography at NCC and Manhattanville College, as well as contemporary art history and museum studies.

Alice Bianco, a deaf instructor, has taught ASL for over 15 years to people of all ages in Fairfield County.

Jacek Bigosinski is a practicing architect with his office located in Rowayton, with three full time employees, two of them being former NCC graduates. He is the Program Coordinator for Architecture, Interior Design and Construction programs, and has been teaching at the college since 1989.

Anne Bolin, Ph.D., is a specialist in 19th-century art and culture. Former educator for the Mint Museum of Art in Charlotte, NC, and curator of the Lockwood-Mathews Mansion in Norwalk, she now teaches art history at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield.

Francine Bove, Certified Executive Pastry Chef, Department Head Culinary Arts & Food Science at J.M Wright Technical High School Stamford, CT

Before starting her career as a culinary educator, she operated her owned bakery and catering businesses in New York City and Connecticut.

David N. Boyajian, M.F.A., is a noted sculptor who works in a variety of scales and materials. Following 20 years of teaching sculpture at the Silvermine School of Art, he co-founded Sculpture Barn in New Fairfield, CT where he teaches metal, stone and wood sculpture. He has been teaching at NCC since 1999.

Dave Broida is a seasoned teacher/performer for the past 20 years who loves to share music with all-especially those who do not consider themselves musical.

Stewart Bronfeld was a staff producer-writer and director for the NBC Television Network for 18 years. In addition to producing and directing, he has written many television programs, as well as short films released by Columbia Pictures and Universal Pictures. His work has won two International Broadcasting Awards from the Hollywood Radio and Television Society and an Emmy Award nomination.

Christina Calzolari, RN has over 30 plus years of nursing experience and has specialized in cardiac nursing for most of her career. She has extensive teaching experience as well.

Domenic Carriero, A.S., is employed with nuTravel Technology Solutions, a software development company specializing in the travel industry. He has broad experience in the travel industry in such areas as ARC accounting, reservations, computer management, and general administration.

Patrick Cassidy, M.S., is the Coordinator for the Computer Security degree program at Norwalk Community College. He is also the Main Contact for NCC's Cisco Academy.

Ann Marie Castro is a Level II Phlebotomist/Trainer and holds both NHA Certification as well as ASCP Certification. With over 5 years devoted to the practice of Phlebotomy, she takes a very hands-on approach to teaching the skills needed to perform phlebotomy successfully. She is a Lead Tech/Scheduler and is involved with all aspects of administration and training for 40+ phlebs out of 27+ locations. Hands on training for new and existing employees, including accelerated Boot Camps for RNs, LPNs and CMA's within a hospital setting, as well as the day-to-day operations of Draw Stations and IOP's.

Brenda Catugno, ChFC, CDFA, CASL is President of BPC, LLC, in Fairfield, CT. Brenda specializes in financial planning, portfolio management, divorce financial analysis and offers a wide variety of solutions to meet her client's needs.

Dina Chappell is a Registered Medical Assistant and has over 13 years' experience in a health care setting, specializing in phlebotomy. She works at Stamford Hospital as a phlebotomy supervisor and community health and education trainer.

Kaili Chen, Originally from Taiwan, she is the principal dancer with the Hang Tang Yuefu dance group, and has appeared at renowned performing arts centers such as Lincoln Center, The Joyce Theatre, Théâtre de la Ville, Paris, appearing in more than 30 countries. She is a highly regarded and popular dance artist in Asia.

Heather Cochrane is a high school science teacher in the Norwalk Public School System. She has been a teacher for 10 years.

Penny Cohen, LCSW Transformational Psychotherapist, Relationship Expert, Career, Life and Spiritual Coach has a private practice in Pound Ridge, NY. She has lectured and presented workshops internationally on stress management, relationships, communication, creativity, spirituality and Kabbalah for the past 15 years. She is the author of Personal Kabbalah 32 Paths To Inner Peace And Life Purpose.

Louis J Colangelo, Jr., J.D., is an attorney in Norwalk who has over 40 years of experience in Real Estate Law and has been an instructor at NCC for over 12 years.

Valerie A. Cooper, M.B.A., from Columbia University and Certificate in Appraisal Studies in Fine and Decorative Arts from New York University. She is the Founding Principal of Picture That Art Consulting Firm; an Adjunct Professor at Norwalk Community College; an Associate of the Appraisers Association of America where her specialty is African American Art; and she has over 25 years of art advisory, curatorial services, teaching and cultural inclusion experience in the fine art industry.

Kathleen Coppola is Professor and Coordinator of the Early Childhood Program at Norwalk Community College. She is responsible for coordinating the CDA (Child Development Associate Credential) as well as courses in Leadership and Administration, which lead to the CDC (Connecticut Directors Credential). In addition, she teaches child development and the student teaching practicum. Prior to joining NCC Professor Coppola was Director of the New Canaan Community Preschool.

Matt Cousins, B.A., is a tutor and teacher with more than a decade of experience.

Jennifer Covello, MBA, is an award-winning author of the “My Life” baby journal, blogger and speaker. Prior to becoming a freelance writer and marketing consultant, she had a 25+ year career in IT and Marketing.

Margaret Dana-Conway, has taught at NCC for over 19 years, nine of which she was Director of the Kathryn Croaning Child Development Laboratory School. She presented numerous courses regarding infant toddler development and care and represents NCC on a state-wide committee devoted to educating faculty, administrators, managers, social workers and other professionals about infant toddler care and advocacy. Margaret has served on the Norwalk School Readiness Council, the South Fairfield Accreditation Facilitation Advisory Board, and is a State of Connecticut educational consultant.

Kerry V. Cramer, M.S., is an information technology professional with 35 years’ experience in computer programming, information technologies, and IT project management. He has been an NCC Computer Science instructor for over 10 years, as well as an adjunct professor at Manhattanville College, and University of New Haven.

Marion H. Crowley has been a Teacher of the Deaf for more than 25 years, working with deaf students in Connecticut, New York and California schools. She has taught preschool through middle school. Privately, Marion has taught sign language to hearing children and adults, especially parents of children who use sign language as their primary communication.

Louis Csak, MBA, BSME, Licensed Professional Engineer, CT & NY. CWI Licensed ICC Fuel/Gas/Mech & Structural Inspector. 5 patents, BSME from Carnegie Mellon; MBA from UCONN.

Daniel P. D’Andrea, B.S., M.S. has taught “First Aid & Sports Injury” (HPE 232) at NCC for several years. He graduated from Springfield College with a concentration in Athletic Training and received his MS in Physical Therapy from the University of Miami. He is currently employed at Bridgeport Hospital specializing in Orthopedics and Vestibular Rehabilitation.

Estelle V. Dattolo, M.A., has been teaching Italian at NCC for ten years. She received her MA in Foreign Languages at the University of Messina, (Sicily), Italy.

Paul Daulerio, M.B.A., served as President of Texaco Global Aviation Marketing, with responsibility for the worldwide marketing of Texaco’s aviation fuels to the airline industry. He is currently an adjunct professor at Fairfield University’s Dolan School of Business and at NCC, where he teaches various undergraduate business management courses.

Fortunata Adriana DeLucia is a native speaker of Italian who received her law degree from the University of Naples, Italy.

Andrea Dener, aka The Yarn Farmer, is a Craft Yarn Council Certified Instructor who loves to knit and crochet for others... and loves to share her passion for knitting and crocheting with others as well! She’s been crocheting since she was about 10 years old and is looking forward to helping you get in touch with your “Inner Crocheter”!

Steve Digiovanni is a professional artist and instructor. He has exhibited throughout the region and is included in numerous private collections, as well as the New Britain Museum of American Art. He has completed portraits for the Yale University and other private and professional clients. Steven teaches at the Creative Arts Workshop in New Haven, and as an adjunct professor at NCC.

Li Ding, M.A. is a native Chinese speaker and has taught Chinese at the Chinese Language School of Fairfield County in Stamford for 2 years.

Laura Dotta works in a Veterinary Hospital as an Internal Medicine Liaison. She received her degree as Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Technology from the University of Veterinary Medicine in Uruguay, South America.

Harry A. Downs II, EMT-P, EMS-I, has been a field paramedic at Norwalk Hospital for 21 years and has over 30 years of experience in pre-hospital emergency care. He has been an EMS instructor for 20 years and is the primary EMT-Basic instructor at Norwalk Community College.

Thomas Duffy is the Chair of the Computer Science Department and the Program Coordinator for the Computer Science degree. He teaches courses in Web Development, XML, and Java. He holds a B.S. in Mathematics and Master of Arts in Mathematics/Computer Science from Western Connecticut State University and is the owner of Bright Moments Software - a software company specializing in Web Technologies.

Joseph Durso, B.S., is a licensed Veterinary Technician and AALAS Certified Laboratory Animal Technologist.

Kristie Entwistle is a professional Ballroom and Latin Dance Instructor who has been teaching over 25 years. She is an experienced dancer, instructor and choreographer for all ages and levels, from beginner to advanced competitor. Kristie has taught in several Elementary and Middle Schools, and is the owner of Ballroom Experience Dance Studio, serving all of Fairfield and New Haven counties.

Alex Eydelman is a Russian Chess Master who teaches in school programs throughout Fairfield County.

Joseph Fama, B.S., has exhibited nationally and has worked as an art director for several advertising agencies in New York City. He has designed Christmas ornaments for Christopher Radko as well as illustration for several magazines.

Erin J. Fitzgerald, RN, BSN, MBA has over 34 years of hospital experience and has taught in the medical field for 25 of those years. She currently works in a local hospital in the clinical setting.

Joan Fitzsimmons, M.F.A. is a nationally exhibited photographer. Her work is in the collection of the Brooklyn Museum of Art and she is on the faculty of NCC. She has taught photography workshops throughout Fairfield County.

Jill Russo Foster is the author of three financial books about practical know how. She has extensive experience in banking/mortgage/higher education. She makes learning about financial information fun and understandable by presenting real world examples and practical advice that anyone can immediately put into action.

Lawrence Frank, B.A., is an alumnus of the Art Center College of Design and the University of Connecticut. His background includes fine art and commercial photography and he currently does lifestyle photo assignments for corporate, editorial and advertising clients.

Joseph T. Fucigna, M.F.A. is an award-winning artist and the Coordinator of the NCC Art Programs. He has taught drawing, sculpture and design in the NCC Art Program for over 15 years.

Jinal Ganatra, B.D.S, RHS, graduated from K.M. Shah Dental College in India with a degree in dentistry. She has practiced as a dentist in India and is currently working as a Dental Assistant at Columbia Dental.

Joyce Generoso, certified Stott Pilates, AFAA CPT and Post Rehabilitative Breast Cancer Exercise Specialist is trained in injured and special populations with 15+ years experience, teaches in fitness centers and Y’s in Fairfield County as well as private instruction in her home studio. She enjoys helping clients obtain remarkable results in this “mind-body” exercise method.

Bruce Glaser, M.A., He was director of several New York City art galleries and has taught at Pratt Institute, Hunter College (CUNY), Herbert H. Lehman College (CUNY) and the University of Bridgeport. He has been teaching art history at NCC since 1992.

Solange Gomez, M.A., in Languages, teaches Spanish at NCC.

Maria Grayson, M.S., Respiratory Care Program Director at NCC. Registered Respiratory Therapist, Neonatal pediatric specialty credential (RRT-NPS) and Asthma Educator Certification. CNA experience.

Eric Gribin, M.S., is a building professional in Connecticut and in 2008 was awarded “Remodeler of the Year” by the Home Builders and Remodelers Association.

Tyler Griese, MEd, ACSM Exercise Physiologist-Certified, and an instructor in Applied Meditation and Tai Chi to a wide variety of populations for over 20 years, Tyler emphasizes the calming, centering nature of these arts, as well their how they enhance daily function, including our ability to concentrate.

Nicole Hafner, MS, RCEP, EP-C, EIM III, GEI, is a lecturer in Exercise Science and Group Exercise. A member of the American College of Sports Medicine, she is a Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist, certified Health Fitness Specialist and certified Group Exercise Instructor.

Rita Horan, CMA, EdD., has over 25 years of administrative experience in the business office and taught accredited Information Technology classes. She has worked in a clinical setting for the past three years.

Julie Jason, JD, LLM, Founder of Jackson, Grant Investment Advisers, Inc. of Stamford, got her start on Wall Street 30 years ago as a securities lawyer. Her award-winning investor education column, in its 17th year of publication, appears every Sunday in the business section of four CT newspapers, and is syndicated nationally by King Features. Julie’s book, The AARP Retirement Survival Guide: How to Make Smart Financial Decisions in Good Times & Bad, was named as one the Top Ten Business Books for 2010 by Booklist. Her latest book, Managing Retirement Wealth: An Expert Guide to Personal Portfolio Management in Good Times and Bad, won the prestigious EIFLE award for excellence in financial education.

Ping Jin is a native Chinese speaker and has been teaching Chinese to young children over four years.

Evelyn Jones, B.A., is a corporate trainer specializing in end-user application training, including MS Office, Corel Suites, Desktop Publishing and Accounting Applications. She is certified by Microsoft as an Office Specialist.

Reena Katarya has been teaching knitting for over 5 years in Arizona and now Fairfield County. She also enjoys knitting as a way to release stress. She has been knitting different items with various patterns for over 20 years. She started teaching knitting for beginners at her college as a hobby.

Stephen B. Keogh, B.A., J.D. is an attorney practicing with the firm of Keogh, Burkhart & Vetter in Norwalk since 1985. He holds a B.A. from Yale College and a J.D. from Columbia Law School, and concentrates his practice in Elder Law and Probate Law.

Leslie Kerr, Ph.D., has been a development/fundraising professional for 30 years, working in nonprofits across the country. Her experience has included all aspects of the field: special events, grant writing, major and legacy gifts, annual campaigns, board development, marketing, budgeting, and strategic plans. She has served as the Director of the Harris Institute for Global Legal Studies (Washington University in St. Louis School of Law); the Director of Development at the University of La Verne; the Executive Director for the Mt. San Antonio Community College Foundation (CA); the Executive Director for the Los Angeles Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation; the Executive Director for Alumni Relations and Development for the City University of New York School of Professional Studies; and the Senior Director of Development for the University of New Haven.

Robert B. Keyes, J.D., is a Norwalk Attorney practicing for more than 16 years in the field of civil litigation and workers' compensation law. He was a member of the Norwalk Zoning Commission for more than 8 years and is a Court Arbitrator and Fact Finder for the Superior Court for the State of CT.

Beatrice M. Krawiecki, Ed.D., has been an adjunct in the Early Childhood program at NCC for over 25 years teaching ECE 215- The Exceptional Learner, a course that focuses on children with special needs. In addition, she is currently a Special Education Administrator with the Norwalk Board of Education. Dr. Krawiecki holds a Doctorate in the field of no-categorical special education, Columbia Teachers College.

Nancy Kroszner, RZ: AHN, LNHA, MBA, has worked as a Registered Nurse for 20 years in Acute Care and Long-Term Care settings. She has held the positions of both Director of Nursing and Facility Educator. As a Clinical Educator, she developed and taught the Certified Nurse Aide Training Program in a Massachusetts facility for seven years. Nancy received her Licensed as a Nursing Home Administrator in 2003 and is currently employed in Fairfield County performing both Administrative and Nursing responsibilities.

Regina Krummel, Ed.D., is a published writer, poet and author of *Looking Good, Liquor to Casket* and *The Underground Woman* (2002). Her book of poetry entitled *And I Answer* was published in 2007. She is Professor Emerita of Queens College, City University of New York.

Lewis School of Driving is a family owned business established in 1970. All of their instructors are certified and licensed by the State of CT DMV. They provide classroom and behind the wheel instruction to drivers.

Bronwyn Ryan Lakowski is an Elementary Educator for the Stamford Public Schools

Sutushti Lang has been offering meditation classes for over 25 years throughout Fairfield County and New York. She has studied with Sri Chinmoy, originally from India, who has led meditations at the United Nations.

Suzanne Joy Leonard, settled in the states from England after traveling the globe as a Professional Dancer, and has been working in the fitness industry for 14 Years. She holds Licenses in Zumba® Zumbatonic® Gold® Toning® and Aqua zumba®. Suzanne is also a certified personal trainer, Stott Pilates instructor and Drums Alive instructor.

Bing Li, M.S. is a native Chinese speaker and has taught Chinese at Huaxia Chinese Language School in White Plains for 5 years. He has been teaching Chinese for more than 6 years in the USA, and currently is teaching at public middle school as a Mandarin Chinese teacher.

Ruiming Liu, M.S., is a Software Application Architect, working in all aspects of software application development. He has over a decade of experience of using different program languages, and also has had many years of experience in teaching at colleges; Ruiming Liu strives to be simple and motivating in his teaching style.

Susan Lovallo, CPA, CPO, is a member of the National Association of Professional Organizers, is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Professional Organizer and the owner of Clutter Solutions, LLC, a local company that focuses on organizing homes, offices, time & finances for individuals, families and businesses, as well as training in Quicken and QuickBooks.

Karen Fecenko-Lyon, M.A., has been working in the graphic design field for over 25 years. Her career has spanned from editorial graphics and art direction with *Golf Digest/The New York Times* to corporate graphics and management with GE Capital. She is now principal of Beaugard and Partners, LLC.

Richard Malloy, M.B.A., works as a computer consultant based in Greenwich, CT. He also serves as an Adjunct Professor at Norwalk Community College, where he teaches computer applications. He is a Microsoft-certified Expert in Excel and Word and also has MOS-certified proficiency in Access, PowerPoint, and Outlook. Previously Rich served as Executive Editor of *Byte* magazine and Editor in Chief of *Mobile Computing* magazine.

Claire Mancini has been in the travel industry for over 30 years. Along with her passion for all areas of cruising, she has developed the importance of customer service when selling a cruise!

Richard Mancini, B.S., has three decades of theatrical experience as an actor and director, ranging from appearing with improv groups and in many plays, to directing over 30 area productions and numerous original one-acts in festivals in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York.

Christine Mangone, holds a Ph.D. in theater from UCLA and has directed over 40 productions. She has directed theater programs at Penn State University and Naugatuck Valley Community College and is currently an instructor of both music and theater here at NCC.

David H. Mann, M. Arch., has over 20 years of experience in design, development, construction and financial analysis. Mr. Mann is founding principal of GreenTek Consulting, a sustainability for the built environment practice. David was a senior associate of THINK – the runner-up in the World Trade Center Re-Design. He serves as the Chairman of the Town of Westport's Green Task Force and sits on the town's Architectural Review Board. Mr. Mann was one of two individuals to receive a 2012 Green Coast Award honoring and recognizing individuals, businesses, and organizations that are socially and environmentally responsible.

Christopher Mariner, B.A., Music, teaches guitar and music theory throughout Fairfield and Westchester counties. He can be heard in a wide variety of ensembles ranging from straight ahead jazz to experimental electronic outfits.

Lisa M. Maronian is a graduate of the CIA and the International Pastry Arts Center. She has been a pastry chef at the Ritz Carlton in Naples, Florida, Le Relais Mougjin Restaurant in Palm Beach, and then opened Sweet Lisa's Exquisite Cakes in Ct. She is a member of The International Cake Exploration Society, as well a Member of The American Culinary Federation.

Marie Martinez, B.A. has been a travel professional for 17 years and currently works for a leading tour operator as a Sales Counselor. She specializes in helping travel agents guide their clients in making tour decisions that lead to memorable life experiences.

Yumi McCarthy, M.A., in TESOL/Linguistics, is a native speaker of Japanese and has taught at universities in Japan. She also has a teaching certificate in Japanese calligraphy.

George McCleary has a Horticulture Degree from Univ. of Connecticut, Horticulturist Bellamy/Ferriday House and Gardens Bethlehem CT. He is a garden club lecturer, consultant, certified organic land care specialist, Monarch Butterfly breeder, college professor, and Agricultural Extension Agent. He has been fruit and vegetable farmer for 40 years.

Steve Mersereau, CPA and MBA, is a CPA and Harvard MBA with over 25 years of leadership in entrepreneurial organizations. As a CFO and CEO he has led start up, turnaround and high growth companies in natural soda, healthcare, direct response television and online/digital sectors, as well as nonprofit organizations.

Caitlin Moonesar, MS, CSCS, is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, Certified Personal Trainer, and Certified Group Exercise Instructor. She has over 10 years of experience in health and wellness programming and management and teaches at Sacred Heart University.

Erica L. Murphy, CPC, CMRS, is a 15 year veteran of the health care industry. She has been actively coding for Yale New Haven Health System for 6 years with a focus on the Bridgeport Hospital and Northeast Medical Group delivery networks. She has had multiple years of health care and medical claims experience with healthcare insurers, hospitals, and individual physician practices. She is currently registered with the AAPC as a CPC and AMBA as a CMRS.

Thomas Nackid, M.T.S.C. is an illustrator and graphic designer with more than 16 years of experience in publishing, journalism and educational materials. He holds a Master's Degree in technical and scientific communications from Miami University's MTSC program.

Elizabeth Nagurney, BA, MLS, CAS, is an educator with extensive experience in teaching a wide range of computer classes

Elizabeth O'Connell, B.A., is a Care Coordinator at Jewish Senior Services and was a Care Manager at the Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging for 11 years.

Mari Ogihara is a ceramic sculptor whose work explores ornamentation and embellishment as practiced in fashion and architecture from various cultures. She has studied ceramics in Kyoto, Japan and Gujarat, India and most recently a ceramic residency in Vallauris, France.

Julie O'Meara, BDS, is dentist from the UK who was in private practice before moving to the US. She currently teaches anatomy to dental students at NYU and has taught students in the simulation lab, where they learn to perform dental procedures.

Gina L. Palacio, E.A., is the owner of Palace Bookkeeping Service, which provides bookkeeping support to a variety of small businesses in Fairfield and New Haven Counties.

William Peltz, M.A., Ed. Admin., has over forty years of classroom experience and is an expert on high-stakes test preparation. He is Director of Soar for Success and co-owner of Larus Institute Public Safety Candidate Prep. He created the original version of this course at the request of the Norwalk Fire Department

Michael L. Perretta, BS, RN, EMT-P, CEN has over 15 year medical office management experience and taught for NCC for 9 years. I have worked in a clinical setting for the past 33 years.

Suzanne Peters, MBA, is principal with Peters Associates and founder of “Women and Girls Achieve”, aimed at leadership development, economic empowerment initiatives. Her career spans nearly thirty years in financial services and nonprofit management, including extensive fundraising, donor cultivation and marketing. Suzanne has advised on nonprofit programs and managed a broad grant portfolio. She co-led the successful implementation of the Family Economic Security Program at NCC and HCC. This multi-million dollar initiative received national accolades and funding. Suzanne is a recognized speaker, panelist, advocate and active board member.

Michael Phillips, B.A., is a graduate of UC Berkeley in mathematics. He has worked in a Linux environment in the finance and tech industries as both a systems administrator and a programmer. In the last two years, he has taught coding to high school students and prepared dozens of students over hundreds of hours to do their best on standardized tests.

Karena Piedmont is a licensed real estate broker in Connecticut and has over 10 years’ of experience in real estate education. She is also the owner of Real Estate University in Wilton and Greenwich.

Judith Puchalski, M.B.A., is owner of JP Business Consulting, providing bookkeeping and small business consultative services to a diverse group of CT based businesses. She has over 30 years of business experience with for profit and nonprofit organizations, and has assisted many businesses grow from startup into thriving organizations.

Paul Rich is the owner of a professional bartending program, a hands-on course for those seeking to become professional bartenders and has over 20 years of experience in the bartending service industry.

Jen Glover Riggs is a local fluid acrylic artist and educator. She exhibits her fluid acrylic pieces both locally and nationally through online galleries.

John Robert is a computer programmer for an insurance company, who likes to learn about open source software and hardware. He is the founder of Rippowam Labs, a tech education group based in Stamford

Wilfredo Roman, B.S., B.A., is a SharePoint Solution Architect with over a decade of experience working in all aspects of software and database development. Mr. Roman has extensive experience in MS SQL Server and Visual Studio 2013. His many years in teaching technical courses have helped develop teaching style that is simple, clear and makes learning fun

Anthony Romeo, M.S., is a CPA with over 32 years of experience in public and private accounting.

Lt. Thomas Roncinske, M.S. (Justice & Law Administration), of the Norwalk Police Department is a 26 year veteran and commanding officer of the first platoon. Lt. Roncinske is a supervisor with the department’s Emergency Services Unit and is a former Field Training Officer. As a detective, he investigated cases ranging from homicides to narcotics. He is an adjunct professor of criminal justice at Norwalk Community College

Tisha Saffa is a middle school math teacher who yearns to bring her passion for math to families everywhere and have fun doing it.

Robert Schott, MBA, CMT, Expert in global markets and investment, Robert is a Chartered Market Technician and Market Historian. With multiple business cycles of experience as a trader and portfolio manager, Robert has managed money at large institutions throughout his entire career. Investing and trading in Stocks, Bond, Foreign Exchange and Commodity Markets, he tactically asset allocated portfolios for General Electric Asset Management and currently teaches both basic and advanced investment.

Dr. Maria Sciaudone, DMD, PhD, is a Board Certified Pediatric Dentist with Tooth Fairy Pediatric Dentistry in Ridgefield, CT. She received her B.S in Dietetics and PhD in Nutrition and Molecular Biology from UCONN before returning to the University Of Connecticut School Of Dental Medicine.

Patrick Shanahan, M.S., is experienced in both Microsoft Application and Operating System software. He is a certified Microsoft Office Specialist and Microsoft IT Professional. He is also CompTIA A+ certified.

Lei Shi, M.A. was born and raised in Beijing, China, and speaks fluent Mandarin. She received B.A. degree in English Language and Literature at Beijing Normal University, and M.A. degree in Educational Psychology at University of Connecticut. She taught English at Tsinghua University for 3 years.

Joan Singer, B.A., is a computer consultant with many years experience teaching computer courses on all types of equipment, from mainframes to PCs.

Cynthia Sinor, M.B.A., is a commissioned portrait artist and art instructor. She has taught drawing to adult education students of all levels. Her realistic colored pencil portraits of humans, pets and wildlife have been featured in exhibitions at the Wilton Public Library, and her drawings of birds and their habitats will be part of an upcoming show sponsored by the Connecticut Audubon Society. Ms. Sinor has also donated her work in support of local organizations such as PAWS of Norwalk, Animals in Distress, Wilton Food Pantry and the Wilton Youth Council.

Valerie Sioufas-Lalli holds graduate and undergraduate degrees in art history, fine arts and museum education. She has worked in several museums and art galleries in NYC. Her passion is to bring the history of art to life for all of her audiences and has been teaching art history at NCC for over two years.

Nora Spaulding has been teaching fitness classes in Fairfield County for the past 20 years and received her instructor certifications from the Aerobic Training Institute and AFAA. Brimming with energy and experience, she has taught at various area fitness facilities, YMCAs and currently a number of different classes at LA Fitness in Norwalk.

Michelle Lalime Sullivan, M.A., has lived and studied in France at the high school and university level and has taught French in Fairfield County for over 14 years.

Marsha Temlock, M.A., is the author of the novel *The Exile* and self-help book *Your Child’s Divorce: What to Expect – What You Can Do* (Impact Publishers, Inc.) She is a feature writer, publicist, columnist and professor of English at Norwalk Community College. She welcomes serious writers, both aspiring and accomplished, to share their work in a supportive and creative workshop setting.

Nadia Udler, M.S., is adjunct professor at Fordham University, Graduate School of Business, where she teaches Computer Simulation Applications for Finance. She has over 20 years of experience of software development for Financial Industry. She received M.S. in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science from Voronezh University, Russia.

Rebecca Vaccaro teaches throughout Fairfield County and has a degree from Hart School of Music.

Pascale Van Tulder, is a native French speaker. She was raised in Belgium and France where she worked in marketing before moving to the US. She has been teaching French classes at NCC for the last 4 years. She emphasizes all cultural aspects of a language in her teaching.

Ramin Ganeshram Vellotti is a former news reporter and award winning food writer and cookbook author. She holds a master’s degree in journalism from Columbia University and is a professional chef trained at the Institute of Culinary Education in New York. In addition to being a food feature writer and columnist for New York Newsday, Vellotti has written for several food magazines and written or ghostwritten six cookbooks.

Denise N. Walsh is a faculty assistant in the NCC Physical Therapist Assistant program. She has an extensive background in outpatient orthopedic and in-patient short-term and long-term rehab settings.

Megane S. Watkins, MBA is an administrator within the University Card Office at Southern CT State University. She has been working within higher education for over 11 years and has taught Microsoft Word at Housatonic Community College and has an in-depth knowledge of Excel, as well as Microsoft Outlook and various other Microsoft applications.

Ellen Weston, B.A., Ed., MBA is the founder of Children’s Educational Consulting that provides parents with educational strategies to improve their children’s long-term academic performance. She has a combined experience of 23 years as an administrator, Director of Admissions, and math teacher. She brings earlier training in architectural engineering to her math classes.

Gail Hill Williams, B.B.A. President and CEO of Alegre’ Communications, has over 25 years of successful sales, sales management, training, and program management experience with Fortune 500 companies. She is an advisor to the American Council of Trustees and Alumni for Colleges and Universities.

Ethel Winn, B.S. has been active in Real Estate as both a Real Estate agent and manager in Fairfield County for more than 25 years. She currently holds a Broker’s license and as taught Real Estate classes at NCC for over 20 years.

George Wolf, B.S., Retired retail banking center manager with JP Morgan Chase Bank and Bank of America. Mr. Wolf has over 40 years of experience working in various leadership and staff coaching roles. He focused on training teams to provide financial service solutions to a variety of clientele.

David Wonsey, B.M. is currently the Principle Percussionist and Timpanist of the Ridgefield Symphony and is a founding member of WoMaDe, a world percussion ensemble. He is an adjunct professor at Marymount College and Fordham University where he teaches drumming and the History of Rock ‘n Roll and plays classical, jazz and all genres of American popular music.

Brad Yonkers, A.S., is a registered architect with his own practice. He has been involved with AutoCAD since 1989.

Jeanne Yusko is an instructor trainer with the American Red Cross.

Wei (Vicky) Zhang, M.B.A. is a native Chinese speaker from Beijing, and teaches Chinese in the College for Kids program.