

**Professor Tim Brotherton** is an associate professor here in the English Department at WKU where he teaches two ENG 100 labs, ENG 100, and ENG 200.

Professor Brotherton served as an active-duty **army officer** for 20 years and as a contractor for another four years. During that time, he was a brigade logistics officer and helped move a brigade with migrants from Cuba to Panama within a week. He is particularly proud of overseeing this feat due to the situation's complexity.

He also served as a department head at the University of Guam for a time teaching ROTC cadets. A group of him and four others was able to improve their position from **170<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation**, in terms of test scores, in three years. He notes that "it was a pretty rigorous process—physically and academically—to get good leadership scores. We were pretty proud of it."

Professor Brotherton was at Fort Irwin in 1988 when he got a call from **West Point** asking if he wanted to come back as an instructor. He decided to take the offer, so the army paid for his graduate work in English. After his education, he spent three years at West Point teaching freshman and sophomores. At the end of his career in the military, Professor Brotherton applied for a job here at WKU as an ROTC contractor in 2003 before eventually moving to South Campus in 2007 and then here to the English Department this past year.

"It wasn't a very straight path to become a college teacher," says Brotherton. "I did one half in the army and the other half here."

Professor Brotherton admires the English Department for its **wide variety of activities**, and he also praises the university at large for its range of disciplines and activities for students. He frequently attends events such as campus movie showings and faculty lectures.

"I am really interested in seeing all kinds of new things at college, and this department has lots of that going on, but it's not just the department."

Professor Brotherton has spent the last two years helping to develop **new teaching methods** for students transitioning from developmental reading classes to ENG 100.

"We lose students in between the semesters," he explains. "I have two tutors, and I've been spending a lot of time figuring out, limited time, what is the best thing to do to help them in the lab when they're all doing different things in English 100?"

Professor Brotherton encourages English students and aspiring writers to develop **good habits**.

"You've got to develop habits," he explains. "Get up earlier in the morning, have a system. Find a time and place when you just focus. If you don't have that start, you'll just procrastinate."

When not in class or working in the department, Professor Brotherton enjoys walking, maintaining his cabin and stone house, and helping take care of his three grandchildren.