



Lisa-Ann Barnes

Lisa-Ann Barnes, PMP, Project+, EdM, is a project management subject-matter expert. She is an active project manager, award-winning instructor, recognized thought leader, and author with over 30 years of experience managing projects, implementing project management offices, facilitating strategic plans, and teaching project management. She is passionate about improving how projects are delivered – by organizations, teams, and people.

Lisa-Ann is the president and founder of BluePontoon (formerly IreeTec), a company specializing in project management. She guides organizations in developing a project management culture that drives success and manages projects requiring a strategic perspective and relationship-focused approach. She also works with individuals to enhance their project management and leadership skills through training and coaching programs in various delivery formats.

She has developed an adaptable methodology for project management, successfully applying it across industries, including financial services, information technology, life sciences, manufacturing, and nonprofit. Lisa-Ann has designed more than ten project management courses and teaches in multiple university programs, as well as to corporate and nonprofit clients.

Lisa-Ann is the author of *Project Management from Start to Finish* and *Project Management for Team Members* and coauthor of a book on information technology project management. She is a frequent speaker at project management events and corporate learning sessions. With

expertise in both the theoretical foundations and practical applications of project management, she stays current on best practices, trends, and technologies shaping the field across industries.

Certifications

- Project Management Institute (PMI) – Project Management Professional September 2005 – present
- CompTIA – Project+ - February 2003 - present

Education

- Bachelor of Science in Finance, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1987
- Master of Education in Learning Design & Leadership, with an emphasis on Adult Learning Technology, 2022

Research Interests

- Project Management
- Team Building
- Leadership
- Professional Development

Professional Employment

- President & Consultant, BluePontoon Incorporated, 1994-Present
 - Project management subject-matter expert – knowledgeable in best practices, trends, and technologies that are impacting the project management discipline across industries.
 - Manage strategic and critical projects and programs for organizations.
 - Improve organization's project management capabilities through Project Management Office (PMO) implementations and improvements.
 - Work with individuals to improve their skills in project management and leadership through on-site, online, and hybrid training and coaching programs.
- Adjunct Faculty, School of Professional Studies, Northwestern University, 2007-Present
- Program Advisor, School of Professional Studies, Project Management Program, Northwestern University, 2019-Present
- Adjunct Faculty, Quinlan School of Business, Loyola University Chicago, 2022-Present

Professional/Community Affiliations

- Project Management Institute
 - 1999–Present: Member of the global organization
 - 1999–Present: Member of the local Chicagoland chapter and have been a guest speaker and panelist at numerous events at Chicagoland and Madison chapter events.
- Project Management Institute Chicagoland Executive Council
 - The Executive Council is responsible for providing thought leadership and outreach to business executive and leaders to encourage the growth of the project management discipline.
 - 2016–Present: Member
 - 2019–2024: Board member of the Executive Council Core Team that sets direction for the organization and plans events and continuing education opportunities for the membership.
- CompTIA Project+ Advisory Board
 - 1995–2010: Member of the Project+ certification committee.
 - 2006–2010: Member of the Advancing Women in IT committee.
- Women in Technology International, Chicago Chapter
 - 1994: Founding member of the Chicago chapter.
 - 1994–2004: Board member of the Chicago chapter.
- Soroptimist International, DuPage Chapter
 - 1988: Founding Member of the DuPage chapter
 - 1988–2015: Member
- Member, Illinois Brass Band, 1994–2023

Courses Taught

Northwestern University, School of Professional Studies

- PROJ_PMI 401-0 Essentials of Project Management
- PROJ_PMI 401-DL Essentials of Project Management
- PROJ_PMI 345-0 Practical Project Planning
- PROJ_PMI 345-DL Practical Project Planning
- PROJ_PMI 211-0 Soft Skills for Project Managers
- PROJ_PMI 402-0 Advanced Project Management

- ORG_BEH_368-DL Project Management
- PROJ_PMI 300-0 Managing Teams: Dealing with Distance, Cultures, and Organizational Challenges
- PROJ_PMI 401-0 Project Management for Practitioners
- PROJ_PMI 402-0 Project Management for Professionals
- ITPM 320-0: Introduction to IT Project Management
- ISPM 320-0: Intro to IS Project Management

Loyola University, Quinlan School of Business

- ISSCM 484: Project Management (Next Generation MBA Program)
- ISSCM 484E: Project Management (Executive MBA Program)

BluePontoon Incorporated

- Introduction to Project Management
- Everyday Project Management
- Project Management from Start to Finish
- Leading Project Managers
- Leadership Skills for the Project Manager
- Introduction to Process Improvement
- Process Improvement Bootcamp
- Project Management for Team Members
- Project Management using PMBOK
- Project Management using Project+
- Custom courses to meet specific client requirements

Publications

Barnes, Lisa-Ann L. Project Management from Start to Finish. BluePontoon.

- 2nd Edition: 2025
- 1st Edition: 2020

Project Management from Start to Finish describes a practical, scalable, and holistic approach to project management. This book balances the mechanics of project management with the strategic and leadership skills needed to manage projects in today's complex environments. The activities and deliverables of each phase of the project management process are detailed from a practice-based, not theory-based,

perspective. Guidance is provided for tailoring the process to ensure the project manager is always adding value to the project. Best practices, examples from real projects, and downloads to a set of integrated templates make this book a useful reference. This interactive book delivers content through text, videos, audios, reflection questions, and self-check activities.

Barnes, Lisa-Ann L. Project Management for Team Members, BluePontoon.

- 2nd Edition: 2025
- 1st Edition: 2020

Project Management for Team Members contains the best practices and techniques project team members need to interact with the project manager and to work together as participants in the project management process. This book provides the project management skills needed to be a proactive team member: understanding the desired outcome of the project, prioritizing work appropriately, sharing progress information, understanding the nuances of the project plans, collaborating with other team members, and being a more effective problem-solver. This book is intended for the: person new to working on projects who wants to understand their role as project team member, project team member who wants to be more effective at fulfilling their responsibilities, and the project manager who wants to improve how they interact with their team members. The book can be read by an individual at their own pace, by each team member as part of a project kick-off phase, or in a cohort as part of a book club, general employee onboarding, or development program.

Barnes, Lisa-Ann L. and Shimberg, David. Client-Server and Beyond: Strategies for the 21st Century. Prentice Hall PTR, 1997.

Practical, hard-won wisdom for succeeding with client/server projects. Client/Server and Beyond: Strategies for the 21st Century is the definitive guide to succeeding with client/server-from planning through implementation. Through extensive real-world case studies, two leading consultants show what works and what doesn't-and how companies are delivering on client/server's enormous potential without falling victim to its risks. This book delivers a much-needed "big-picture" perspective on client/server development, as well as detailed, up-to-date guidance on every critical client/server success factor: people, process, technology, and tools.

Awards

- Canvas Hall of Fame Nominee, Innovative Use of Video in Course, Northwestern University, 2025.
- Distinguished Teaching Award, Northwestern University School of Professional Studies, 2015-16.
- Outstanding Service Award, CompTIA Project + Advisory Committee, 2008.