

Professor: Elizabeth D. Bivins

A native of Johnson City, Tennessee, Ms. Bivins completed her undergraduate work at Milligan College in 1988 (B.A., magna cum laude with a major in English and a minor in Theatre Arts) and her master's degree from ETSU in 1989 (M.A.T. +20 with an emphasis in Social Sciences and Secondary Education). Before moving to the Nashville area, she enjoyed teaching middle and high school students grades 7-12 at University School of Johnson City, on the campus of ETSU. While doing so, she also taught at Kingsport Adult High School and Northeast State Technical Community College, where she designed and implemented the first Introduction to Theatre course as well as taught Developmental and Basic Writing, Introduction to Composition, and Humanities.

In 1992, she moved to Nashville to teach AP Literature and Composition and Applied Communications at Brentwood High School. In 1997, she transferred to the new Centennial High School and has taught AP Literature and Composition, AP Language and Composition, ACT Prep, and all levels of English from standard to AP in grades 9-12 since that time. In 2009, she obtained ELA certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and completed the renewal process in 2019. She also became an AP reader for the College Board in June, 2009, and she has continued to work in that endeavor, advancing to table leader, early table leader, and sample selector. Sharing her passion and experience with others, Ms. Bivins has conducted professional development over the years for Williamson County and has also been a literacy content specialist for Instruction Partners.

She's been with Williamson College for well over a decade now, beginning with the ESL program, moving to General Education, and now serving as General Education Department Chair. She enjoys the autonomous learning format and the uniquely intimate nature of the Williamson College instructional model, and she feels blessed to serve the students of such a compassionate and driven institution, poised uniquely to make a tremendous impact on both student body (incredible individuals, by the way) and community. Williamson College offers that rare foundation of faith, collegiality of believers, and compassionate support system other colleges and universities just don't or can't.

When not on one of two campuses, her homes away from home, she enjoys spending time with family, laughing at her crazy furry critters, volunteering at Brentwood Baptist, reading (or listening), good film and theatre, ballroom dance, and almost anything involving water—especially the beach!