How to Contact Us:
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How the Course Was Developed: Course Authors and Contributors

The Governmental Training course, Human Resources: An Online Course for Governmental Officials, has traditionally been a certification course offered in a face-to-face environment only to local employees from the State of Georgia. In 2008, the online version of this course was created as a joint effort between the University of Georgia’s Carl Vinson Institute of Government and the Center for Continuing Education.

Harry E. Owens joined the Carl Vinson Institute of Government as adjunct faculty in 2009. He has been an instructor with the Vinson Institute since 1990, providing instruction in human resource management to the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG), the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), and professional associations for superior court clerks, personnel/human resources managers, municipal and county clerks, tax officials, and others.

Mr. Owens is the Human Resources Director for the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County, a consolidated government of over 1500 employees. He is a senior human resources management practitioner with thirty years of experience managing and directing all aspects of human resources administration in state and local government.

He has served as chairperson for the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce and the Human Resources Management Association and as president of the Metro Atlanta Chapter of the International Public Management Association for Human Resources. He has a B.S. in Business Administration from Auburn University. Mr. Owens holds the IPMA-CP designation from the International Public Management Association for Human Resources.

Catherine Bennett joined the Institute’s Governmental Training, Education, and Development division in 2005. She teaches courses in management and leadership development, performance management, and human resources management. She facilitates planning retreats and leads diversity training. Her areas of specialty also include managing customer service, visioning, and governmental ethics.

Prior to joining the Institute, Ms. Bennett spent more than 20 years teaching and training adults in higher education and state and local government. She also owned her own speaking and consulting business, which focused on conflict management.

Ms. Bennett holds a Master’s degree in Education and a certificate in Professional in Human Resources (PHR) from the Human Resource Certification Institute.

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For more information about Human Resources: An Online Course for Governmental Officials, contact us at questions@georgiacenter.uga.edu or by telephone at +1-706-542-3537.