



## **Exploring the Middle Years: Supporting Students in the Second- and Third-Year Experiences March 2-29, 2026**

### **About the Instructor:**

Kimberly Dressler serves as the Assistant Director in the Carolina Experience office at the University of South Carolina where she oversees support beyond the traditional first year, the Carolina Experience Peer Leader program, and faculty-student interaction programs. The Carolina Experience office was created in 2024 to support sophomore, junior, senior, and transfer students at USC. Kimberly has nearly two decades of experience working in higher education, with a specific focus on the middle years in the academy. She has presented nationally on the sophomore year experience, junior year experience, transfer student experience, peer leadership, student success initiatives, domestic study away, and the importance of cross-campus collaboration. She spent a decade teaching sections in USC's University 101 course and has overseen USC's award-winning Sophomore Success program for more than fifteen years.

Originally from greater Cincinnati, Kimberly moved to warmer weather for college and never looked back! She is not a fan of snow, but she does still enjoy cheering on both the Cincinnati Bengals and Reds. Kimberly has a bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communication and a master's degree in higher education administration from the University of South Carolina. Following graduation, she worked at Furman University for several years before returning to USC in 2010. Outside of her daily work, Kimberly serves as the co-chair for USC's Women's Leadership Institute and is actively involved in NASPA and NASPA Region III.