

## Holly Hudnall, M.A., B.A. English & Allied Language Arts, 2009

By Madelyn Chambers

### Coordinator for The Writing Center, Cecil College

*“None of us ever really know what changes we are going to face in our lives, or what opportunities are going to present themselves to us. It is a good idea to build a foundation, and always be open to building on that foundation with new experiences and skills. Cultivate resilience.”*



Holly Hudnall graduated from WKU with a BA in English & Allied Language Arts in 2009. She returned to WKU for her [MA in Folk Studies](#), which she completed in 2013. She is currently the Coordinator for The Writing Center at [Cecil College](#), a community college in North East, Maryland.

As a legacy student of WKU, Hudnall grew up on WKU’s campus, so it was the perfect place to pursue her degree. “I’ve been on Western’s campus since I was a baby. In about 1975, when my mother was a student at WKU, the folks down at the ID office made me my own WKU ID. I was about a year old. I still have it!” She began as a Journalism and Public Relations major, but her love of literature and writing called her to the English department.

Hudnall valued all the concrete knowledge she gained in classes at WKU. In particular, her linguistics course has helped her teach grammar in composition courses at Cecil College. Hudnall also credits two WKU professors with giving her vital skills. “Dr. Vicki Metzger was invaluable for the practical skills, like classroom management, that every instructor needs. In my graduate program, one of the most helpful classes I had was Public Folklore with Dr. Tim Evans, because it really gave me the administrative skills I needed for my current job as the Coordinator of our Writing Center.”

After graduating with her master’s degree, Hudnall stayed at home with her infant daughter for a year before becoming an adjunct English instructor at Cecil College in 2014. She loves teaching students to write and helping them overcome challenges.

When the position of Coordinator for The Writing Center opened in 2017, Hudnall jumped at the opportunity to keep doing what she loves.

As the Coordinator of The Writing Center, Hudnall helps students by “providing one-on-one instruction to students to help facilitate their writing. I try to spend as much time as possible helping students whenever and however I can.” She markets The Writing Center at staff and student meetings and works with other English professors to teach students proper formatting and citations. Hudnall also continues to teach composition courses.

When she isn't working, Hudnall enjoys pursuing DIY home improvement projects, writing, and taking day trips to historical locations with her family. She also loves reading the works of Stephen King.

Hudnall recommends that current WKU students consider how to market their abilities and experiences: “‘Know thyself.’ It’s important to understand what your talents and skills are, so that you have confidence in your abilities and understand the areas where you need to grow. Being honest about the things you do well and the areas where you need improvement is an important skill in life. When you find out what you don’t know, be willing to learn it, and use it in the future.”

