



Each month we spotlight several College of Education Faculty Mentors for you to get to know better. Our wonderful professors and instructors in **Education, Psychology & Counseling**, and **Health & Kinesiology** are here for you!

What is a Faculty Mentor?

A Faculty Mentor can be any NSU professor or instructor. Faculty mentors have in-depth knowledge of their field and are the best resource for expanding students' understanding of their discipline.

Faculty Mentors are your go-to for help with:

- Expanding knowledge within your major
- Career exploration and advice
- Internship opportunities
- Research opportunities
- Future academic pursuits
- Graduate programs

How do I find a Faculty Mentor?

Assigned Faculty Mentor

All students are assigned a Faculty Mentor when you declare a major. You can find who your assigned mentor is at the top of your degree audit ([Degree Works](#)) in the section labeled "Advisors".

Faculty Mentor for Field of Interest

Any NSU professor or instructor can serve as your Faculty Mentor, even if they are not assigned to you. Each faculty has an area of expertise that may be better suited for helping you with your specific future goals. Talk with your professors, assigned Faculty Mentor, or [Academic Advisor](#) about finding the right Faculty Mentor for you.

Need tips on how to connect with professors? Check out the tips & resources sections at the bottom!

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Kristin Korte

Instructor

Special Education

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Teaching → 26 years

At NSU → 1 year

Field Expertise / Research Interests

Special Education and transition for students with disabilities at 4-year universities

EDUCATION

- * B.S. Special Education, *Southern Ill. University - Edwardsville*
- * M.S. Special Education, *Southern Ill. University - Edwardsville*
- * Ed. S. Educational Leadership, *Southern Ill. University - Edwardsville*

Personal hobbies & interests

I like to binge on Netflix. Right now I am so busy with teaching classes and taking classes through University of Arkansas that the days go by fast.

What drew you to your field?

Every student deserves the best education possible. Every person has their own strengths and areas of improvement. Even you and I. We all have our own level of abilities and that is what makes each person unique.

Favorite course to teach

I love all of the courses I teach. I love working with future teachers. Our future teachers no matter what they teach impact so many lives. This is a strange time for all of us. But, the students must come first. It is so true that "To teach is to touch a life forever". As a teacher I hope I touched many lives in a positive way.

Who had the biggest impact on your educational experience?

My past teachers- Mrs. Scannel, Mr. Molesky and Ms. O'Shea. I grew up on the southside of Chicago. These teachers had a huge impact on my life. They may not know it, but, they did. They were caring, tough, smart and pushed all of us from Kellogg School in Beverly Hills, IL to be the best we can. I want to do the same for future teachers and I hope they pass it on to their own students. Also my parents had a huge impact. I remember that my grandmother told my parents that girls should not go to college. I am glad my parents supported my passion to go to college.

What do you tell students who don't know what to do with their major?

Explore and figure out what your passion is. What do you want to do that you will be happy doing? You need to like/love your job. I love my job at NSU. Have a toolbox. During class I will give you many tools to use in the classroom. Our tools are different strategies. One tool may work for one student, but not for the other students. You need to be open minded and try different things. Every day is a new day.

READING

Dr. Stephan Sargent

Professor

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Teaching → 28 years

At NSU → 18 years

Field Expertise / Research Interests

Teaching Reading in the Elementary School

Newspapers in Education

Alternative text types for reading instruction

EDUCATION

- * A.S. General Science, *Northern Oklahoma College*
- * B.S. Elementary Education, *Oklahoma State University*
- * M.A. School Guidance & Counseling, *The University of Tulsa*
- * Ed.D. Reading/Literacy, *Oklahoma State University*

Personal hobbies & interests

Some of my hobbies include church work, spending time with family, family history, travel, dining out, pets, and travel.

What drew you to your field?

Many facets about teaching drew me to the field. I come from a long line of educators and practically grew up in my parents' classrooms. I also love helping people learn and apply what they have acquired. Most of all, I am a people-person and enjoy the school setting so much!

Favorite course to teach

Although I love all of my courses, my favorite is READ 4013: Content Area Literacy. This is the first course in the series of reading classes at NSU. I love teaching the introduction course where students are first introduced to reading instruction. Many students tell me they have no idea how to teach someone to read but are so excited to learn! Also, the content in this class is material I love and my students love as well. I look forward to seeing you in my class!

Who had the biggest impact on your educational experience?

One of my professors at Oklahoma State University probably has had the biggest impact on my career. I had this instructor while working on my bachelor's degree. He taught me so much about teaching reading in the grade school. He even helped me when I began teaching school, making a partnership between OSU and the school where I taught. When I went back to OSU to work on my graduate degree, I again chose this professor with whom to work. He guided me through that degree and still is a part of my life today!

What do you tell students who don't know what to do with their major?

For a student who isn't sure what to do with his/her major, I think the best idea is to explore options in the field through internships, volunteering, or seeking hands-on experiences that are related. For example, if a person is interested in teaching school, spending some time in various grade levels/subject areas would be a great idea.

Advice for students

I love to share three pieces of advice with my students. First, learn as much as you can while in college. You'll be so glad you did when you're in front of 25 to 30 children in the grade school. Second, get as much experience "in the field" through internships, volunteering, and seeking out ways to be in the classroom. The more you can be in the "field," the more you'll learn and be able to apply what you're learning at NSU. Finally, visit the NSU Career Services Office early and frequently. They conduct in-person, telephone, and even Zoom meetings. I would suggest visiting their office at least once a semester. Ask them what they suggest at each point along the way and bring your questions, too!

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP (Graduate)

Dr. Judy Moody

Associate Professor

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Teaching → 30 years

At NSU → 18 years

Field Expertise / Research Interests

Technology: Gender inequality



EDUCATION

- * B.S. Elementary Education, *East Central State University*
- * M.S. Computer Science, *NOVA University*
- * Ph.D. Philosophy of Education, *Oklahoma State University*

Personal hobbies & interests

I raise Westie puppies, flowers, vegetable gardens, and fruit trees. I love boating and water activities. I enjoy scuba diving, skydiving, and crafts of all kinds.

What drew you to your field?

Math and computer science

Favorite course to teach

Motivation is my favorite because people are always eager to learn more about how to motivate students and themselves.

Who had the biggest impact on your educational experience?

A high school Spanish teacher.

What do you tell students who don't know what to do with their major?

Discuss why they chose the major and what they would like to do with that particular major. I would help them make a list of opinions.

Advice for students

If you know how, it is easy!

Tips on How to Connect with Professors

- ✓ **Introduce yourself** → Whether it's after class or via email, introducing yourself is a great first step to connecting with professors.
- ✓ **Attend their office hours** → It may seem intimidating to stop by a professor's office, but office hours are the time they set aside specifically for students to visit with them outside of class. Office hours are posted on their doors, in syllabi, or you can request via email.
- ✓ **Go to class** → **Always be prepared** → **Participate** → **Display respect**
- ✓ **Get involved** → Ask your professors about any organization/honor societies to join. Professors often sponsor these, so it is another great way to get more connected to them.
- ✓ **Ask them questions** → How did they get into their field? Were they ever lost college students? What can you do with your major? What can you do to prepare for life after graduation? The sky is the limit!

NSU Resources

College of Education

- [Education Department](#)
- [Psychology & Counseling Department](#)
- [Health & Kinesiology Department](#)
- [Academic Advisors](#)

Career Services

- [Career & Major Advice](#)
- [What can I do with a major in...?](#)

Student Resources

- [MY NSU](#)
- [goNSU](#)
- [Degree Audit](#)

Other Resources

YouTube

- [Top Mistakes Students Make - Not Visiting your Professor During Office Hours](#)
- [How to get to know your Professors better!](#)
- [How faculty mentors can help first-generation students succeed](#)

Articles

- [The Importance of Building Relationships with your Professors](#)
- [Guide to Communicating with Professors](#)
- [How to Build a Strong Relationship with your Professor](#)