

TBD: TO BE DISCOVERED

A Newsletter from the Department of Communication and Media Studies

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The Arka Tech Wins Big

by Tommy Mumert, assistant professor of journalism

The Arka Tech won 26 awards, including five first-place awards, in Arkansas College Media Association competition. The awards were presented April 14 during the annual ACMA spring conference, hosted this year by Harding University.

Arka Tech Editor Johnan Mitchell won two first-place awards in headline writing. His “Suns Dry Out Blossoms” took first in online newspapers and “Hunter Gathers Followers” took first in the newspaper division. Mitchell also took second place in online headlines and in newspaper headlines, a second place in online feature writing and a third place in newspaper feature writing, and third place in online arts and entertainment writing.

Editorial writer Trinity Lisk won first place in newspaper editorials for her “We Want Jerry” editorial.

Radio manager A.J. Chauffe took first place in the podcast division for The Arka Tech Introspect weekly news program. chauffe also took second and third place honors in the podcasting competition, while Belin also took second place for her cartoon strip.

Cartoonist Madelyn Belin won first place for her “Sunny and Jerry the Bulldog” cartoon strip.

Lisk also won honorable mention recognition for online election and political writing.

Other staffers placing in competition included Editor-In-Chief Tara Espinoza who won second place in online sports photo and second in online spot news photo, third place, online meeting/speech coverage and honorable mention, online art/illustration.

Sports Editor Olivia Orr took second place honors and an honorable mention in newspaper sports column writing and contributor McKinzie Kyle won second place honors in both online arts and entertainment review writing and newspaper review writing.

Staff writer Cal Reeves won second place in newspaper general column writing, Anna Colby won third place in topical reporting and Doug Davis took third place in multimedia package.

Webmaster Avery Harrah won an honorable mention for best website.

SPJ Week of Journalism 2023



The Week of Journalism began April 10 with the 100 year celebration of The Ark Tech student newspaper. At the event, the newspaper's faculty advisor, professor Tommy Mumert, was given a gift for his years of dedication to the success of the paper.

On April 11, students traveled to Little Rock to tour The Communications Group with students from other schools. Students also met with the marketing director of the Little Rock Zoo.



On April 12, students were able to have a "lunch and learn" session with KHBS/KHOG-TV.



The Week of Journalism concluded on April 13 with a breakfast event to celebrate graduating seniors.

ATU Goes to CommGroup Classic

by Braden Jones



On Tuesday, April 11, members of PRSSA and SPJ travel to The Communications Group's new downtown Little Rock office location for a tour of their new space and a look into the public relations industry. Students were able to see what public relations firms look like and how they operate in the world of marketing, advertising and client services.

The students were separated into groups where they traveled in a round-robin fashion through ComGroup's offices. They met with team members at each stop where they were given the chance to ask questions and gain insight into their possible future career field. Students were able to meet with leadership, public relations, creative, how the firm makes money, account services and the internship station.

Once the activity had ended, pizza was provided and students continued to make relationships with the team members from ComGroup and other students from UCA and UAPB who shared their love for journalism.

Spring Production Success



The Arkansas Tech University Theatre program put on a production of "All The Ways the World Will End...But Not You" in late March. The production was directed by guest Natalie Canerday, commonly known for her roles in "Sling Blade" and "October Sky".

To Our Graduates

by Dr. David Eshelman, department head and professor of communication

Dear graduates,

One of the saddest things about college life is its impermanence. So many great students come through our halls, our classrooms, and our offices. But college is designed for impermanence---for you to leave us and go out into the wider world. While we will miss you, we know that the best is yet to come. We wish so much success to our 2023 graduates. We know will that you will achieve this success because we know that you will earn it. As we remember you, we hope that you remember us and your time at Arkansas Tech.

For now, congratulations!

The Spring 2023 commencement ceremony for the College of Arts and Humanities will be held at 2 p.m. May 6 at Tucker Coliseum. A livestream of the ceremony will be available at <https://www.atu.edu/registrar/grad-livestream.php>.

SPRING 2023 EXAM SCHEDULE

Face-to-Face, Mixed Technology (M01, M02, etc.), and Video Conference (VC1, VC2, etc.) Courses		
Final Exam Date	Class Meeting Time	Final Exam Time
Wednesday, April 26	No daytime final exams	
Reading Day	All Monday night classes	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Thursday, April 27	7:00am MWF	6:00am – 7:50am
	8:00am & 8:30am MWF	8:00am – 10:00am
	10:00am & 10:30am MWF	10:30am – 12:30pm
	12:00pm & 12:30pm MWF	1:00pm – 3:00pm
	2:00pm & 2:30pm TR	3:30pm – 5:30pm
	All Tuesday night classes	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Friday, April 28	8:00am & 8:30am TR	8:00am – 10:00am
	11:00am & 11:30am TR	10:30am – 12:30pm
	1:00pm & 1:30pm MWF	1:00pm – 3:00pm
	All Wednesday night classes	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Monday, May 1	9:00am & 9:30am MWF	8:00am – 10:00am
	11:00am & 11:30am MWF	10:30am – 12:30pm
	1:00pm & 1:30pm TR	1:00pm – 3:00pm
	3:00pm, 3:30pm, & 4:00pm MWF	3:30pm – 5:30pm
	All Thursday night classes	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Tuesday, May 2	9:00am & 9:30am TR	8:00am – 10:00am
	10:00am, 12:00pm, & 12:30pm TR	10:30am – 12:30pm
	2:00pm & 2:30pm MWF	1:00pm – 3:00pm
	3:00pm, 3:30pm, & 4:00pm TR	3:30pm – 5:30pm
Online (TC1, TC2, etc.) Courses*		
Final Exam Date	Course number	
Thursday, April 27	4000 Level Classes (due by 9:00pm)	
Friday, April 28	1000 & 3000 Level Classes (due by 9:00pm)	
Monday, May 1	2000 Level Classes (due by 9:00pm)	

* Faculty may have more flexible, liberal timeframes to make an exam available for online course exams provided the exam is not due earlier than the designated exam day. Faculty are encouraged to design an exam that would not easily lend itself easily to academic dishonesty (i.e., essay questions, portfolios, case analysis).

Example 1: Faculty member A may open the exam for a 1000 level course at 8:00am on Thursday and close the exam on Friday at 6:00pm.

Example 2: Faculty member B may decide to open the exam for a 4000 level course on Thursday at 1:00pm and close the exam on Thursday at 9:00pm.

Department Hosts Media Competition

by Dr. David Eshelman, department head and professor of communication

In 2022-23, the department decided to institute a competition for media students from Arkansas high schools. The competition categories are newspaper article, photograph, short film, short play, short speech, TV package, and yearbook spread. Prizes are awarded for first and second place. All entrants received feedback from professors or from panels of professors and ATU student experts. Winners were invited to the ATU campus. For our first competition, we gave out 13 awards.

In the future, we intend to continue this competition. We plan to move the competition from spring to fall. As awareness of the competition grows, we anticipate having more and more entrants. We are excited to use this program to reach students across the state.



Haley Hanners from Piggott High School- first place photography winner with "A Butterfly's Story."

Haylee Remus from Piggott High School- second place photography winner with "The Uptown Cafe."



Dominic Solis from Siloam Springs- first place winner with his short film "Listen to Me."