



Joleen Kremin - Accounting Area Director and Faculty

Dr. Kremin joined the accounting faculty at Portland State University in 2014. Before completing her PhD, Joleen worked as an auditor in public accounting (CPA licensed in Utah) and she gladly shares her enthusiasm for auditing with her undergraduate audit students.

What led you to PSU?

When I was looking for a job I had offers at a few different places but the people at PSU were incredible, and I have never regretted my choice to come here.

What makes PSU a perfect place to study?

Classes at PSU are wonderfully diverse, different backgrounds, ages, and perspectives. It makes learning such a rich experience. I went to school at a university that is considered more "traditional" and I think I missed out.



How can the classes you teach help prepare students for a successful career?

I teach audit and it's the only course for an entire profession. It's so fun to take a complex and abstract course and help bring it to life in a way that makes sure when a new grad shows up for the first day of work, they are better prepared than their peers. (That's not a humblebrag - I know that because former students tell me that all the time.)

What makes the accounting program unique to our institution?

What are the strengths and advantages to the program?

I have never seen a group of faculty more dedicated to student success than the accounting faculty here at Portland State. We are obsessed with perfecting our craft to ensure that our students are getting every single dime of value - because we know they are making major sacrifices to be in our classrooms. All that work is just to make sure that every student has the job they want before they graduate. It's our top goal.

Are there any new developments in your program that students should be excited about?

In January 2024 the CPA Exam made some really major changes, and we made changes to keep up, and to future-proof our students in a time of big professional shifts. We have three new or overhauled classes.

- **NEW ACTG 490** - Advanced Financial Accounting for all those highly technical situations that make CPAs priceless.
- **NEW ACTG 416** - IT Cybersecurity and Compliance to cross over the deep need for tech in accounting.
- **OVERHAULED ACTG 422** - Advanced Taxation to include and introduce topics we haven't covered before and focus on analytics.

What excites you the most when each term starts?

There is an infectious hum on campus the first week of a term. It's the sound of people looking for a new classroom, seeing old friends, and feeling optimistic about the term ahead. It's basically January 1, but several times a year. A new fresh start. Also a great time to load up on new pens and Post-it notes. Cuz I am an office supplies junkie.

