

# Timothy P. Werhner

## *Personal Bio*

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My name is Tim Werhner and I am currently 35 years old. I was born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and I have lived in Florida since I was 3 years old. After receiving an award as an outstanding physics student during my senior year in high school, I decided to pursue a degree in physics in college. I received my Bachelors of Science in Physics from The University of Central Florida in 2003. This degree had a specialization in Astronomy, and also included a Minor in Mathematics. From there, I received My Master's in Physics from the University of Central Florida in 2005. My Master's Project included making and testing Calibration Targets for the Mars Phoenix Lander, which touched down in the Martian northern arctic region in 2008. After Graduating, I moved to Clearwater, FL, where I went on to teach at Pinellas Park High School for a year. After this time, I was hired as an Adjunct Professor of Physics at Valencia College. After a few years at Valencia, I was accepted for a Tenure Track position at Seminole State College of Florida (SSC), where I am currently a Tenured Professor of Physics.

While pursuing my Tenure, I received a Professional Certificate in Sustainable Engineering from The University of Florida. We are currently offering our students various Sustainability Certificates at SSC, and I hope to take part in designing courses to support this certificate in the future. I currently teach all of the physics classes offered at SSC, which includes Conceptual Physics, which I do both in person and online. My teaching duties also include General Physics I and II, Physics with Calculus I and II, and Introductory Astronomy. I also developed a course for the Grindle Honors Institute, along with Dr. Katherine Steinhaus, called History Meets Science. We recently gave a presentation about this course to the President of the College, along with the Board of Trustees. It is an interdisciplinary approach to both science and European history during the medieval and Renaissance periods. Students examine major historical events, actors, ideas and cultural trends. Each historical theme for study corresponds to a concept in science so that students are able to approach architecture, military engineering and other elements of period life with modern scientific knowledge. This course was feature in an article in a local news media outlet, along with several other Honors courses offered at SSC.

On a personal level, I currently volunteer for the Special Olympics of Florida, where I mentor and advise Joey, a mentally handicapped individual, during Golf season. I also coach one of the Volleyball teams, where I mentor and coach around ten athletes during the season.

Furthermore, I love to travel. I have visited the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Ireland, the Bahamas, Jamaica, and Thailand. I find travel to be an enriching experience that has given me an appreciation of the amazing diversity of cultures across the world. It has certainly made me a better person and a better teacher.

It has been a great joy to teach at Seminole State College, where every day I get the opportunity to help students achieve their goals. I find great pleasure inspiring them to learn and pursue interests they may never have expected to have. This Institution promotes creativity, independent thinking, academic integrity, as well as academic freedom. These are all core values that I believe are central to a good educational Institution. Personally, I feel the opportunity to teach in Shanghai is a privilege, and is certainly something I do not take for granted. I look forward to bringing my passion for teaching, expertise in my field, and broad breadth of knowledge to JNC, with the hope of giving students the quality education that they deserve.

Sincerely,



Tim Werhner