

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR ADJUNCT FACULTY

Lyndsie Compton, M.A. (2018)



LYNDSIE COMPTON, M.A., teaches Spanish in the Department of World Languages and Literatures and the Higher Education in Prison Program at Portland State, and in the Spanish Department at Portland Community College. She is also the co-chair and the chair of grievances for the Portland State University Faculty Association. Compton received her Master of Arts in World Languages and Literatures: Spanish from Portland State University in 2018 and her Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Linguistics from Western Washington University in 2010.

Compton joined Portland State's Department of World Languages and Literatures (WLL) Department in 2016, first as a graduate teaching assistant and later as an adjunct. She contributed materials to the open-source textbooks that WLL faculty developed for the first- and second-year Spanish programs at PSU. A dedicated advocate for students, Compton is deeply committed to her students' well-being and academic and professional success and believes that language learning has the power to cultivate the cognitive skills that are instrumental in achieving academic success and cultural competence. She aims to provide an inclusive, trauma-informed, universally accessible classroom that embraces difference and fosters community building.

Believing that education is a fundamental right, Compton is committed to carceral education and started teaching Spanish at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in 2021. One student in Compton's class at Coffee Creek writes, "You have no idea how she is changing lives, especially for us incarcerated individuals. I now have the opportunity to graduate college at Portland State University. This program has given me the chance to have a normal life, to be a change to show other inmates if I can do it, so can they."

Compton would like to dedicate this award to her students and let them know that she recognizes the unique and valuable contributions and experiences that each of them brings to the classroom and to her life. She is honored to be able to participate in such honest, sincere, reflective, and collaborative exchanges with them.

The Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award recognizes and honors the outstanding contributions of Portland State University adjunct faculty.