



Hello everyone and welcome. My name is **Mary Beckmann** and I will be your instructor for this course. I can be reached through email [ponotoc2@yahoo.com](mailto:ponotoc2@yahoo.com), or cell 314-791-6685. Feel free to contact me with questions, comments, suggestions, or to say hi. Text, email, or phone!

I'm currently a technology curriculum integrator for grades Pre K-6 at an Archdiocese school and have been teaching K-12 since the 90s. I am in my 15th year as a full adjunct professor for a university, and in my 10<sup>th</sup> year as an assistant advisor and on a contract basis, when needed, I review articles and manuscripts for book publishers, teach continuing education classes for a local junior college, hold technology workshops for teens, and design curriculum and instruct online as a program director for Holy Apostles. I'm one of the original designers and instructors for the CDLN program that certifies instructors to teach online.

I have one son who lives with his family in Florida. My hobbies include raising Japanese Koi, reading, gardening, hiking with my dogs, making jewelry, knitting, and making greeting cards for charity and non-profit organizations. I live in a rural area outside of St. Louis, Missouri, USA.

My passion is teaching, particularly online. In the 1980s I was accepted as a beta tester for AOL and I was immediately hooked and saw the potential of blending education, teaching, and the Internet. At that time I started taking every distance learning class I could find for the experience – from Alaska to California to the Midwest, and some from local universities – during those early stages of distance learning, courses were delivered in text only, no links and no graphics!

After earning an AA degree, I completed a BA at Western Illinois University, went on to complete an MAT at Webster University, enrolled in a PhD in psychology counseling (and realized that wasn't for me), then once accepted at Walden University, I completed a doctoral in education. My dissertation involved teaching, learning, and alternative methods for staff development via mobile devices. I have also earned two distance learning online instructor certifications along the way as well as a Missouri teacher certification. I am certified to teach/instruct technology to children and adults and certified in computer repair.

I'm happy to be here, and I'm looking forward to a great course. Mary