

May 2025 Volume 4 | Issue 6

Lions,

This is it. We've reached the end of the semester. For many of you, this was your last semester of undergraduate study. Many of you celebrated as you walked across the stage and your degree was conferred upon you. For others, this was the end of the semester and you are one step closer to your own graduation. Either way, please know the advising team in the CAS Advising Center is proud of you. Graduates, as you move into your next step in life, whether that is graduate school, your career, or entering something

else entirely, please know that the CAS Advising Center is still here to help if you need us! We're so proud of all your accomplishments and hope you'll stay in touch. Continuing students, we're equally proud of your perseverance to complete another semester. If you're enrolling in summer classes, enjoy this short break between semesters. If not, please enjoy your summer break and we can't wait to welcome you home in August.

-Eden, Journi, and Justin

Navigating Life After the Mortar Board

College graduation can be one of the largest milestones in someone's life. In Arkansas alone, only 25% of citizens have a bachelor's degree or higher₁. One of the most challenging parts of graduating from college is navigating what comes afterward. Each student's path differs after their commencement ceremony. Some go to graduate school, others directly enter the workforce, and some choose to do something different, like travel before starting their path. Some paths are dictated by the student's program of study, others allow graduates to build their own path. No matter which way you go, there can be a level of uncertainty when leaving your college campus and beginning a new journey. Below, you'll find some tips for navigating life after the mortar board.

1. Dream Big (with Realistic Expectations)

Oftentimes at commencement, there is a motivational speaker. Graduates often leave feeling motivated and head into the world with big ideas and big dreams! Don't let anyone crush those dreams! You've done the work! Keep an eye on reality but remember that you've also just crossed a huge milestone and it's okay to have big dreams.

2. Turn Obstacles into Opportunities

Sometimes, the perfect opportunity takes time. Our dream job is not always waiting for us on the other side of the stage after we shake Chancellor Riley's hand. Other times, there are obstacles we must face before we can get there. Turn each obstacle into an opportunity, to learn, to grow, to advance into the role you want.

3. Discover Your Passions vs. Your Purpose

As you advance through your career, you will find things that you're passionate about, of which there will likely be many. Then you will find your purpose, of which there should be few. It's important to be able to distinguish between the two. If you can find a career that allows you to pursue both passions and purpose simultaneously, you have truly won.

<u>4. Never Stop Learning</u>

Even after walking across the stage, picking up your diploma from the Registrar, and getting the official transcript, that doesn't mean you should stop learning. The world is ever changing and industries move at a rapid pace. Continue to attend professional development and seek learning opportunities throughout your career.



Congratulations! Spring & Summer 2025 Graduates

College of Arts & Sciences

The following graduates in the Spring and Summer 2025 semesters will earn a combined three twenty three credentials upon the successful completion of their courses. Many students will be graduating with multiple credentials or are earning an initial credential on the way to completing their baccalaureate degree.

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Alexandra Aguilar	Taylar Christensen
Denise Aguilar	Mason Cox
Natalie Alcocer	Sydney Crabtree
Hannah Aldridge	Jordan Crawford
Blake Allen	Emily Cruz
Valerie Alvarado	Joel Cummings
Ethan Andrews	Amy Damron
Krislyn Andrews	Jubilee Dasen
Cade Appleman	Jamarion Davidson
Victoria Archer	Sarah Davis
Alexandra Ardelean	Skylar Davis
Jason Ardwin	Julian De Saussure
Ashley Arellano	Michael Deleplank
Alex Arnold	Nathan Dills
Shayla Arter	Noah Downs
Grace Ashton	Lauren Driver
Tommie Attee	Lexi Dyer
Celene Avila	Hannah Edgemon
Greyson Baggett	Aleeya Edwards
Jay Baldwin	Bryan Elam
Joshua Ballard	Grant Elmore
Johnny Barnes	Mary Evans
Micaiah Barnett	Caden Evans
Dalila Benavides	Madison Feeny
Samantha Benton	Jayden Felix
Emily Bernacki	Alexus Ferguson
Emma Black	Whitley Fielding
Makaila Bobak	Iarley Flores
Jessie Boese	Ethan Flynn
Kaley Bonnett	Alyssa Foley
Estevan Bravo	Jacob Ford
Sydney Breeden	Alexis Foster
Johnathan Brewer	Lexi Freeland
Nellie Brown	Lauren Freeman
Lanie Brown	Seth Fudge
NaKole Brown	Nataly Fuentes
Micah Buckles	Erika Galicia
John Bugg	Mick Galvan
Kim-Phung Bui	Timothy Gammill
Jenapher Burnett	Marco Garcia Montes
Maggie Burris	Katie Geissinger
Kimber Campbell	Alexis Gibson
Kobe Campbell	Megan Gillham
Frida Campos	Kailey Gilmore
MacKenzie Cannon	Alayna Glover
Abigail Carico	Vanessa Gonzales
Merissa Carter	Guiselle Gonzalez
Camden Carter	Jolie Goodman
Madelyn Castro	Eden Goude
Skylar Cecil	Jordan Gould
Kimberly Chavez	Laynee Graham

Bryce Green Gavin Green Hunter Greenfield Krysten Gregory Jake Grist Makenzie Hall Anastasia Harford Lexi Harlan Paige Harris Makeyla Harris Lakailah Hartgraves Ayden Haslam Douglas Haulmark Ana Hernandez Chance Hevner Chaarlee Hickman Jessi Hill Becky Hines Lily Hinton Lily Hobbs Cadence Hodge Ethan Holloway Kaysha Hopewell Nathan Humphries Emily Hunter Sarahi Ibarra Gabe Iglesia Khurera Iqbal Mauricio Iturriaga Danny Jackson Demonte Jamison Major Jay Hunter Jeffcoat Luke Jodoin Shemar Johnson Ava Jones Robert Jordan Adam Kaderly Ayden Karnes Daniel Kiss Mason Klopp Aaron Krafft Devan Lamb Isabella Law Sapphanie Le Jason Le Wraith Lester Blake Lillard Katherine Lockhart

Alyssa Lovan

Reece Lovell

Quintin Ludlow Morgan Lynn Dominic Mai Sophie Mammarelli Shauna Marion Gracie Marler Lane Marquez Alia Marr Lupe Martinez Josue Martinez Gustavo Martinez Josie Martinez Diana Martinez Abraham Martinez Lanie Matthews Katie May Joshua Maze Carsyn McCabe Miles McClish Julia McCown William McCoy Whitney McCoy Addison McDougal Zailey McGee Raiven McGill Kaleb McLaughlin Madison McNichols Bianca McVay Brooklyn Mead Gabrielle Meador Jesus Mejia Julissa Mejia Ashley Meza Jonathan Mitchell Iackson Molina Maria Molina Chris Monterroza Haylee Moore Joshua Moore Eboni Morris Emma Claire Mullinax Emily Murphy Ashley Murry Lesly Najera Zoe Nesbitt Steven Nhongvongsithi Matthew Nolan Rachel Nuñez Nick Odom Jessica Osorio

Taylor Osseni

Michael Owens Toby Palmer Cristina Paredes Toni Parrish Olivia Partin Taylor Pate Mason Patrick Jayden Pena Samantha Pennington Dylan Perez Paul Pham Nhi Pham Devin Phongsavanh McKenzie Piper Janice Podgurski Jess Polk Kyler Poor Avery Powell Jordan Pullen Sam Reese Bryan Rhamy Ella Rhodes Luke Rhodes Sean Rhodes Lakeya Richardson Mary Richey Dylan Ridenour Melissa Rincon Keira Rivera Cris Rodriguez Perla Romero Jasmine Rosa Juan Pedro Rosello Jenna Rushing Zach Rytting Hunter Salisbury Melvin Sanchez Chase Sanders Isaiah Schoeppey Brandon Scott Isabella Serrano Teresa Serrano William Shackelford Amber Shawkey William Shelton Jordan Shelton Anna Shirley Maddie Slatton Katelyn Smith

Brenna Smith

Katelynn Spain

Justice Spears Garrett Standifird Seth Standridge Victor Steffen KateLynn Stodola Gabriella-Noel Stokes Alexis Stricklin Rachel Stubblefield Haylee Stubbs Lola Tate Shae Taylor Madison Taylor Isaac Teague Nai Thao Kiara Thomas Jacob Thompson Embry Thornton Madi Thurston Jake Tierney Alexa Ton Randy Tran Peri Tygart Maria Valle Gini Vandalak Tristan Vandewiele Isabelle Vann Vincent Vannavong Hunter Vanness Eliza Vargas Erica Wall Halle Watson Jason Weiler Jacob Wells Hayden Wells Kayla West Cooper White Lauren Whitecotton Cynthia Williams Rhett Williams Isabel Williams Jackie Williams Todd Williams Anna Wleklinski Shayla Woolsey Nevon Xayavongsa Ben Yarberry Nani Yonemura Gracie Young Amber Yowell

Ashley Zavala Nelson