diverse education
intellectual creativity
flexible thinkers
sustainable careers
Originally called the College of Liberal Arts when established in 1929, the College of Arts & Sciences today is the largest of nine colleges at BGSU. Some facts about CAS:

- More than 100 areas of study are spread across more than 20 departments.
- Our academic advisors and office staff win awards for providing the best service to students.
- Students can participate in both classroom and real-world educational experiences.
- Faculty are deeply involved in student learning experiences to an extent uncommon at other, bigger schools.
- BGSU students report a strong sense of belonging.
- “Once a falcon, always a falcon.”
- Graduate offerings include 25 master’s programs and 11 doctoral programs.

CAScade, a magazine for prospective students of the College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) at Bowling Green State University, highlights some of our signature programs and our students’ stories. This sampling of the many facets of CAS is presented to pique your interest in the transformative experience that is our College.

The magazine is both a traditional print piece and a digital e-zine, with some interactive content along the way. We hope that you enjoy the experience and make a deeper connection to the BGSU College of Arts & Sciences.

Sincerely,
Raymond Craig, Dean
College of Arts & Sciences

Visit the CAScade e-zine: bgsu.edu/cascade

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“Liberal arts majors ... are the students who have the active minds, who are asking the big questions.”


CAScade: a process whereby information or knowledge is successively passed on; the “cascade effect”
Frozen Volcanoes

**GEOLOGY**

As part of a National Science Foundation-funded project, Dr. Kurt Panter and student Jenna Reindel traveled to Antarctica for five weeks in late 2015 to study remote volcanoes and the changing dynamics of the Antarctic ice sheet. Together with a mountaineer guide and another researcher, the team sought, in part, to answer the question: Why are the volcanoes here? The two they visited are the farthest south in the world; they lie about 200 miles from the South Pole and 700 miles from other volcanoes.

“Despite more than 50 years of research, the fundamental cause of volcanism and rifting in Antarctica is still vigorously debated,” Panter said. “It’s a complex and exciting story. We think the ice sheet was pretty dynamic, coming and going pretty rapidly. I think a lot will come out of our study in terms of ice sheet history.”

Despite their smiles, Panter and Reindel weren’t exactly on top of the world. Antarctica, the world’s largest remaining ice sheet, sits at the very bottom of the globe, south of Africa, Australia and South America. The volcanoes they studied are part of the Transantarctic Mountains, a range that extends over 2,000 miles across the frozen continent.

Although temperatures averaged 20–30 degrees below zero (F) and a whiteout stranded her group at camp for two weeks, nearly putting the project in jeopardy, Reindel had a great experience. “I love traveling. That’s why I became a geology major,” she said. “I want to learn everything about the environment where I’m going.”

Panter, Reindel and U.K. researcher Dr. John Smellie get their first close-up view of Mt. Early. No one has studied these volcanoes since the late 1970s. Two aircraft got the team—and all of their safety gear, food and living supplies—near their camp, but the last long leg of the journey is accessible only via snowmobile.

Reindel navigates an ancient lava flow at Sheridan Bluff. The volcanoes have been dormant for millions of years and are highly eroded. The team took photos, made observations and mapped locations, then sent a ton of rock samples by boat back to the U.S., where they will undergo microscopic, dating and mineral analysis.

*Meaningful and productive lives*
After a massive algal bloom affected the drinking water supply of more than 500,000 residents in the Toledo area in 2014, public outcry to fix the issue and prevent it from happening again prompted scientists to spring into action. Bowling Green State University scientists, already researching the ecology of Lake Erie and the Sandusky Bay, shifted their focus to these harmful blooms that spread near water intake locations.

“If you pull up a bucket of water, there are several thousands of organisms living in a complex community structure,” said Dr. George Bullerjahn. “We want to know who’s doing what in that microbial community.”

Bullerjahn and Dr. Mike McKay are part of the BGSU team whose research is gaining international attention as it explores why algal blooms produce toxins. BGSU CAS faculty members actively involve undergraduate and graduate students in their research, providing meaningful experiences to the next generation of scientists.

Teams of BGSU faculty and students are tackling the complex problems facing Lake Erie, giving students opportunities to reframe the environmental issues they are studying and conducting cutting-edge research that integrates technology with environmental science at work. Cooperation among academic departments teaches students the importance of collaboration as they unravel problems that require more than one scientific discipline to solve.

By working on this research, students are not only contributing to the understanding of algal blooms and their impacts on water quality, but also gaining valuable experience in a field that is rapidly expanding.

Clandestine Drugs CHEMISTRY Neuroscience student Greg Grecco works with Dr. Jon Sprague to study the molecular structures of synthetic drugs, with an eye to protecting the public from the harmful effects of street drugs produced in secret laboratories. New drugs are often created by modifying the chemistry of existing ones, making their effects on the body even more powerful and making their detection more difficult. This research focuses on the “industrial structures” between the various drug components cooked up in clandestine labs.

Sprague, director of the Center for the Future of Forensic Science at BGSU, is a pharmacologist whose current work is intended to support the passage of a Federal Pharmacophore Act. The main premise is that structurally similar molecular substances should be categorized in such a way that makes it easier to trace a substance. Grecco’s interest in the topic stems from seeing the impact clandestine drugs had in his community and wanting to understand the science behind drug addiction.

It’s a team effort. With his interest piqued, Grecco works with Dr. Sprague and other students to study the molecular structures of synthetic drugs. The goal is to understand the science behind drug addiction and to develop strategies to combat it.
Prairie Margins

Prairie Margins, a literary magazine published by BGSU since 1963, features work of fiction, creative nonfiction and poetry by undergraduate students from around the world. It provides a venue where talented writers from all majors and disciplines can be introduced to wide audiences. Prairie Margins also accepts art and photography.

Students in the English department’s Creative Writing program review and select submissions for each annual edition. The deadline for submissions is March 1. Visit www.prairiemargins.com to download past issues or for details on submitting your own work.

Micropoetry

Geoff Howes, professor emeritus of German, writes and shares haiku poems on his Twitter page (@geoffhowes). A haiku is a short poem of three lines, divided into groups of 5, 7 and 5 syllables. We asked Dr. Howes to compose haikus related to creative writing and world languages:

`a word and a word
another word and soon
it’s a world in words`

`another language
a house with a thousand doors
get yourself some keys`

Tweet Your Own Haiku

Create your own language-themed haiku and Tweet with hashtag #CAScadeHaiku. Mention @DeanRayCraig and CAS may retweet your poem!

Literary Readings

One of the oldest established creative writing programs in the country, BGSU’s program produces award-winning writers and has an outstanding record of alumni publishing their work. Weekly readings feature poetry and fictional works by students in the Bachelor and Master of Fine Arts (BFA and MFA) programs, as well as visiting guest writers. The Thursday evening readings—free and open to the public—are held in Prout Chapel, the non-denominational chapel built in 1951 and named after BGSU’s third president, Frank J. Prout (served 1939–1951).

A full schedule for the reading series can be found at www.bgsu.edu/readingseries. A complete list of books published by BGSU alumni, including Anthony Doerr’s All the Light We Cannot See, winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize in Fiction, can be found at www.bgsu.edu/creativewritingauthors.

Winter Wheat Festival of Writing

Plant the seeds of literary creativity by attending the Winter Wheat Festival of Writing. Like its namesake which is planted in the fall for a future harvest, the festival is held each November on the BGSU campus and draws more than 300 participants from Ohio and beyond. The event includes guest author readings, author Q&A sessions, a book fair, an open mic opportunity and more than 30 writing workshops. Workshops cover a wide range of topics, including memoir writing, self-publishing, building literary radicis, cover design and crafting handmade books. A celebration of camaraderie among writers and readers, the Winter Wheat Festival is free and open to the public.

Details on the next Winter Wheat can be found at www.bgsu.edu/winterwheat.
Does Coloring Affect the Brain?

Coloring is often said to have therapeutic effects. Just Google “adult coloring book” and most of the search results reference “stress relief.” But is there a scientific correlation or do people simply enjoy the activity of coloring?

Two BGSU psychology students are going straight to the source to find out—inside the brain. Seniors Najae Bolden-Hall and Leah Chipps are conducting electroencephalogram (EEG) experiments to measure brain wave patterns associated with coloring.

“Here’s a claim that’s made in popular culture, that coloring reduces stress,” said Dr. Sherona Garrett-Ruffin, the faculty mentor on the project. “As scientists we want to investigate these claims, and at BGSU we have the means to do that. It’s exciting to come up with projects that students at their stage of development can really take ownership of.”

In the EEG test, small metal discs with thin wires (electrodes) are placed on the scalp and send signals to a computer. In their study, the researchers are exploring the electrical patterns that occur in the brain when we color. For example, greater theta activity in the frontal areas of the brain are associated with more attention and focus.

Both students are involved in research programs. Chipps will give a presentation at the Center for Undergraduate Research & Scholarship (CURS) symposium in the spring.

“My specialization is in clinical psychology, and when you’re looking at stress and anxiety, this study is so relevant to the patient side of things,” she said.

Bolden-Hall, who is specializing in neuroscience, is a McNair Scholar, a program for first-generation college students planning to pursue graduate degrees.

“Graduate school is very competitive, and I knew I needed to do some research,” she said. “Questioning and critical thinking is a really big part of the research experience. It starts with having that desire to find out more.”
Agile Software Factory Develops Student Software Skills

At BGSU’s Agile Software Factory (ASF), students develop, program and build software systems for mobile, web and desktop applications. Created in 2008, Agile Software has employed dozens of student programmers from the computer science department who work on projects for community and university partners.

“This is a real software shop—we run this like a business,” said Dr. Rob Green, assistant professor of computer science and a former director of ASF. “The students use real software development methodologies and professional-grade tools. Without fail, the experience on their resume makes it much easier for them to get noticed by potential employers.”

“Agile Software Factory is like the varsity version of a software engineering class,” said student programmer Andrew Johnson. “We work with the client and take a project from start to finish. Here, we can understand the whole process and learn a lot about task management and prioritization.”

A current project revolves around Townie Cup, an annual golf tournament and scholarship fundraiser to benefit Bowling Green High School seniors planning to pursue higher education. In 2015, the event’s organizer approached Dr. Green to discuss the possibility of overhauling its antiquated website. The conversation then led to a tournament companion mobile app for scorekeeping during the event.

The current crew of undergraduate students at Agile developed four pieces of software for Townie Cup: a new website, a web content management system and mobile apps for iPhone and Android. All were launched for the summer 2016 tournament. Other recently developed programs include “How Many?,” which supports a research project to assess preschooler comprehension; “Falcon Phonology,” which allows clinicians to track and analyze speech defects; and “UnplugTuke,” which is used in conjunction with a research project on student motivation and rewards.

“A student said we work on such a wide variety of things,” said programmer Peter Edwards. “In class you learn about high level concepts like algorithms and different types of searches, and here, you take an idea and actually materialize it into a product.”

Julia Grummel was pursuing dual degrees in computer science and digital arts when she started the first of three summer internships at Adobe Systems in San Jose, CA. A long-time user of Adobe products such as Photoshop and InDesign, the BGSU alumna learned a great deal from the experience, both about the computer industry and navigating the organizational culture. Ultimately, she was able to parlay her internship experience into a job that’s a perfect fit with her dual major: user experience design, or UX, at Adobe. She graduated in spring 2015, was hired full-time that summer and now works on a team responsible for the restructure and redesign of Adobe Support.

“The BGSU Computer Science department is so closely tied to the industry,” Grummel said. “It made the transition from the classroom to corporate life much smoother.”
Digital Art Ranks High

BGSU’s digital animation program ranks seventh in the Midwest (a region of 13 states) and 38th nationally for animation schools and colleges. In its 2015 rankings, Animation Career Review looked at several hundred schools that offer animation or game design. Criteria were academic reputation, depth and breadth of the program, admission selectivity and economic value.

Digital arts majors at BGSU have a variety of tracks from which to choose: traditional and 3-D animation, digital imaging, video art, interactive multimedia and virtual reality. A new minor in digital arts is also available.

Spring of 2017 will mark the 25th anniversary of the digital arts program, and BGSU graduates have gone on to successful jobs in the animation and game-design industries. Some examples:

• Senior art director at Microsoft
• Senior technical specialist at Autodesk
• Director of photography at Think Media Solutions (5 Emmys)
• Combat videogame/studio media director for U.S. Department of Defense
• Senior design engineer at American Greetings
• Founder of Designing Digital 4/7 students include HP, Hilton, P&G, Toyota
• Assistant professor of photography at Parsons School of Design
• Specialties in gaming/entertainment companies like Blizzard Entertainment, Epic Games and DreamWorks

Graduates have been featured in the animation and game-design industries.

Art Students Do Amazing Things

HIGH RANKINGS, AWARD-WINNING WORK, GREAT CAREERS

Some examples:

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• Senior technical specialist at Autodesk
• Director of photography at Think Media Solutions (5 Emmys)
• Combat videogame/studio media director for U.S. Department of Defense
• Senior design engineer at American Greetings
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• Assistant professor of photography at Parsons School of Design
• Specialties in gaming/entertainment companies like Blizzard Entertainment, Epic Games and DreamWorks

Graphic Design Brings Home Gold

An anamorphic mural designed by students in a 3-D graphic design class received top advertising awards from the American Advertising Federation. The project involved placing a team of 11 emerging designers with established professionals to create a large-scale visual as part of the Toledo Arts Commission’s Artomatic 419. The event is a biannual celebration that features musical performances and hundreds of pieces of artwork.

BGSU students created an installation in the former Lamson’s department store in downtown Toledo. To fabricate the 100-by-150-foot mural, they scaled three levels of scaffolding, drawing chalk outlines on the wall and assigning numbers in a paint-by-numbers fashion. Their design referenced the branding and tagline of the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA), incorporating flurries of colored shapes blasting out in many directions.

In addition to graphic design and digital arts, the BGSU School of Art offers programs in studio art—painting and drawing, photography, printmaking, ceramics, glass, jewelry and metals, sculpture—and art education and art history.

Visit www.bgsu.edu/schoolofart to learn more about programs, events and galleries.

“Beehive,” Mike Baker

Habits of mind

Transforming
COMMUNICATION

Bonding Through Technology

Tablets Link Students with Seniors

As part of the CAS experience, communication students enjoy a high degree of engagement in both classes and with field work, and they take a vested interest in experiences with a community outreach component.

In a program created by Dr. Kate Magsamen-Conrad and in cooperation with the Wood County Committee on Aging, BGSU students create lesson plans and teach technology classes at the Wood County Senior Center. Students in the earlier classes developed manuals and video tutorials now used by students to teach senior citizens how to use the iPad, Kindle Fire and Samsung Galaxy technology. Students show them how to download apps, surf the web, take photos and video and navigate different operating systems. At the end of each six-week partnership, the senior learners receive certificates for their participation.

The program – the Intergenerational Communication Intervention – was designed, in part, to foster positive relationships between younger and older adults. The classes also build skills important to both groups: senior citizens learn the latest technology and BGSU communication students learn how to articulate concepts and instructions to the uninitiated.

The program has been a positive experience for all involved. The seniors report having gained much more trust and interest in communicating with younger adults, and the students say they have a much better understanding of diversity and disabilities.

“If you have a thirst for knowledge it doesn’t matter how old you are. Senior citizens get excited about the technology and as long as they’re willing to learn and we’re willing to teach, it’s fun.”

Daniel McHenry, student instructor

“I wanted to learn. We’re out of it if we don’t. We have to stick with it. I like to write and do word processing, except it can be frustrating. But I can try to work through the problems, and it always works.”

Betty Laukhuf, 80, BGSU alumna

“There are so much tools technology can leave some groups of people behind. Our senior citizens have talked about being limited in their mobility, or getting an iPad instead of a menu. They’re trying to adapt to the new technology that allows them to interact with our society today.”

Dr. Kate Magsamen-Conrad

“A lot of discovery is about patience and listening. In this class I learned some of the most important concepts about being a successful human being. It helped me realize that so much happens outside the realm of my own perspective. This project has without a doubt been the thing that prepared me the most for life after college.”

Casey Schonhardt, student instructor
The topic of CULTURE is getting a good share of attention these days. It was recently Merriam-Webster’s word of the year based on the number of online searches, as people seek meaning for a term that has ever more relevance in a diversifying world.

At its core, culture is group identity, the “who we are,” made up of the language, social habits, knowledge, beliefs, images and objects of our everyday lives. A particular culture might relate to shared geography—Appalachian, Afghan, Australian—or it might relate to a shared identity across regions: youth culture, corporate culture, urban culture to name a few.

BGSU CAS offers many opportunities to study and experience culture, including International Studies and Popular Culture.

International Studies

International Studies is an interdisciplinary program with courses across the arts and sciences, including history, communications, economics, political science and geography. A student's individual program might focus on a world region (e.g., Africa, Europe), a particular issue or subject (e.g., environment, sociology) or a future career goal (e.g., government, business administration).

International Studies is offered as a major or a minor. The major requires a study abroad experience and advanced study in a foreign language. A degree in International Studies prepares a student for a career abroad or for a domestic career that benefits from a global perspective. Many International Studies majors find work in government, business, the armed forces, school districts and universities. Our graduates have gone on to diverse careers working in areas such as:

- Logistics
- Peace Corps
- Political science
- Research
- Social work
- Trade
- Travel planning

Some of these areas require further study or work experience after graduation.

Culture Capture Scavenger Hunt

Take photos that illustrate one or more of the prompts below: Be creative! Upload the images to Instagram, specify the prompt, and add the hashtag #CASculture. Each month from October ('16) through August ('17), one winner will be randomly selected to receive a prize.

- Travel
- Identity
- Diversity
- Discovery
- Connection
- Community
- Global

Culture in the College

Africana Studies • American Culture Studies • Asian Studies •
Ethnic Studies • German, Russian & East Asian Languages • History •
International Studies • Political Science • Popular Culture • Romance &
Classical Studies • Sociology • Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Popular Culture
BGSU’s Popular Culture program, the oldest in the U.S., exposes students to issues they may be familiar with in everyday life but have not reflected on in-depth. Popular Culture (PopC) students examine, for example, how and why people select their entertainment, what TV shows and movies mean to those who watch them, how popular products are marketed and how these components of our daily lives influence our activities and basic beliefs.

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Students can take Popular Culture as a major or a minor, or they can simply enroll in courses of interest. Those with a degree in this field work in a wide variety of industries and institutions, including museums, the recording industry, photo and video firms, radio and television stations, film studios, public relations and in the general business field, to name just a few.

CULTURE

Culture in the College
BGSU is ranked as a top-tier public university by U.S. News & World Report.

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Majors and Minors

**BSU College of Arts & Sciences**

**UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS**

- African Studies
- American Culture Studies
- Art:
  - Studio Art
    (2D & 3D Studies)
  - Digital Arts
  - Fibre & Textiles
  - Ceramic Arts
  - Art Education
- Art History
- Asian Studies
- Biology:
  - Ecology & Conservation
  - Marine & Aquatic
  - Microbiology
- Chemistry:
  - Biochemistry
  - Forensic
- Classical Civilization
- Communication
- Computer Science:
  - Business Systems
  - Software Engineering
- Creative Writing
- Economics
- Environmental Policy & Analysis
- Environmental Science
- Ethnic Studies
- Film Production
- Film Studies
- Forensics
- Forensic Science
- French
- German
- History
- International Studies
- Journalism:
  - Broadcast
  - Multi-platform
  - Public Relations
- Latin
- Liberal Studies
- Mathematics:
  - Actuarial Science
  - Data Science
- Media Production & Studies
- Music
- Neuroscience
- Philosophy
- Philosophy, Politics, Economics & Law (PPEL)
- Physics
- Political Science
- Popular Culture
- Psychology
- Russian
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Statistics
- Theatre:
  - Acting/Directing
  - Design/Technical Theatre
  - Musical Theatre
- Visual Communication
- Youth Theatre/Puppetry
- Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies
- German Studies
- History
- International Studies
- Journalism:
  - Broadcast
  - Multi-platform
  - Public Relations
- Latin
- Liberal Studies
- Mathematics:
  - Actuarial Science
  - Data Science
- Media Production & Studies
- Music
- Neuroscience
- Philosophy
- Philosophy, Politics, Economics & Law (PPEL)
- Physics
- Political Science
- Popular Culture
- Psychology
- Russian
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Statistics
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  - Acting/Directing
  - Design/Technical Theatre
  - Musical Theatre
- Visual Communication
- Youth Theatre/Puppetry
- Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies

**MINOR POINT**

A minor is a subject area that a student chooses as a secondary focus. With a minor, you take fewer classes than for your major while getting a second specialization.

**Beef Up Your Education**

Once you’re enrolled at a university, why not take advantage of more than one of the many programs available to you? Enhance your main area of study or diversify your educational track. Psychology and sociology make a good pairing, for example, as do media production and computer science; a fusion of history, political science or popular culture; and any number of other combinations. Plus, if you’re considering getting a master’s degree, a minor could help fulfill the undergraduate prerequisite for grad school admission.

**Flexible Careers, Extra Expertise**

A minor can make you a more marketable job candidate after college and give you an edge over others in your field. When you have undertaken more than one discipline, you bring more to the job. Take biology and art, for example; the disciplines might seem at odds, but illustration can be a useful skill for a botanist or zoologist. A blend of photography and journalism make for a well-rounded photojournalist. And, almost any major pairs well with a foreign language minor.

**Pursue Your Passion**

You might choose a minor not necessarily because it relates to your career (though you never know!) but because you’re passionate about the subject. Creative writing? Theatre? Ethnic studies? A minor gives you the opportunity to pursue a personal interest while taking career-related courses.

There are many major/minor combinations, both within CAS and in conjunction with other BSU colleges. For a complete list of minors, visit www.bgsu.edu/minors.

**Pre-Professional Preparation**

An undergraduate degree from BGSU is excellent preparation for students who plan to attend one of these professional schools after graduation:

- Pre-Dental
- Pre-Law
- Pre-Medicine (M.D. or D.O.)
- Pre-Mortuary Science
- Pre-Optometrist
- Pre-Occupational Therapy
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine

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- Pre-Occupational Therapy
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine
Transforming ourselves and the world

Leading meaningful and productive lives

Adopting multiple perspectives and habits of mind

Serving the public good