



SPRING 2026

COMMENCEMENT

UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY

**COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES,
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

FRIDAY, MAY 1

9:00 A.M.

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS
FARRIS HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTER

PROGRAM

Processional

Welcome Houston D. Davis
President

National Anthem

Introductions and Greetings Michael B. Hargis
Provost and Executive Vice President

Message from the Faculty Joe Thomas
2026-2027 President of the Faculty Senate

Message from the Student Body Kylie McGraw
2025-2026 President of the Student Government Association

Message from the Staff Sherita Kern
2025-2026 President of the Staff Senate

Message from the Alumni Association Kaylon Bradford
President of UCA Alumni Association

Challenge to the Graduates.....President Davis

Presenting the Degree Candidates..... Provost Hargis

Conferring the DegreesPresident Davis

Announcing the Degree Candidates..... Chad Hearne
Executive Director of the UCA Foundation

Recessional and Alma Mater

*Audience is invited to stand in honor of the degree candidates
during the processional and recessional*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jim Rankin, Jr., *Chair, Conway*

Kelley Erstine, *Vice-Chair, Conway*

Kay Hinkle, *Secretary, Conway*

Curtis Barnett, *Little Rock*

Amy Denton, *Roland*

Terry Fiddler, *Conway*

Michael Stanton, *Greenbrier*

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

Houston D. Davis, *President*

Michael B. Hargis, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

Terri Canino, *Vice President for Finance and Administration*

Jeremy Gillam, *Director of Governmental Affairs and External Relations*

Mary Lackie, *Vice President for University Advancement*

Warren Readnour, *General Counsel*

Trevor Seifert, *Chief Information Officer*

Kevin Thomas, *Vice President for Enrollment Services and Student Success*

Amy Whitehead, *Chief of Staff*

Matt Whiting, *Athletic Director*

Robin Williamson, *Vice President for Student Affairs*

John Merguie, *Chief of Police*

Kurt Boniecki, *Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness*

Thomas Williams, *Dean, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences*

Tim Bisping, *Dean, College of Business*

Deborah Dailey, *Dean, College of Education*

Nancy Reese, *Dean, College of Health and Behavioral Sciences*

Stephen Addison, *Dean, College of Science and Engineering*

Patricia Smith, *Dean, Schedler Honors College and Director of Exemplary Studies*

Michael Mills, *Dean, Graduate School*

Kelly Owens, *Dean of Students*

Rodney Lippard, *Director of Torreyson Library*

Vicky Summers, *Registrar*

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Department of Art and Design	Bryan Massey
School of Communication	Donna Lampkin Stephens
Department of Film, Theatre, and Creative Writing	Shauna Meador
Department of Government, Public Service, and International Studies	Mark Mullenbach
Department of History.....	David Welky, <i>Interim</i>
School of Language and Literature.....	Glenn Jellenik, <i>Interim</i>
Department of Music.....	Stephen Plate
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies.....	Taine Duncan
Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology.....	Ed Powers

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Department of Accounting.....	Stephanie Watson
Department of Computer Information Systems and Analytics	Jeff Hill
Department of Economics, Finance, and Insurance and Risk Management	Joe McGarrity
Department of Marketing and Management.....	Thomas Snyder, <i>Interim</i>

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Department of Elementary, Literacy, and Special Education	Stefanie Sorbet, <i>Interim</i>
Department of Leadership Studies.....	Jeff Whittingham, <i>Interim</i>
Department of Student Transitions.....	Leslie Gomes
Department of Teaching and Learning	Allison Freed, <i>Interim</i>

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders	Brent Gregg
Department of Exercise and Sport Science	Kim Eskola
Department of Health Sciences	Denise Demers
Department of Military Science and Leadership	Charles Jones
School of Nursing.....	Susan Gatto
Department of Nutrition and Family Sciences	Rebekah Luong, <i>Interim</i>
Department of Occupational Therapy	Tina Mankey
Department of Physical Therapy	Kevin Garrison
Department of Psychology and Counseling	Art Gillaspay

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Department of Biology.....	Brent Hill
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry	Kristin Dooley
Department of Computer Science and Engineering.....	M. Emre Celebi
Department of Geography	Stephen O'Connell
Department of Mathematics.....	Loi Booher
Department of Physics, Astronomy, and Engineering.....	Carl Frederickson

COMMENCEMENT PERSONNEL

MACE BEARER

President of the Faculty Senate

INTERPRETER

Provided by Communication Plus+ Interpreter Services, Inc.

MARSHALS

Members of the Faculty, Staff, and Administration

MUSIC

Pinnacle Brass Quintet

VOCALIST

Joanna Ruche

USHERS

Members of the Staff

PRESIDENT'S MEDALLION RECIPIENT FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

Connor Atkinson, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY EMERITUS

Dr. John Passe-Smith

ACADEMICS

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

THOMAS WILLIAMS, DEAN

The College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences consists of nine units: the School of Communication, the School of Language and Literature, and the Departments of Art and Design; Film, Theatre, and Creative Writing; Government, Public Service, and International Studies; History; Music; Philosophy and Religious Studies; and Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology. Undergraduates may select from more than twenty majors, while graduate students choose from six programs. All students experience traditional and contemporary approaches in face-to-face and online classrooms, along with a host of such high-impact practices as internships, study abroad, study away, and service learning. The hallmark of CAHSS is its internationally renowned faculty, a roster of artists, writers, filmmakers, scholars, researchers, and performers who excel at teaching and exciting students to enter an increasingly diverse and globally engaged society.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

TIM BISPING, DEAN

For over 50 years, the UCA College of Business has prepared students to be ethical, innovative, and engaged business leaders who positively impact their communities. The college's teaching methods and advising process are designed to help students discover their unique abilities and choose their best fit among more than 20 business degrees and certificates offered for undergraduates and graduates. The College of Business offers students hands-on experience in and out of the classroom through applied projects, internship opportunities, and student organizations. With the first Insurance and Risk Management program in the state, a growing Logistics and Supply Chain Management program, and new Applied Data Analytics options, UCA prepares students for in-demand fields such as accounting, economics, finance, computer information systems and analytics, cybersecurity management, insurance and risk management, marketing, innovation and entrepreneurship, and management. While only five percent of business schools worldwide are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International, the college maintains accreditation because of its relevant curriculum, experiential learning opportunities, and faculty who are respected for excellence in research, teaching, and industry experience.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

DEBORAH DAILEY, DEAN

The College of Education at the University of Central Arkansas prepares students to excel as lifelong learners and to make meaningful contributions to their professions and communities. Through comprehensive bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs, the College develops educators, leaders, and specialists in areas such as elementary, middle, and secondary education; literacy; special education; gifted education; digital-age teaching and learning; educational leadership; school counseling; library media; instructional technology; and higher education student personnel administration.

Committed to student success, the College also provides intentional support through the Department of Student Transitions, which helps first-year students build academic and personal confidence. Grounded in innovation, collaboration, and educational excellence, the College advances teaching, research, and service as the foundation of its mission. Faculty and partners engage in continuous improvement through evidence-based practices that promote growth and achievement for both students and educators.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

NANCY BERRYMAN REESE, DEAN

The College of Health and Behavioral Sciences (CHBS) includes the Departments of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Exercise and Sport Science, Health Sciences, Nutrition and Family Sciences, Military Science and Leadership, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Psychology and Counseling, and the School of Nursing. The College awards more undergraduate and graduate degrees in the health and behavioral sciences than any other comprehensive university in the state. For more than 50 years we have been preparing practitioners, educators, and researchers for the state of Arkansas and beyond. The CHBS Nabholz Center for Healthcare Simulation provides countless hours of simulated clinical practice for UCA health professions students in the only accredited university healthcare simulation center in Arkansas. Our Interprofessional Teaching Center and Community Care Clinic provide team-based care to individuals in central Arkansas while also addressing unmet healthcare needs in the community and allowing hands-on experience in interprofessional practice for our students.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

STEPHEN ADDISON, DEAN

The College of Science and Engineering was founded in 2024 and is the successor college to the former College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. The college includes the departments of Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Computer Science and Engineering, Geography, Mathematics, and Physics, Astronomy and Engineering. The college also operates additional programs that include Cybersecurity, Data Science, Environmental Science, and Software Engineering, as well as programs leading to teacher licensure at the secondary level. The college also offers graduate programs leading to Master's degrees through the departments of Biology, Computer Science and Engineering, Geography and Mathematics. Our students experience an immersive, active-learning environment using advanced technologies and state-of-the-art instrumentation, and they have many opportunities to engage in basic, applied, or translational research. Our faculty are dedicated to preparing future scientists, engineers, mathematicians, technologists and educators and are actively involved in securing grant support to further their students' educational, research, and community outreach goals. All our departments support student/faculty research collaborations and service learning. Graduates of the college are well prepared to meet the challenges of the ever-changing global economy and to become leaders in their communities and workplaces.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

MICHAEL MILLS, DEAN

The Graduate School offers more than 60 advanced degrees and graduate certificates designed to challenge, inspire, and prepare students for their next academic or professional step. Whether your goal is to become an artist, educator, business executive, health care provider, or scholar, our programs combine academic rigor with real-world opportunities and a vibrant, supportive community. Students can pursue master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees, as well as graduate certificates, across a wide range of disciplines from every academic college. Through these programs, graduate students gain not only a deep understanding of their fields but also the critical skills and experiences needed to lead, innovate, and make a difference. At the Graduate School, you'll enter as a student and leave as a professional, equipped to create meaningful change and shape the future.

NORBERT O. SCHEDLER HONORS COLLEGE

PATRICIA SMITH, DEAN

The Norbert O. Schedler Honors College oversees the operation of the Schedler Honors College, the Schedler Honors Program, and Honors in the Major. Each program provides a host of academic opportunities with the mission of developing public scholars and future leaders whose actions are grounded in interdisciplinary understanding. Founded in 1982 as the first honors college in Arkansas, the Schedler Honors College receives national acclaim for its innovative curriculum and holistic admissions process. Unprecedented interest in the Schedler Honors College from qualified students led to the formation of the University Scholars Program, now named the Schedler Honors Program, in 2018. Emphasizing scholarship, leadership and citizenship, our programs all conclude with the completion of an undergraduate thesis, and aim to equip students from across disciplines with the tools and skills to lead flourishing lives and develop them as conscientious citizen-scholars prepared to make a difference.

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Alex Patience Busby

Sydney Allison Fallon

BA in Art. Advisor: Sandra Lockett. Thesis:
*"Art&Seoul: An International Art Exhibition
on the Korean Adoptee Experience"*

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Caitlin E. Dickerson

Mary K. Hyde

Katherine Martin Eggebrecht

Reilly Ellis McCann

Courtney Paige Fitzpatrick

Lydia N. Ramsey

Sarah Grace Gunter

Olivia Jewel Smith

BA in Art. Advisor: Lesley Graybeal.
Thesis: *"Steady Hands: Using Craft to
Support Residents of Local Long-Term Care
Facilities"*

Addyson Hope Taylor

CUM LAUDE

Kyla Charity-Elise Anderson

Reyna Elizabeth Uvaldo

Karis Brooke Martin

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Victoria Harper

Anecya Y. Poole

Elizabeth Holcomb

Alejandra Robles-Acosta

Kelsi Brooke Mann

Devyn Simone Summons

Kendal A. Morrisey

Edith Vences

Cooper DesLauriers Parks

Antwone Ray Wilson

Evan P. Parnell

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Declan R. Bell

Abigail R. Hess

Michelle Koryn Hamilton

Hannah Grace Jetton

Kiley Madison Hermosillo

Kaitlyn Nicole Maxwell

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Rhea Carol Walls

CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY

Elizabeth Holcomb

Lydia Nicole Ramsey

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Grace C. Flannagin

BA in Writing, Rhetoric, and Information
Design. Advisor: Sonya Fritz. Thesis: "*Ties of
Magick: Series Completion*"

Violet M. Garcia

Susie Kate Moysh

Madison Eden Taschetti

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Desiree M. Cogdill

BA in Public Relations. Advisor: Jia Zhu.
Thesis: "*Falling Leaves: An Exploration of
Chinese Adoptee's Cultural Reconnection*"

Valeria Ramirez

Martin Tykva

Maura Katherine Ussery

Jamie Marie Jewell

Lillian Grace Lewis

BA in Public Relations. Advisor: Christopher
Roland. Thesis: "*Emotional Motivational
Appeals and Influencer Trust: Testing Guilt
and Humor*"

CUM LAUDE

Harley Elizabeth Walls

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kaden Nicholas Alzate

Kyla M. Burnett

Carson D. Fairchild

Jace A. Horton

Mary E. Lesieur

Chloe Sandranae London

Alexis Rae McCauley

Erick Baeza Montoya

Carlson G. Morrow

Reese G. Parker

Collin M. Scott

Emmanuel Smith

Kinyuana K. Smith

Taylor C. Sone

Julian Reeves Strain

Giselle Vela

Gabriel Thomas White

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Lonnie R. Clemons

Elizabeth Seymour

DEPARTMENT OF FILM, THEATRE, AND CREATIVE WRITING

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Ant Grace Allen

BA in Creative Writing and Religious Studies. Advisor: Clayton Crockett. Thesis: *"The Seven Sacraments: An Anthology"*

Laura Gaspar Santos

Andromeda Lee Lawless

BA in Film. Advisor: Mark Thiedeman. Thesis: *"An Act of Avoidance: A Meditation on Death via Experimental Film"*

Nancy Susan Miller

Skylar C. Nelsen

Drew Reese Reynolds

BA in Creative Writing. Advisor: Acie Clark. Thesis: *"Rut: A Stage-Play in Two Acts"*

Sandra Faye Williams

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Kathryn R. Bale

Carson Michael Clay

BA in Film. Advisor: Lauren Carlton. Thesis: *"The Whiz Kid Orson Welles: A One Act Play"*

Samuel Ryan Forst

Clover D. McEntarffer

William Patrick O'Neill

CUM LAUDE

Marley Page Douglas

BA in Film. Advisor: Keagan Styes-Pen. Thesis: *"Whalebones and Wasps: A Century in American Women's Fashion"*

Calee A. Goble

Xander Cash Hill

Kevin William King

BA in Film. Advisor: Allison Wallace. Thesis: *"Mare and Monarch"*

Wilson Shepherd LaPorte

Brianna Elizabeth Lewis

Chloë Razelle Richards

Grace M. Stewart

Madeline Ranae Welborn

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kaylin S. Allen

Justin T. Arendt

Austin Drake Arford

Riley Elizabeth Bart

Aislinn Opal Christy

Cydney A. Davis

Adam J. Duvall

Leah G. Fimple

Maximus H. Fortin

Max Allen Haughey

Jacob W. McKellar

Erick Baeza Montoya

Preston Shae Moody

Blake Lance Morrison

Grace Ifelola O. Odunaiya

Tyler B. Olson

Benton P. Riemenschneider

Breiana Marie Tate

Kimberly Elisabeth Tullos

Benjamin Walker

Landen Curtis Walker

Emily Wallace

Allison Rai Wildman

Walker Lawson Yarbrough

**DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC SERVICE, AND
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Caroline Carlton Fortenberry

BS in Political Science. Advisor:
Vaughn Scribner. Thesis: *"Delta Dining:
Documenting Community History through a
Cookbook"*

Mitchell Wade Gray

Katelyn A. Nees

BS in Philosophy and Political Science.
Advisor: Benjamin Rider. Thesis: *"Flattery
Versus Truth: Analyzing the Dangers of
Rhetoric in Plato's Gorgias and its Modern
Applications"*

Lillian Lorraine Ward

Madelyn Grace White

BS in Political Science. Advisor: Bailey
Fairbanks. Thesis: *"The New Voter Bloc:
Examining Gen Z's Voting Behavior in the
2024 Election"*

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Micah Ann Castleberry

Arely Pioquinto

Sydney Danielle Poe

Richard F. Ware

BS in Philosophy and Political Science.
Advisor: Jacob Held. Thesis: *"Hunting Atlas:
An Examination of Philosophical Fiction and
its Role in Thought"*

CUM LAUDE

Summer Roshea Charles

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLAR

Benjamin Bugaj Henry

BS in Political Science. Advisor: Bailey
Fairbanks. Thesis: *"Political Polarization
Within UCA: Examining Ideology,
Partisanship, and Solutions"*

Elijah Z. Thompson

BS in Political Science. Advisor: Mark
Elrod. Thesis: *"Will History Repeat Itself?
An Historical and Political Analysis of the
Similarities and Differences of the Causes
and Consequences of Nazi Germany's
Invasion of Poland in 1939 and the Russian
Federation's Invasion of Ukraine in 2022"*

Ryan Edward Webb

BS in Political Science. Advisor: Joseph
McGarrity. Thesis: *"Does Free Breakfast
Increase Academic Performance, and if so,
How Much?"*

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Alexis D. Cantu Saavedra

Maritsa Rosas

BACHELOR OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Jaden B. Elmore

Caleb T. Ferguson

Andrea E. Nunez Lopez

Michael R. Phifer

Maritsa Rosas

Alec Williams

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Jaden B. Elmore

Amie M. Fall

Evan A. Thomas

Alec Williams

Jefferson C. Wilson

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Allison K. Brown

BSE in Social Studies. Advisor: Dr. Hillary Anderson. Thesis: *"Extra! Extra! Read All About It: Syndicated Newspaper Advice Column Response to Domestic Violence in the 1950s"*

Hannah P. Smithson

BA in History and Modern Languages. Advisor: Dr. Vaughn Scribner. Thesis: *"Collegiate Secret Societies at the College of William and Mary: Their Private Publicity and the Contradictions of the Enlightenment"*

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Matthew C. Graddy

Brooke Lynn Horton

Hailey Lashaun Molden

Connor James Phillips

CUM LAUDE

Christopher M. Cutter

Aidan James Gray

Kaylee J. Guthrie

John-Paul Brackin Henderson

Jasmine Elizabeth Rainey

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Benjamin J. Barr

Alyssa Shea Brown

Zackary Chase Dent

Rocky K. Foreman

Ella Clair Garner

Nolan Don Pace

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Jacob T. Luyet

Brent Michael Scott

Jarrett D. Stanfield

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

William J. Bell

Nicholas Vincent Houle

Zane H. Brooks

Cindy Suviaz

Ozmar Herrera

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Evan L. Bray

Sydnee Madison Holcer

Kimberly Lilibeth Lozano-Merida

Mabel Marshall

BA in Modern Languages and Linguistics.

Advisor: Zach Smith. Thesis: *"Implicit Queerness in Anime: Girls Love Narratives in the Margins of Magical Girl Anime"*

Marleigh Jillian Moss

BS in Psychology and BA in Modern Languages. Advisor: Veda Charlton.

Thesis: *"The Impact of the Transition into College on Student-Athlete Performance"*

Hailey Rodden

Hannah P. Smithson

BA in History and Modern Languages. Advisor: Dr. Vaughn Scribner. Thesis: *"Collegiate Secret Societies at the College of William and Mary: Their Private Publicity and the Contradictions of the Enlightenment"*

Abigail E. Whittingham-Whitley

BA in Modern Languages and Linguistics.

Advisor: Ramon Escamilla. Thesis: *"Constructed Languages in Popular Media"*

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Alec Jayden Brewer

Hannah F. Dykstra

BA in English. Advisor: Christine Case. Thesis: *"Writing and Illustrating an ADHD Storybook"*

Cavin Elisabeth Jones

Haylee G. Kelnhofer

Bianca Andreia Martin

Clover D. McEntarffer

Della Grace Milholland

Arely Pioquinto

Olivia Nichole Smittle

BA in Linguistics. Advisor: Jennifer Parrack. Thesis: *"The Production of a Spanish and English Children's Book: A Study of Rhyme, Rhythm, Alliteration, and Onomatopoeia in Bilingual Children's Literature"*

Kyle Andrew Urban

BA in Linguistics. Advisor: Zachary Stine. Thesis: *"The Natural Language Inference Abilities of a Large Language Model."*

CUM LAUDE

Blake Bowles

Emma E. Palmer

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kaylin S. Allen

Ava Madison Bryan

Erika Wendy Calderon

Kaelea Rene Halsey

Isaac A. Hennessee

Cody M. Kirchner

Rachel Kay Lane

David M. McElhaney

Emily Grace Miller

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Tyus Vincent Diaz

BME in Music Education. Advisor: Christa Kuebel. Thesis: "*Teaching Mixed Meter Through Greek Music*"

Callie A. Shannon

Landon David Vaca

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Kaycee K. Browning

Jacob A. Karp

Evan J. Shumate

CUM LAUDE

Nicolas Regan Anderson

Hannah Christine Nooner

BACHELOR OF ARTS

William J. Bell

Nicholas K. Dickinson

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Sergio D. Castillo

Koby Nguyen Elias

Chenye Huang

Gregory Brandon Johnson

Dario Lisperguer Soto

Patrick R. McKerlie

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Ant Grace Allen

BA in Creative Writing and Religious Studies. Advisor: Clayton Crockett. Thesis: "*The Seven Sacraments: An Anthology*"

Kaitlin Michelle Bailey

Katelyn A. Nees

BS in Philosophy and Political Science. Advisor: Benjamin Rider. Thesis: "*Flattery Versus Truth: Analyzing the Dangers of Rhetoric in Plato's Gorgias and it's Modern Applications*"

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Alec Jayden Brewer

Richard F. Ware

BS in Philosophy and Political Science.
Advisor: Jacob Held. Thesis: "*Hunting Atlas: An Examination of Philosophical Fiction and its Role in Thought*"

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLAR

Rachel Alexandra Smith

BS in Philosophy. Advisor: Chad Lairamore.
Thesis: "*Homeless Healthcare Partnership Between the Conway Ministry Center and University of Central Arkansas Community Care Clinic.*"

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kloe Grace Jackson

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Kaylee E. Moeri

Evan A. Thomas

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, CRIMINOLOGY, AND ANTHROPOLOGY

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Connor Isaac Atkinson

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Lily S. Butler

Juneau Auden Clarke

Jasmine Itzel DeDear

Macheala R. Hamilton

Brinley Chaise Sinclair

Kyliyah Malijah Thornton

BS in Sociology. Advisor: Dr. John Toth.
Thesis: "*Attitudes and Behavior Associated with Used and Vintage Clothing*"

CUM LAUDE

Eden N. Adams

BS in Criminology. Advisor: Janet Wilson. Thesis: "*Burdened Beyond Duty: Public Defender Caseloads and the Sixth Amendment Crisis*"

Darby Anderson

Livia Taylor Deitrick

Kaylee J. Guthrie

Evelyn Rose Land

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Jorge Acosta	William B. Hanson
Chloe Jasmine Allen	Preston Drake Harris
Dayton Atchley	Ja'Quan Deshun Hervey
Joevon J. Banister	Kloe Grace Jackson
Dorothy J. Bobo	Cheyenne Adreiona Kemp
Jacobi Briggs	Payton Lee Landis
Hannah M. Carter	Grace C. Newton
Savanna Isabel Escovedo	Brendle A. Roberts
Isaura L. Funes	Jada Kamy Sloan
Briasia N. Giles	Kierra L. Stiger
A'Scence C. Glenn-Farmer	Makayla R. Thompson
Abigay Gomez Rodriguez	Lane Hollis Vanega
Delia Irene Gonzalez	Jefferson C. Wilson
Austin I. Groves	

GENERAL EDUCATION

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Victoria M. Chelette

BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES

Natalie Hoy-Ying Choy	Macie L. Hurley
Hunter Victor Cornelison	Isabel Julian
Karson A. Crews	Gary Z. Lewis
Haleigh C. Dobson	Emily E. Richards
Alexander Ferguson	Trevor G. Whittaker
Edward C. Gibson	Emma Grace Williams
Krista A. Harper	

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Tabatha A. Atkinson	Hayley Mayo
Jariya Joeann Brewster	Anna Yorgey
Jaycie L. Ertel	Melody Zheng
Kathryn C. Jones	

ORIGINS AND MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY

Established in 1907 by the General Assembly as the Arkansas State Normal School, the institution was charged with the responsibility of training teachers. Instruction began in 1908 with 107 students, a faculty of seven, and a physical plant consisting of one partially completed building. The first diploma granted was the Licentiate of Instruction, followed in 1920 by the establishment of curricula leading to a baccalaureate degree. The terms of the act establishing the school and its location in central Arkansas recognized the state-wide service the institution was expected to promote. The autonomy of its Board of Trustees also gave the institution freedom to expand and diversify academic programs to meet the growing needs of the state. Thus, in 1925, the college was renamed to Arkansas State Teachers College and added and broadened liberal arts programs and increased specialized offerings and degrees. In 1955, the college inaugurated its first graduate program. In 1967, the college was renamed to State College of Arkansas to reflect the institution's varied and comprehensive curricula, and, in 1969, the institution established four colleges to provide administration for the growing number of academic programs. The institution became the University of Central Arkansas in 1975 to reflect its status as a modern comprehensive university.

SYMBOLS, REGALIA, AND RECOGNITION

The mace, an ancient sign of authority, is displayed as the symbol of the University's authority to confer degrees. The office of mace bearer is ceremonial and derives from medieval times in England when the mace, a formidable weapon, was held ready to protect the person of a dignitary. The mace precedes commencement dignitaries in the procession, both entering and leaving the ceremony, and is carried by the President of the Faculty Senate.

The University President's insignia of office is a silver medallion that displays the seal of the institution. He wears the distinguished purple gown with four black velvet bars outlined in gray around each sleeve and black velvet front facing with the UCA seal monogrammed on each side. The presidential hood represents the university school colors, purple and gray.

The Trustees of the University wear distinctive black gowns distinguished by purple velvet facing from hem to neck and three purple velvet bars around each sleeve about the elbow.

The banners identify and represent the academic disciplines of the institution. Each banner is decorated with the seal and colors of the University.

The different colored cords and stoles worn by candidates for undergraduate degrees represent graduation honors recognition and membership in various academic, collegiate, and scholastic societies.

Honors Graduates have excelled in the achievement of their academic programs; their graduation honors are categorized as follows: summa cum laude - highest honors (4.0 - 3.9); magna cum laude - high honors (3.89 - 3.7); cum laude - honors (3.69 - 3.5). Undergraduate Scholars have been invited by the faculty to enter a department honors program and have completed an approved course of study, culminating in a department thesis. Honors College graduates have completed a specially designed four-year curriculum of interdisciplinary studies, culminating in a senior honors thesis. Designations printed in this program are conditional, pending the final academic standing upon the completion of all degree requirements. This is not an official list of graduation honors. Official graduation honors will be reflected on the diploma and the official transcript.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The present-day academic attire seems to have originated at Oxford and Cambridge Universities in the 1300's. As the universities passed from ecclesiastical control, the academic gown used brighter colors to distinguish it from the totally drab clerical robe. Although colonial American universities used academic gowns based on the British system, people continued to associate them with the clergy.

The design of the academic regalia and the colors worn are significant. The distinguishing mark of the gown is the sleeve: bachelor – a long pointed sleeve; master – an oblong sleeve open at the wrist; doctor – bell shaped sleeve with three velvet bars. The velvet edging of the hood signifies department of learning and the silk lining of the hood signifies the institution of the degree.

Originally, the hood had three uses: as a head covering, as a shoulder cape, and as a bag in which alms could be collected. It is mentioned as early as 1480 in clerical literature. When large wigs were in vogue in Britain, the cape part of the hood was split in front and a narrow neckband inserted. The entire cape and hood was allowed to fall back as it is today, and it was never restored to the original style.

Following is a list of the hood and tassel colors established by the Intercollegiate Code to represent several departments of learning.

Agriculture	Maize
Arts, Letters, Humanities.....	White
Business Administration, Commerce, Accountancy.....	Tan
Dentistry	Lilac
Economics.....	Copper
Education	Light Blue
Engineering.....	Orange
Family & Consumer Sciences	Maroon
Fine Arts, including Architecture	Brown
Forestry.....	Russet
Journalism	Crimson
Law.....	Purple
Library Science	Lemon
Medicine.....	Green
Music	Pink
Nursing.....	Apricot
Oratory (Speech).....	Silver Gray
Pharmacy	Olive Green
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Physical Education.....	Sage Green
Public Administration including Foreign Service	Peacock Blue
Public Health.....	Salmon Pink
Science.....	Golden Yellow
Social Science	Citron
Theology or Divinity.....	Scarlet
Veterinary Science	Gray

UCA ALMA MATER

As sung by the UCA Bear Marching Band

Music by Homer F. Hess

Words by Ora Blackmun

From the hills and from the lowlands
Comes the song of praise anew
Sung by thousands of our children
Alma Mater, we sing to you

Then we'll unfurl our colors the Purple and the Gray
And in the breezes see them ever proudly sway
They lead us upward, they lead us onward
They lead us to victory
Then let us gather 'round with loyal hearts and true
Our Alma Mater's call obey
Our dear old colors will live forever
The royal Purple and the Gray

