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Attachments: [image007.png](#)
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The Teaching and Learning Center is pleased to present the *Ten Questions for Faculty Series*. The series is dedicated to helping faculty to stay connected with one another while working remotely. Every week, a faculty member will have the opportunity to answer ten questions about themselves and about navigating the changes brought about by COVID-19. This week, we are pleased to feature Jordan Donini, Professor of Biology.



Jordan Donini
Professor of Biology

Where are you from?

I was born and raised in Fort Myers, Florida and I currently live in Naples!

Which college or university did you attend?

FSW (formerly Edison Community College), FGCU, and Southeastern Louisiana University for graduate school.

When did you begin teaching at FSW?

I started as an adjunct in Spring 2017 and I became full-time in 2018-2019.

What made you become interested in your academic discipline?

I've always had a love for wildlife, particularly the types that many folks seemed to shun or be scared of.

The creepy-crawlies have always called to me since I was a kid, so I've almost always been driven to work in the biology field!

What is your favorite food and favorite local restaurant?

I'm a french fry connoisseur! Particularly the "buffalo fire fries" at Brook's Burgers in Naples!

If you could have dinner with any historical figure, who would it be and what would you ask them?

Dr. Archie Carr, one of the founders of Conservation Biology (read *The Windward Road* for more information, fantastic book!). I would ask him, how I as an educator could better communicate the importance of conservation to my students.

What new things have you learned or done as a result of COVID-19 & working remotely?

I've done several self-paced courses for data analytical software to help with my research analyses.

Working remotely has really made me thankful for living in a time period and place in which we do have

such great access to technology!

COVID-19 has increased online learning, and as a result, the need for promoting inclusivity in virtual learning environments. What ideas can you share with your colleagues about how to ensure inclusivity in the virtual classroom?

I think patience is a virtue. Understanding that technological issues do occur and being cognizant of this

fact and placing yourself in the shoes of students can definitely help increase empathy and inclusivity in

these trying times.

What are you doing (exercise, cooking, reading, etc.) to take care of your mental and physical health during social isolation?

Watching the Green Bay Packers and playing Fantasy Football have been my main escapes this fall!

What advice do you have for your colleagues on how to navigate social isolation and changes from COVID-19?

Don't be afraid to reach out to people! Many folks are not only very willing to chat in these times but are

also looking to have a real conversation with someone through Zoom or via phone.

If you would like to be featured in the *Ten Questions for Faculty Series*, please contact Kelly Westfield, Coordinator of Marketing & Technology for the Teaching and Learning Center: kwestfield@fsw.edu



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