

Meet Your Instructor

Kori Amos,
SHRM-SCP | SPHR



Years Teaching Prep Course: 3

Kori Amos has 13 years of experience in the field of Human Resources. She is a Senior Certified Professional through The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM-SCP) and certified as a Professional in Human Resources from the HR Certification Institute (PHR). Kori has experience creating Human Resources departments and processes from scratch, working with start-ups and entrepreneurs to develop HR strategy, creating and driving Workforce Development Programs for the formerly incarcerated, and is overall an HR, coffee, and positivity enthusiast.

She is the Past President of the Pittsburgh Human Resources Association, the Media Relations Director for the PA SHRM State Council, and a Co-Organizer for Disrupt HR Pittsburgh.

Meet Your Instructor

Amanda Barclay

SHRM-CP

Company: UPMC

Years Teaching Prep Course: 7

Email: amanda.edwards00@gmail.com



I am currently a Project Manager within UPMC's Office of HR Organizational Performance. I have worked at UPMC for 12 years in a variety of roles, including Campus Programs, retention/engagement, and project management. Within HR, I have worked in both our corporate offices, as well as many of our specialty hospitals. I took a brief, 3-year hiatus from HR and worked as a Program Director within UPMC Health Plan's clinical operations, as well! Outside of work, I am pursuing my Master of Public Management degree from Carnegie Mellon University, a mom of two boys (ages 4 and 2) and a Bravo superfan! I love being a course instructor for the PHRA and look forward to getting to know other HR professionals every year!

Meet Your Instructor

Teagan Burkey

SHRM-CP

Company: Navisite, LLC

Email: tburkey16@jcu.edu

Years Teaching Prep Course: 1



Teagan Burkey is the Talent Management Specialist for Navisite, LLC which is a global IT company. She is currently looking for a new HR role, likely as a HRBP or in Learning/Talent Development in the Greater Pittsburgh Region. So, if you hear of anything please let her know. Teagan currently works from her newly built townhouse in Cecil, PA.

Teagan graduated from John Carroll University in 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in HR. Then headed to the happiest place on earth, Walt Disney World, to participate in their Disney College Program. This was a dream come true as she was born in Florida and has been to Disney over 25 times since Disney is where her family vacationed every year.

She was in Disney for six months and then came home to have her first HR job as a recruiter for The Oneida Group. For the last four years she has been at Navisite working in all different areas of HR. Starting as an HR contractor, then became an HR coordinator, Talent Acquisition and Benefits Specialist, then finally her current role.

During the pandemic she started a book club with her friends as well as earned her SHRM-CP certification this past May. She has been a member of Pittsburgh Young Professionals since 2017. She joined the Recruitment and Retention committee in 2019 and then became Social Media Board Member in 2020. She loves to give back to her community and connecting with people.

Meet Your Instructor

Dan Corkum, SHRM-CP

Company: ARLANXEO

Email: dancorkum@hotmail.com

Years Teaching Prep Course: 1



Daniel Corkum is a Human Resource and Total Rewards professional with over 16 years of progressive experience and consistent success designing, implementing, managing, and administering HR, Compensation, Payroll, and Benefits systems solutions for leading corporations.

Over the past two decades, Mr. Corkum has held various HR, Compensation, & Total Rewards roles,

in global companies, such as Bayer and NOVA Chemicals and currently, ARLANXEO.

He has been responsible for managing Compensation, Payroll, and Benefits projects, has served on numerous non-profit committees, and has also held the role of Total Rewards Functional Leader during a short-term assignment in Germany.

Mr. Corkum is a member of World at Work, and the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), as well as both local Pittsburgh-Area chapter groups. He is a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) since 2007, a Certified Compensation Professional (CCP) since 2009, a Certified Benefits Professional (CBP) since 2015, and the SHRM Certified Professional (SHRM-CP) since 2015.

Mr. Corkum has a BA degree in Business Administration from Washington and Jefferson College, and resides in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. Mr. Corkum is currently a Total Rewards Specialist at ARLANXEO.

Meet Your Instructor

Diane Houser SHRM-CP

Company: ConnectiveRX
Years Teaching Prep Course: 3
Email: diane.houser@connectiverx.com



Diane Houser is the Director of Employee Relations for ConnectiveRx, a tech-based firm that handles specialty hub medication programs for large pharmaceutical companies. Diane started as an HR Generalist at ConnectiveRx and has moved up through the ranks to a Director role and serves on the Senior Management Team. Prior to her current company, she worked in the nonprofit and academic realms in various HR capacities.

Diane serves as a PHRA Board member and Co-Chair of the Membership, Diversity, and College Relations committee. She has a deep commitment to growing the HR profession and to fostering diverse work environments.

She credits getting her SHRM certification as the real kick starter to her professional development and is excited to help others to grow their careers.

Meet Your Instructor

Valerie Nance, SHRM-SCP

Company: Penn Hills Charter
School of Entrepreneurship

Years Teaching Prep Course: 2

Email: valerie.nance@phcharter.org



If we go way back, the human resources seed was planted in me when I served on a university faculty search committee as a student in 2001. By 2003, I was recruiting and conducting new hire orientations, and in 2006 my HR career officially began with an Employment Assistant role in Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's Corporate Human Resources Department. During my years at CMP, I grew from an administrative support role to that of Employment Manager. After leaving the Museums, I held HR generalist roles in the construction and real estate industries. I have been with Penn Hills Charter School of Entrepreneurship since 2018, where I currently hold the role of Director of Human Resources.

I am a passionate advocate for animal welfare, human rights, the environment, the arts, and the alleviation of poverty. I love to travel, but during the pandemic, I have appreciated the opportunity to get to know my neighborhood, immerse myself in my Britbox subscription, and improve the home I share with my partner and two cats.

Meet Your Instructor

Cheryl Paxton Hughes

SHRM-CP

Company: Edgar Snyder & Associates

Years Teaching Prep Course: 1

Email: cpaxtonhughes@gmail.com



Cheryl Paxton-Hughes is the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Board at Edgar Snyder & Associates. Prior to this role, Cheryl spent over 15 years in human resources and five years in project management and IT working in a variety of industries including healthcare, technology, and retail. During her career Cheryl has led and initiated numerous organizational changes both small and large ranging from cultural changes to system implementations. Cheryl can navigate been strategy and tactics, understanding not only where to go but how to get there. Cheryl is proud that many of her former direct reports are now leaders themselves which she believes is the entire point of being a leader – to develop others. Cheryl holds a Bachelors and Master's Degree in Business Administration and is a SHRM certified HR professional.

Meet Your Instructor

Shahfar Shaari

Company: University of Pittsburgh

Years Teaching Prep Course: 10

Email: shahfar.shaari@pitt.edu



Shahfar Shaari currently holds dual roles at University of Pittsburgh as the Acting Assistance Vice Chancellor of HR where his work is comprised of strategy and oversight for Talent Acquisition, HRIS, HR Shared Services, and compensation, and as Director of Organizational Transformation, leading the change management function for enterprise-wide projects.

During a career spanning 23 years, he has worked with organizations of all sizes across financial, marketing, technology, manufacturing, energy, healthcare, pharmaceutical, education and construction sectors, covering the Americas, EMEA and APAC.

Shahfar serves as adjunct faculty for a variety of courses within the Human Resource Management curriculum at Point Park University, Waynesburg University, and Westmoreland Co. Community College.

Shahfar received a B.A. in Economics from UCLA and an MS in Human Resource Management from Robert Morris University and is currently a PhD candidate in Organizational Behavior at IUP. He holds the Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP) designations.

Meet Your Instructor

Ashleigh Sager

SHRM- SCP



Company: Babb, Inc.

Years Teaching Prep Course: 2

Email: ams@babbins.com

I am the Human Resources Director at Babb, Inc., a family-owned insurance brokerage firm on the North Side. Over the past 5 years, I have had the opportunity to develop process and procedure for all aspects of Human Resources from scratch. It has been challenging and a great test of my HR knowledge, skills and abilities picked up from my 12 or so years in this field.

Prior to Babb, I was the Operations Manager for the UPMC Learning & Development Team, which is responsible for developing and conducting new hire orientation among many other programs. I took the 12-week certification class in the Spring of 2018 prior to passing the SHRM-SCP exam. Because I do not have an HR degree, I used to feel like I was just “pretending” that I knew what I was doing. Passing the SCP has given me the confidence to know that I know what I’m doing. The time and effort that I put into going to class and studying as time well spent. A professional game changer.

As a way to give back to my profession and be with likeminded people, I decided to get more involved with the PHRA in 2019. In addition to teaching this class, I am also on the Executive Board of Directors in the V.P. Secretary position.

On a personal note, I live in McCandless Twp., with my husband (Joe), 6-year-old son (Blake) and 1-year-old daughter (Lennox). I enjoy the simple things in life like taking care of my family, organizing areas in my home, watching my son play sports, listening to books & podcasts and retail therapy. When my husband and I can break away from everyday life, we enjoy going to concerts and attending musicals in the Cultural District.

Meet Your Instructor

Gena Sproul, SHRM-CP

Company: Indus Hotel Mgmt LLC

Years Teaching Prep Course: about 6 years, time flies when you are having fun!

Email: gena.sproul@hilton.com

Gena Sproul is the Director of Human Resources for Indus Hospitality Management LLC in their franchise location Embassy Suites by Hilton Pittsburgh Downtown, the only sky lobby in Pittsburgh. Prior to Indus Hospitality, Gena was an HR Generalist with MPW Industrial Services where she managed the HR needs of four branch offices in four states. She became interested in HR at California University of Pennsylvania as the Assistant Director of Social Equity where her focus was complaint investigation and resolution as well as facilitating workshops for students, staff and faculty on sexual harassment and diversity and faculty recruitment.

Gena is also a retired Navy Yeoman Chief Petty Officer where she was a trained Navy career counselor and member of the command training team. Her diversity of knowledge and experience crosses several disciplines and is a great way to connect with her diverse workforce.

She has facilitated SHRM certification classes for approximately 5 years and loves to interact with students interested in careers in business especially those with a concentration in human resources.

Meet Your Instructor

Tabatha Wendorff, SHRM-SCP

Company: Auberle

Years Teaching Prep Course: 3

Email: tabathawendorff@gmail.com



I am a passionate HR professional who believes that you can't succeed in any organization without the right humans! Hence why HR is so important. I have been working in HR and training for 10 years. My favorite areas are employee engagement and compensation, but I do fancy myself a Jill of All Trades! When not being my best HR self I am usually traveling, planning traveling, or talking about traveling. During the recent not so travel friendly times I have found myself trying to PR a mile and walking 5ks! Protip- at a brisk walk you can complete a 5k in the same amount of time it takes to listen to a 1 hr SHRM webcast! Did I mention I am a notorious multitasker!? I passed the SHRM-SCP in 2018, and am here to help you do the same!