



# SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION DISORDERS MONTHLY EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

*Dr. Julie Delkamiller  
Associate Professor*

*Dr. Delkamiller has been part of the UNO SECD family for 17 years. She plays a vital role in the Sign Language program, not only as a professor, but also a mentor to fellow colleagues, students and members of the community.*

***Describe your job in one sentence.***

I use language to build relationships and to foster lifelong learning as I prepare individuals to become teachers or sign language interpreters in the Deaf/Hard of Hearing communities.

***Explain one research project you are working on.***

The Impact of Sign Language Interpreter Skills on Education Outcomes in K-12 Settings.

***How do you think education will change in the next five to ten years?***

In the next five to ten years, I hope that mental health, social-emotional learning, and trauma informed practices will be embedded in all levels and specialties in education.

***What is an interesting fact that would not be included on your resume?***

I become interested in sign language when I was four years old when I saw someone using sign language on television.

***What are your hobbies?***

I have an insatiable curiosity for reading, learning, traveling, and going to Broadway musicals. In July of 2017, my husband and I traveled to Chicago to see the Broadway musical Hamilton for the first time. It is a memory I will always cherish.

***What object in your office has the most interesting story behind it?***

Until the pandemic, I have traveled to Nicaragua each year since 2008 to work with teachers to train and implement

methodologies for teaching Deaf /Hard of Hearing students. I have pottery that we used to buy and bring back to sell in order to fund the school. People physically stomp the clay, have an old pottery spinning wheel, and the ovens are wood fired. They use bicycle spokes to make the intricate details.

***What is your favorite holiday?***

The Schmidtberger Family Gathering which takes place each year in December. I come from a large German family (approximately 120 people on my mother's side), so we celebrate the holidays together one day in Victoria, Kansas. This day is filled with family from all over the central plains with live polka music, dancing, and delicious food.

