

MILITARY & VETERANS PROGRAMS

Dr. Dwarka Ramphal started his career with FTCC working as a full-time instructor for the SWCS program teaching classes, here on Fort Bragg. He believes the success of his tenure at Fort Bragg was mainly due to the very competent FTCC staff, the dedication and motivation of the students he taught, and the flexibility he exercised in teaching his classes.

Accommodating students who were called upon for unscheduled jumps and training was not easy for him at the beginning, but was necessary for the success of the student. Prior to this time, Dr. Ramphal had been teaching for over 40 years in three different countries and had not had to deviate from the rigid pedagogy handed down over the years. Nevertheless, he used his qualifications and experience to be creative in reaching students who were highly motivated.

Dr. Ramphal earned a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership and an M.A. in Communication and Leadership from Regent University. In addition, he earned his B.A. in Linguistics and a Graduate Diploma in Education from University of Guyana.

He served as a high school teacher in Guyana and as an Adjunct at University of Guyana. He continued his career in Freeport, Bahamas serving as Head of the English Department at St. Paul's Methodist College and founded the St. Paul's Evening Institute.

From there, Dr. Ramphal relocated to North Carolina where he served as Adjunct at the University of North Carolina - Wilmington, an Adjunct at Mt. Olive University, and at several community colleges. His full-time employment positions included Communication Instructor at Coastal Carolina Community College, Director of Evening and International Programs at Brunswick Community College, President of Heritage Bible College, and most currently, as Coordinator of the Communication Department at Fayetteville Technical Community College.

-Dr. Ramphal



MVP SPOTLIGHT



DR. DWARKA RAMPHAL

Program Coordinator of Communication

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I joined the Army as a Military Police in 1982 and retired in October of 2023. While I was in, I decided to get my Associate Degree. I finished and then went on to complete my Bachelor's and Master's degrees prior to retiring. After retiring, I saw the importance of having a degree to get into the workforce. I wanted to get into the teaching world prior to retiring. I taught a class part time at Fayetteville Technical Community College at night on Fort Bragg. I applied for a full-time position within the Criminal Justice Department and have been here for 21 years. I currently am the Division Chair for Public Safety, which covers Criminal Justice, Forensic Science, Fire Protection, Emergency Management, Public Safety Administration and Basic Law Enforcement Training.

Working with military students is important to me because of my deep connection to both the military and education. Having retired from the U.S. Army, I understand the unique challenges service members, veterans, and their families face as they transition to civilian life or balance their military duties with education. My experience allows me to provide meaningful support, guidance, and encouragement to these students, helping them navigate their academic journeys.

At the college, I see firsthand how military students bring discipline, resilience, and leadership skills into the classroom. However, I also recognize the struggles they may face—whether it's adjusting to a different learning environment, coping with deployment schedules, or accessing military education benefits. By working closely with them, I can serve as a mentor and advocate, ensuring they receive the resources, support, and respect they deserve.

-Zack



MVP SPOTLIGHT



JEFFREY ZACK

Division Chair/Public Safety

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The success of our programs is built on the incredible collaboration between students, staff, and the Military & Veterans Programs team. Every day, I have the privilege of working alongside dedicated individuals who are committed to helping military-affiliated students transition into their academic and professional journeys. From assisting with course registration to providing tutoring for computer science classes, I have seen firsthand how a strong support system can empower students to succeed. The teamwork and shared commitment to student success create an environment where everyone is encouraged to reach their full potential.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my role is mentoring and advising students as they navigate their paths in technology after the military. Many students come in with a wealth of experience from their military service but need guidance on how to translate those skills into a civilian career. By working closely with the Military & Veterans Programs staff, I help connect students with the right resources, academic plans, and career opportunities. Seeing their growth, confidence, and eventual success in the tech industry is what makes this work so fulfilling. It is truly an honor to be part of a team that is dedicated to supporting those who have served, ensuring they have the tools and guidance needed to thrive in their next chapter.

-Dr. L



MVP SPOTLIGHT



DR. WILLIE LOCKETT

CIS Program Coordinator
