Joshua Ferris

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Assistant Lecturer, BUS 104 Team Lead, and Technical Consultant

Professional Summary

Accomplished educator and administrator with expertise in managing large-scale academic programs and complex technical projects. Proven track record in curriculum oversight for over 1,400 students and the leadership of 23+ faculty members. Specialist in computational thinking, data science (Python, R, SQL), and the practical application of Generative AI in pedagogy. Recognized for driving organizational efficiency through data-informed decision-making and strategic program innovation.

Core Compentencies

- **Technical:** Python, R, JavaScript, SQL, Power BI, DAX, Tableau, Data Mining, Web Development.
- **Leadership:** Curriculum Development, Budget Management, Faculty Mentorship, Strategic Planning, Stakeholder Collaboration.
- **Systems & Infrastructure:** Project Scoping, Technical Consulting, Network Administration (VLANs, Pi-hole/Unbound).

Professional Experience

Miami University | Oxford, OH

Assistant Lecturer | *August 2023 – Present*
BUS 104 Team Lead | *August 2025 – Present*

- Resumed leadership of the Introduction to Computational Thinking for Business (BUS104) instructional team within the Farmer School of Business (FSB) First-Year Integrated Core (FYIC).
- Directing curriculum consistency and faculty coordination for the BUS 104 component.
- Instructing a course focused on logic, data analysis, and algorithmic problem-solving for business applications.

Director of the First-Year Integrated Core (FYIC) | *July 2024 – February 3, 2026*

- Directed operations for a premier business core program, managing 1,400 students annually and a team of 23 faculty members.
- Oversaw the curriculum and budgets of four integrated courses, ensuring academic rigor and resource optimization.

- Spearheaded cross-departmental collaboration with university stakeholders to align FYIC goals with broader institutional objectives.

Instructor & BUS 104 Team Lead | *August 2021 – May 2024*

- Served as BUS 104 Team Lead from January 2023 to May 2024, managing instructional alignment and faculty support.
- Promoted from Instructor (Aug 2021 – May 2023) to Assistant Lecturer in August 2023.
- Acted as a Research Business Analyst during the summer of 2021, contributing to departmental data initiatives.

University of Cincinnati | Remote

Consulting Lead Developer | *December 2021 – December 2025*

- Architected and developed a specialized web platform enabling researchers and clinicians to perform therapy sessions and track client progress longitudinally.

YMCA Camp Kern | Oregonia, OH

Pool Director / Ranch Assistant Director / Other Roles | *May 2016 – August 2020*

- Modernized lifeguard training and safety protocols, managing 31+ personnel to ensure zero cancellations across 120+ monthly swim sessions.
- Reduced chemical and maintenance expenses by 25% through vendor negotiations and strategic inventory planning.
- Directed equestrian operations for 70+ horses, including medical care and grooming; managed scheduling and training for 14 staff members and hundreds of campers.
- Served as a General Counselor, providing direct mentorship and conflict resolution for youth while facilitating experiential education programs.

Education

Miami University | Oxford, OH
Master of Science in Business Analytics, May 2021

University of York | York, United Kingdom
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, June 2018

Publications & Research

- **Megahed, F. M., Chen, Y. J., Ferris, J. A., Knoth, S., & Jones-Farmer, L. A. (2024).** "How generative AI models such as ChatGPT can be (mis)used in SPC practice, education, and research?" *Quality Engineering*, 36(2).
- **Alexander, J., Cissna, K., Ferris, J., et al. (2023).** "Gamification for professional communication and collaborative learning." *ABC Quarterly Newsletter*.

- **Crews, B., Ferris, J. A., & Cissna, K. (2023).** "Applying 'Yes, And' to AI in the business communication classroom." *Proceedings of the ABC Annual Conference*.
- **Ferris, J. (2022).** BUS 104: Introduction to Computational Thinking for Business. (Miami University Custom Course Textbook).
- **Megahed, F. M., et al. (2024).** "ChatISA: A Prompt-Engineered Chatbot for Coding, Project Management, Interview and Exam Prep." *arXiv preprint*.
- **Cissna, K., et al. (2024).** "The First Year Integrated Core at Miami University: Empowering Gen Z Learners." *Under review at Journal on Excellence in College Teaching*.

Conference Presentations & Workshops

- **Opening Session Presenter:** "Beyond the Initial Shock: Leveraging AI to Enhance Student Learning." *Miami AI Symposium* (2025).
- **Presenter:** "First-Year Integrated Core." *Undergraduate Consortium Convening*, Logan, UT (2024).
- **Presenter:** "Leveraging Faculty Collaboration for Effective Curricular Technology Integration." *Original Lilly Conference* (2023).
- **Panelist:** "Beyond Traditional Methods: Generative AI's Impact on STEM Pedagogy." *Miami AI Symposium* (2023).
- **Workshop Lead:** "GradeScope Demonstration for Faculty" (2025) and "Howe Writing Center FYIC Overview" (2024).

Service & Leadership

University & Divisional Service

- **Member**, FSB Educational Experience Ad Hoc Committee (2024–Present).
- **Member**, University Senate IT Policy Committee (2025–Present).
- **Member**, FYIC Integration Committee (2022–Present)
- **Member**, FYIC Innovation Committee (2023–Present)
- **Member**, FSB Executive Committee (2024–2026).
- **Ex Officio**, Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee (2024–2026).
- **Chair/Member**, FYIC DEIB Committee (2022–2024).
- **Member**, FYIC Technology Committee (2022–2024).
- Represent the FYIC at Open Houses, Make It Miami, and Presidential Fellows interviews.
- Facilitated sessions for Camp Excell, Discover U in Business, and Cyber Camp (2024).
- **Mentor**, Startup Weekend (2025, 2024).

Community Service

- **Secretary**, Miami Township Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (November 2024–Present).

Professional Development

- **Question, Persuade, Refer** (Spring 2025)
- **Mental Health First Aid** (Fall 2024)
- **Safe Zone Training** (Fall 2024).
- **MU-LEADS Leadership Program** (Fall 2024).
- **Certified Advancement Partner Program** (Summer 2024).