

Not Your Average Instructor

Timothy Carrender is not your average instructor; he is also a full-time Army Active-Duty Warrant Officer. Program Director, Jeffery Sun, sums it up perfectly, describing him as an individual who “is fighting for our US safety – on land and on virtual space.”

This man’s dedication not only to the military but to teaching is certainly remarkable. Being stationed all the way in Qatar, Timothy Carrender managed to juggle his active-duty lifestyle as well as virtually instructing Comp TIA IT Fundamental Workshops for the University of Louisville’s C4 Project.

Timothy Carrender is passionate about his job in the Army as a Signal Warrant Officer specializing in Network Engineering. He has been serving for 16 years and is set to retire in just four more. He has gained a vast amount of knowledge and skills in the cybersecurity field during his time in service and has even taken opportunities to acquire additional certifications on his off time. It was not surprising then, that a current instructor, Spencer Chen, highly recommended him to instruct for the C4 Project.

Being stationed in Qatar created many unique obstacles for Mr. Carrender to be an instructor, none of which he could not manage to overcome, of course. To best accommodate his class, he began his instruction at 8:00 PM EST. In Qatar, the time difference would mean he needed to start teaching at 3:00 AM. In the military, waking up early is normal... for physical fitness that is. Nonetheless, his commitment to teaching would imply he needed to wake up even earlier than usual. Mr. Carrender was dedicated to the C4 Project no matter what, even directly after encountering a life-or-death situation.

As recounted by Mr. Carrender, “while in quarantine in Iraq, we came under attack by a drone carrying explosives. It went off around 200 meters from our location. After all clear, I was still able to wake up at 3:00 AM to conduct class!” After hearing about the incident, The University of Louisville’s C4 Project was in shock but relieved knowing he was safe. The C4 Project is cognizant that individuals like Mr. Carrender add value and meaning to the Project and merit his enthusiasm for merging his experience and service in the military with teaching IT for the University of Louisville.

When asked about what he enjoys about working with the C4 Project, he responded: “Having the opportunity with this organization has been a blessing! One aspect I enjoy the most about working with C4 project is having people from all different backgrounds getting into IT. Whether it is some experience in IT or little, everyone who attends my coaching session always has significant questions about which path they want to take.”

Timothy Carrender recently returned to the states and is looking forward to conducting his 3rd Comp TIA IT Fundamental Workshop beginning August 9, 2021. Here is a word from Timothy Cerrender to future students, “I look forward to meeting each of you and hope I can provide you with the guidance and knowledge needed to be successful in the IT industry.”



Prepared by:
Program Coordinator: 2LT Jacqueline Zubiata, Dept of Educational Leadership, Evaluation and
Organizational Development, UofL Jacqueline.Zubiata@Louisville.edu