

Faculty Bio

Kathy Matthes received her Masters of Professional Writing (MPW) degree at USC in 2006 with emphases in fiction, non-fiction and technical writing.

She also completed her Masters of Science in Education at USC's Rossier School of Education in 1995 with emphases in curriculum and instruction and instructional technology/design. Her research focused on instructional design, distance education and interactive multimedia, which included coursework in film production and interactive multimedia production at the USC School of Cinema.

She received her B.A. in Humanities from California State University, Northridge in 1982 and her A.A. in Humanities from Los Angeles Valley College in 1978, which also included a Humanities Study Abroad Program in Italy, France, Germany, Belgium and England.

She has had a wide variety of teaching, writing and instructional design experiences throughout her career. During her 16+ years at USC's School of International Relations as a technology/computer consultant, she trained faculty, staff and students how to use computers and the Internet and taught faculty how to incorporate new technologies into their classes. She wrote successful grant proposals that resulted in two computer labs for her department, which she set-up and managed. She offered Internet literacy and computer training classes to students in them.

In addition, she wrote, edited and desktop published newsletters, student handbooks, computer training guides, reports, brochures, and successful technology grant proposals as well as edited faculty book and article manuscripts and graduate student dissertations while at USC. She designed and authored one of the first comprehensive departmental websites on the USC campus for her department.

As an educational writer for AIMS Multimedia's Digital Curriculum program (which offered on-demand educational videos to K-12 schools--now Discovery Education), she wrote teacher study guides, online help guides, "On this Day in History" vignettes and the AIMS Writer's Manual. She provided instructional design assistance for the website redesign and for an internal tracking system for project management of the curriculum development from inception to deployment.

For over 14 years, she taught riding to adults and children at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center as well as UCLA Extension and LACC Extension Horsemanship classes. In addition to teaching, she developed educational programs; established, edited and desktop published newsletters; compiled training manuals and guidebooks; and designed and taught show prep workshops. She established and directed the Combined Training riding club, which provided cross-country schooling days, show scholarships, an event groom certificate program, a monthly newsletter, meetings and clinics, and an annual awards banquet. She was instrumental in implementing the prestigious British Horse Society's training programs at her riding school, which was the first BHS-certified riding school on the West Coast. Two of her articles were published in top equestrian magazines.

As a web designer, she designed, authored and maintained equestrian websites for Traditional Equitation School, Dominion Saddlery and Cornerstone Events Management. She also designed her own APA Style Step-by-Step, Knack for Writing, stories2music, and portfolio websites.

She has done instructional design work for the National University Center for Innovation in Learning where she redesigned online courses for the Computer Science Department. She also redesigned four online classes for the NU Sanford College of Education.

Currently, she is a Part-Time Professor at National University. She taught graduate educational technology courses to K-12 teachers pursuing their master's degrees courses from 2003 to 2020 for the Sanford College of Education. She currently teaches Academic Information Literacy for the Department of Arts & Humanities. She was also a writing tutor at National University's Online Writing Center for 11 years.

She has taught the following online graduate courses at National University:

- Multimedia and Interactive Technologies
- Mobile & Online Learning
- Media & Instruction
- Computer Technology in the Classroom
- Effective Instructional Design
- Issues and Trends in Educational Technology
- Meaningful Learning With Technology
- Designing Web-Based Instruction
- Multimedia in Instruction
- Technology for the Disabled Person
- Tech Writing & Project Mgmt for CYB
- Teaching Online and Hybrid Classes

She has taught the following online undergraduate courses at NU and other colleges:

- English Composition I, II
- Intermediate English Composition
- Advanced Business Writing
- Advanced Technical Writing
- Communication in Organizations
- Scientific & Technical Writing
- Introduction to Film
- Business Communication
- English Literature
- Information Literacy and Report Writing
- Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies
- Integrating Disciplines with Technology
- Human Dynamics
- Communication in Healthcare

She is also Adjunct Assistant Professor at University of Maryland Global Campus, where she teaches Academic Writing I and taught Advanced Technical Writing and Advanced Business Writing.

Her current research is about the effects of film music and sound effects on the emotions and imagination of the listener of audio stories and radio dramas. See her stories2music blog and podcasts.

She produces audio stories for her stories2music project, where she narrates her flash fiction stories over short, orchestral film music and sound effects. The project includes her stories2music website, social media sites, newsletters, companion Kindle e-books, a research-based blog and podcasts. One story won the 3rd place fiction award and was published in the *Bravura Literary Journal* in May 2018. See the project at <http://www.stories2music.com>

As a tech savvy instructor, she likes to use technology in her classes, such as blogs, wikis, screencasts, podcasts, infographics, videos, YouTube, social media, digital storytelling and multimedia presentations. She has experience using Adobe CC Photoshop, Illustrator, Dreamweaver, and In-Design, Audacity; Google apps; Adobe Connect and Zoom; Office 365; and HTML5 and CSS3.

She takes professional development courses at Palomar College, San Diego Mesa College and Grossmont College in multimedia, web design, graphic design and multimedia and creating writing.

See her portfolio website: http://www.stories2music.com/KM/new_site/index.html