

**Chris Burkett** is the Assistant Director of the M. Ed. Program in Divergent Learning and an Assistant Professor of Education at Columbia College. Before coming to Columbia College, Dr. Burkett spent eleven years in the public school classroom teaching American Government, Economics, and World Cultures to high school students, as well as coaching various sports. After leaving Dutch Fork High, Dr. Burkett spent two years working with teacher candidates at Newberry College before taking his current position at Columbia College.

Burkett currently serves on the executive board of the South Carolina Council of the Social Studies, works as a consultant for the College Board with their American Government and Politics course, as well as participates as an Advanced Placement Reader at the annual AP American Government and Politics Reading in Daytona Beach, Florida.

He was a participant of the inaugural Riley Institute Teachers of Government program at Furman University during the summer 2001. Dr. Burkett is also an instructor for the Program of Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE) throughout the state.

While in public education, Dr. Burkett was the recipient of the Sallie Mae First Year Teacher of the Year Award for the state of South Carolina, the State Paper Teacher of the Year Award, and was also honored as the Dutch Fork High School Teacher of the Year. Dr. Burkett's research interests include educational technology, social studies best practices, and classroom management.