

## Meet the Instructor - Amber Leibundgut-Peterson

Hello, everyone. My name is Amber Leibundgut-Peterson, and I will be your instructor for this course.

**Welcome and introductory statement**

To provide a little bit of background on myself, I am originally from central Wisconsin but moved incredibly far away to La Crosse, Wisconsin for my undergraduate degree.

After abandoning my original degree path of athletic training, I received my undergraduate degree in sociology and English from UW-La Crosse. While at UW-La Crosse, I discovered an interest in leadership theory, group processes, and workplace dynamics, but found my real passion in advocacy.

My degree led me to a position as an overnight counselor with a local crisis line. Two years later, I transitioned to the county system, where I worked at the Aging and Disability Resource Center as an intake worker. From there, I moved to the La Crosse District Attorney's Office as a victim witness advocate.

**Education and Professional background**

This was by far my most fitting career path, as I really enjoyed helping individuals navigate the often complicated law enforcement and judicial systems in Wisconsin. However, while working full-time at the county, I earned my online master's in library science degree from UW-Madison, which included coursework in leadership and management. Well, after graduating, I accepted a position at UW-La Crosse, working in Murphy Library as the Web and User Experience Librarian. As a librarian, I teach information literacy sessions for sociology, psychology, Spanish, and English courses.

**Experience and background as an educator**

When I am not teaching, I maintain the library website, serve on several campus committees, and work with our user population to make the library a useful and inviting place. Building off my sociological and user study experience, I continue to be greatly interested in leadership processes and have always found workplace dynamics a fascinating experience.

**Education and Professional background**

In my personal life, I am busy with two daughters who are six and three. If you don't have young children, that means most of my days are spent a blur and are spent corralling my kids, running them to various events, or working with my six-year-old on homework. Since my husband is also a teacher in the La Crosse School District, we are exceptionally lucky and enjoy most of our summers off together, which he loves to fill up with various road races and marathons. Now, just to be clear, I am not a runner by choice. But I do spend a lot of my free time playing in soccer leagues and running my husband around a tennis court.

**Personal biographical information (Optional)**

So that's me. Welcome to the course, and I look forward to working with you and learning from each of you.

**Closing**