

CASAC MONTHLY

College of Arts and Sciences Advising Center Newsletter

"Advising: Our Passion. Your Success: Our Reward."

December 2024



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Lions,

We've come to the close of another semester. You've worked hard this semester and we're so proud of the hard work you've put in. This special edition of CASAC monthly is dedicated to our graduating seniors. In this edition we talk about what comes next after graduation and spotlight six special seniors who are off to great things after walking across the stage this month! We hope you enjoy!

-Your Friends in CASAC!

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Congratulations, Graduates!

Graduates,

As you walk across the stage this December, please know how proud we are of you. You're accomplishing something that less than 25% of Arkansans have. (US Census Bureau.) Many of you are first generation students, making this accomplishment an extra special occasion. Remember that you will always have an educational home at UAFS. There are resources like the CAS Advising Center, Career Services, and the Alumni Office here to help. We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors and next step. Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can ever be of assistance, even after you graduate. Please stay in touch.

-Drake, Eden, Journi, & Justin

BE A COOL CAT.



Take the Academic Advising
Student Satisfaction Survey
Fall 2024



The Tassel has Moved to the Left: What's on the Other Side of Graduation?

What's after graduation? The path can differ for everyone, but it often signifies the beginning of a new phase of life. In this new phase, one typically enters the workforce, further education (such as graduate school), or a new chapter all together, depending on your goals. This is symbolized through the movement of your tassel to the left side of your cap during the commencement ceremony, marking the transition from student to graduate/alumni.



1. Employment

- For many, after graduating from college, they begin working in their chosen field.
- “After graduation, you can begin an entry-level role in your preferred industry to gain the necessary experience to become an expert.”
- For others, they might secure a position outside of their chosen field, but continue to work through their goals and passions.

2. Education

- For many college graduates, the idea of continuing education sounds unbearable, for others, it's the next step in achieving their dreams. Many career fields require education beyond a bachelor's degree so after graduation, some students move into graduate studies for a Masters, Doctorate, and Professional Level program.

3. Gap Year

- After years of hard work, some students elect to take a gap year between graduating and their next step. They often use this time to rest, relax, and recharge.
- This time can also be used to travel, see the world, or reconnect with others whom you may not have had time to spend with in during college.

4. Volunteering or Internships

- Many students take advantage of their newfound freedom from formal classwork to volunteer or participate in internships.
- Both of these opportunities are excellent ways to build one's resume and build valuable relationships that will benefit your future!

5. Start a Business

- Some students know well before graduating college that they do not want an entry level job after graduating with their degree; after college, they have plans to start their own business. This is a great way to make a difference in your community and meet the needs of others!
- You can amplify something you are passionate about and make money doing it!

6. Goals & Ideas

- Regardless of your next step, keep moving forward! Pursue your dreams.
- Keep your goals and ideas in mind and never give up.
- Remember: You are valuable and society awaits your gifts, talents, and skills.

Adapted from Various Sources
Journey to College | Tennessee Tech University

UPCOMING DATES

Graduation.....	December 14
Final Grades Available on My.UAFS.....	December 19
Campus Offices Closed for Winter Break.....	December 23-31
Campus Offices Closed for New Years.....	January 1
Campus Offices Reopen.....	January 2
Spring 2025 Payment Deadline.....	January 10
Spring 2025 Classes Begin.....	January 13

LET'S STAY IN TOUCH!



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Spotlighting Graduates in the College of Arts & Sciences

Rafe Wilhite

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, concentration in Data Science and AI, minor in Mathematics

What are your plans after graduation?

I am going to be moving to NWA to begin working at J.B. Hunt as a full-time software engineer. I'll be living with a high school friend and a college friend who both studied Computer Science with me.

What was your advising experience like at UAFS?

My faculty advisor it's great. I became much more accustomed and knew what I needed to do and my faculty advisor helped facilitate that. They made sure to help me get what I needed to graduate.

What was the best part about being a lion?

Without a shadow of a doubt, Cub Camp was by far the best thing about my time at UAFS. As a camper, it wasn't my thing, but as a counselor, I loved seeing the effects of Cub Camp on incoming freshmen and being a part of that change. Cub Camp gave me a sense of fulfillment I don't think I've gotten from anywhere else. For the 3 years I've been a counselor, going out of my introverted comfort zone and being stressed and energetic for 3-4 days straight are some of the best memories I'll never forget.



Kara Ray

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

What are your plans after graduation?

I was accepted into graduate school at UARK for the Spring 2025 semester.

What was your advising experience like at UAFS?

I am a non traditional student. I work full time and I also have three children. The thought of continuing my education with such a heavy load can be overwhelming. However, My advising experience at UAFS has been an amazing one from beginning to the end. I never felt alone.

What was the best part about being a lion?

Being a UAFS Lion has been a transformative experience for my family and me. The flexibility and support I've received have allowed me to pursue my dreams without sacrificing quality time with my children. By setting an example of hard work and dedication, that UAFS has allowed me to do, I hope I can inspire my babies to reach for the stars! Being a lion has given me a second chance! UAFS will always hold a special place in my heart!



Lauren Wilkinson

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, minor in History, and Certificate of Proficiency in Pre-Law Studies

What are your plans after graduation?

I plan to move to NWA and attend the University of Arkansas School of Law!

What was your advising experience like at UAFS?

It was great! Every advisor I spoke to helped me with all my questions and made sure I checked all my boxes.

What was the best part about being a lion?

The friendships I made and people I met along the way. The Political Science department introduced me to a lot of unique people who were passionate and knowledgeable about the same things as me!



Emily McCall

Bachelor of Arts in English, minor in History

What are your plans after graduation?

Becoming an English teacher!

What was your advising experience like at UAFS?

Awesome!

What was the best part about being a lion?

The amazing faculty at UAFS who not only taught me all of my class materials, but the importance of being a good human being.



Dany Morales Hernandez

Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, minor and Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching English as a Second Language

What are your plans after graduation?

I plan to continue working at Bachoco USA as a Training Coordinator. I also plan to move to Fort Smith and eventually move to NWA.

What was your advising experience like at UAFS?

Pretty good.

What was the best part about being a lion?

All my friends I have made at UAFS and all the RSOs I was able to be involved with and finding a home in Gamma Phi Beta.

Le Nguyen

Bachelor of Science in Biology, concentration in Biomedical Professionals, minor in Chemistry

What are your plans after graduation?

After graduation, my goal is to pursue a career in medicine, specifically in pediatrics or a related field that allows me to work closely with children and contribute to their health and well-being.

What was your advising experience like at UAFS?

My advising experience at UAFS has been positive and supportive. The advisors at UAFS have been helpful in guiding me through my academic journey, ensuring that I'm aware of the requirements for my degree, and helping me navigate course selections that align with my career goals. They've also provided valuable insights and encouragement when I was exploring different career paths in the medical field.

What was the best part about being a lion?

The best part about being a Lion has definitely been the sense of community and the opportunities to grow both academically and personally. The university has a supportive environment where you can build meaningful relationships with peers and faculty, which has been invaluable for learning and collaboration. Being part of student organizations, like the NSLS chapter, has also given me a chance to develop leadership skills and connect with like-minded students who share similar goals. Plus, UAFS has provided access to great resources and experiences, such as shadowing professionals and volunteering, that have been instrumental in preparing for my future career.



Happy Holidays from the CAS Advising Center Team!

As we close out the year, we want to extend our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones. Whether you're celebrating holidays, enjoying time with friends and family, or simply taking a well-deserved break, we hope this season brings you joy, peace, and a chance to recharge.

We look forward to supporting you in the new year!

Warm regards,
The CAS Advising Center Team



Happy
Holidays!

From All of Us in CASAC



HAPPY
Holidays!