



THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

## Expert-Led Learning from Industry Leaders

The faculty of American University's Master of Science in Human Resource Management program brings a wealth of experience, expertise, and dedication to empowering students. Our professors have extensive backgrounds in human resources, analytics, management, and related fields.

### **Rebecca Ackerman**

#### *Adjunct Instructor*



Rebecca Ackerman is an expert in Customer Relationship Management design and architecture, quantitative methods, predictive analytics, data science, and strategy. She specializes in digital transformation, process optimization, and business intelligence. She is a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, an expert in seven coding languages, and has multiple professional certifications.

### **Bobbe Baggio**

#### *Adjunct Professorial Lecture*



Bobbe Gaines Baggio, Ph.D. is a distinguished expert in workforce development, human resources, and learning technologies. With a career spanning academia and corporate leadership, she specializes in talent management, leadership training, and digital learning strategies. Dr. Baggio is known for her work in aligning people, technology, and business goals to drive organizational success. She has authored multiple publications on workforce education and is a sought-after speaker and consultant in HR and learning development.

### **Michaela Bearden**

#### *Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*



Michaela Ranaldi Bearden, Ed.D. is the Associate Director of Business Development at Inner Will Leadership Institute. In her role, she partners with clients in leadership, strategy, and organizational development. Prior to her role at Inner Will, Dr. Bearden led VCU's Center for Corporate Education for 7 years, designing leadership solutions for hundreds of clients, with a focus on people development and organizational effectiveness.



### **Nicassia Belton**

#### *Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*

Nicassia Belton, Ph.D. is a data expert with over 20 years of experience advancing cultural responsiveness and equity in education, career readiness, and workforce outcomes across federal, state, and nonprofit sectors. An "architect of accountability," Dr. Belton provides students with the tools to engage in innovative and strategic research, use data responsibly, tell compelling stories through analytics, and drive inclusive organizational change.



### **Wylie Chen**

#### *Adjunct Instructor*

Wylie Chen brings over 25 years of experience in advising nonprofits, foundations, and government agencies on strategic planning, program development, and initiatives that foster inclusive excellence. He integrates deep expertise in intercultural communications into his teaching, preparing students to effectively engage diverse communities and lead in dynamic environments.



### **Pearl J. Dahmen**

#### *Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*

Pearl J. Dahmen, Ph.D., CPA has been consulting with and training small business owners and entrepreneurs for over 25 years. From running her accounting practice, Pearl Financial Services LLC, to being part of the consulting team at the Small Business Administration at the University of South Florida, Dr. Dahmen supports, assists, and educates clients to improve their business performance by understanding and using financial principles and analysis.



### **Eric Felsberg**

#### *Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*

Eric J. Felsberg, J.D. is a principal in the Long Island, New York, office of Jackson Lewis P.C. He is co-leader of the firm's Artificial Intelligence service group, a co-leader of the Technology industry group, and the national director of the firm's Data Analytics group. Under his leadership, the Data Analytics group applies proprietary algorithms and state-of-the-art modeling techniques to help employers evaluate risk and drive legal strategy. Mr. Felsberg also provides training and daily counsel to employers in various industries on day-to-day employment issues.



### **Brendan Hennessy**

#### *Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*

Brendan Hennessy, J.D. practices law on behalf of insurance clients, employers, and executives. He serves as "Of Counsel" to Chubb Insurance Company's in-house firm and runs his own law firm. In the past fifteen years, he has handled hundreds of cases representing clients in court as well as before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (PHRC).



### **Felicia Jones**

#### *Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*

Felicia Jones, Ph.D. served as the Director of Engineering and Technology at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC). She is highly skilled in the management of technical organizations, and led the largest engineering Directorate at NASA, supporting over \$5B of NASA and other government agency space flight programs. Dr. Jones managed a portfolio of over \$3B in technical contracts, providing leadership to a multi-disciplined, technical organization charged with advancing the Nation's science, human exploration, and space technology programs.



### **Allen McMillin**

#### *Adjunct Instructor*

Allen McMillin is a seasoned Human Resources and Compensation leader with extensive experience in workforce analytics, total rewards strategy, and executive compensation. Allen specializes in applying statistical techniques to workforce management, pay equity, and compensation strategy. His expertise includes designing incentive programs, forecasting merit awards, and implementing advanced analytical models such as Monte Carlo simulations and cluster analysis to drive business impact.



### **Esther C. Nolton**

#### *Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*

Esther C. Nolton, Ph.D. is an established administrator, strategist, and leader in research and evaluation. She is often selected to lead enterprise-wide cross-functional groups and initiatives and provides thoughtful servant leadership in all her roles. Dr. Nolton has worked on more than 50 research and evaluation projects, published 8 peer-reviewed articles, and delivered over 60 local, regional, national, and international presentations across different topics and contexts.





### **Beverly Peters**

*Senior Professorial Lecturer*

Beverly Peters, Ph.D. is a Program Director with American University's Office of Graduate and Professional Studies. She is a specialist in the use of qualitative research methods and has written extensively on this topic. Dr. Peters has more than thirty years of experience teaching, conducting research, and managing public and private sector projects in Africa and the United States.



### **Bianca Prade**

*Adjunct Instructor*

Bianca Prade is a strategic communications executive and trusted advisor with over 20 years of transformative leadership experience, serving Fortune 100 companies, brand campaigns, and various sectors in the public and private realms. Currently, she is the Principal and CEO of Bstrategies LLC, a boutique consultancy excelling in the integration of advanced AI technologies into PR and marketing strategies.



### **Richard Sexton**

*Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*

Richard Sexton, J.D. has been practicing law for nearly two decades. He focuses his practice on Labor and Employment and Human Resources. He is currently Senior Counsel for Labor and Employment and Sector Privacy Lead for a major aerospace defense contractor. He provides day-to-day guidance to Human Resource professionals at all levels, from HR Business Partners, to Directors, to Vice Presidents.



### **Ramona Sharpe**

*Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*

Ramona T. Sharpe, Ph.D. PHR, CCP, SHRM-CP is a seasoned Human Resource Development professional, adult educator, and human capital and strategy consultant. Dr. Sharpe has held leadership roles providing human capital direction for major consulting firms, led company-wide HR initiatives for Fortune 500 companies, and managed consulting projects for non-profit organizations and government.



### **Robert Stokes**

Adjunct Professorial Lecturer

Robert Stokes, Ph.D. served as the (founding) Program Director of the Human Resource Analytics and Management graduate program at American University and continues to teach in the program. He gained approval for the program as an Academically Aligned Program by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). Outside of his work in higher education, Dr. Stokes has authored publications by the SHRM, ASTD, and the American Payroll Association.



### **Patricia Sullivan**

Adjunct Professorial Lecturer

Patricia Sullivan, Ph.D. is a transformative executive coach, leadership trainer, and consultant dedicated to fostering meaningful change, promoting continuous improvement, and advancing leadership excellence. With over 20 years of experience leading OD/HR teams and 15 years in adult education, organizational training, and leadership coaching, Dr. Sullivan combines expertise, science, and a forward-thinking approach to drive positive results.



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