



Strictly Business

Fall 2020

Bachelor of Science with Majors in:

- Accounting
- Acquisition & Contract Management
- Advanced Manufacturing Management
- Health Care Management
- Human Resource Management
- Information Assurance Management
- Logistics & Supply Chain Management
- Management
- Management of Technology
- Occupational Health and Safety Management

Masters of Science

- Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics

COB Graduate Programs Expanding

In early October 2020, Athens State University received final approval to offer a new graduate program in Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics (SLBA). Industries today rely on business leaders who have a strong technical and analytical background—problem solvers who know how to use data to influence decision-making and drive business innovation. Designed for working professionals, the Master of Science-Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics program provides an opportunity for individuals to enhance the professional knowledge, skills, and professional acumen

needed to effectively draw upon strategic leadership models through the integration of business analytics to convert data into deployable, strategy-grounded actions for both public and private sectors.

Applications to this new program are currently being accepted. The first two courses for this program are going to be offered in Spring 2021. The courses are LDR 500 Influential Leadership and BUS 503 Accounting and Financial Analysis. Spring 2021 registration runs from November 1 to January 10, with spring classes beginning January 11. There are 10

courses (30 credit hours) total for the program. For more information, check out the 2020-21 Graduate Catalog Addendum at www.athens.edu/catalogs/graduate/2020-21/Addendum-CollegeofBusiness or contact Mallory Jackson, Graduate Support Services Administrator for the College of Business, at Mallory.Jackson@athens.edu or 256-216-5351.

Applications are also being accepted to the M.S. Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management program. The first courses in this major are offered in both Fall and Spring semesters.

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Athens State University Program Receives National Cyber Defense Designation



The National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security have designated Athens State University as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education (CAE-CDE) through the academ-

ic year 2025 for its Bachelor of Science in Management of Cybersecurity Operations with a minor in Information Systems Management. Dr. Darren Waldrep, Assistant Professor of Management of Cybersecurity Operations, was the key faculty leading the effort to achieve the designation over a two-year period.

The goal of the CAE-CDE

program is to reduce vulnerability in our national information infrastructure by promoting higher education and research in cyber defense and producing professionals with cyber defense expertise. CAE-CDE institutions receive formal recognition from the U.S. Government for participating in the program. According to Fall 2020 reports, there are currently 27 students at Athens State in the Information Assurance or Management of Cybersecurity Operations majors.

ACHE Approves New Programs

The College of Business has received approval for some exciting program changes. Beginning Fall 2020, Athens State University began admitting students seeking B.S. degrees in Advanced Manufacturing Management (AMM) and Occupational Health and Safety Management (OHSM). The **B.S. in AMM** program was developed to provide a pathway for graduates of the Federation of Advanced Manufacturing (FAME) program or other AAS programs to pursue bachelor's degrees and advance their careers to the management level. It is also designed to develop local skilled

talent for the growing manufacturing operations. The **B.S. in OHSM** was designed in response to local and regional demand for manufacturing management professionals with knowledge, skills, and abilities related to occupational health and safety in the work environment.

In addition to these new majors, Athens State also received approval to offer two "badge" programs: the **Forensic Accounting Badge** and the **Tax Accounting Badge**. These are designed to provide a short-term micro-credential to boost knowledge and employability

in a competitive job market. Earning the Forensic Accounting Badge demonstrates knowledge of forensic accounting concepts including fraud, accounting crimes, and ethics in accounting. The Federal Tax Accounting Badge demonstrates knowledge of federal tax laws and regulations applicable to individuals, sole proprietors, corporations, and partnerships.

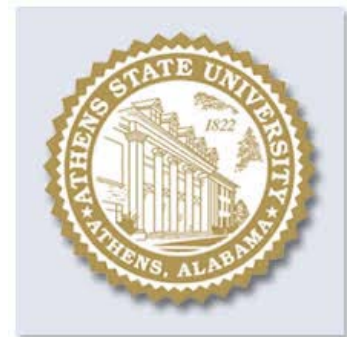
Each badge program requires two courses and can be completed entirely online. The first badges were awarded at the end of the summer 2020 semester.

COB Programs Continue to Be Nationally Ranked

During the 2019-2020 academic year, Athens State University was notified of its ranking in several categories, some of which involved programs in the College of Business. OnlineU.org has awarded Athens State #2 Most Affordable Online Supply Chain Management Degree for its Master's in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management. On the undergraduate level, the rankings were #4 Most Affordable Online Supply Chain Management Degree, #10 Most Affordable Online Account-

ing Degree, #10 Most Affordable Online Human Resources Degree, and #24 Most Affordable Online Management Degree. Intelligent.com ranked Athens State #21 for Best Online Accounting Degree Programs. Online Schools Report gave a #5 ranking for Best Online Supply Chain Management Degree. Online Course Report ranked us #4 for Best Online HRM Degree. Successful Student gave a #22 ranking for Best Online Business Management Degree. Finally, College Fac-

tual has Athens State ranked #4 Best Online College for Veterans.



DELTA MU DELTA DOES IT AGAIN



In Fall 2019, the Alpha Iota Chapter of Delta Mu Delta was named a 2019 Star Chapter. It was one of 23 recipients out of approximately 375 chapters for the 2019 fiscal year ending in June, ranking it among the top 6% of chapters worldwide. This chapter is noted as the most award-winning Star Chapter in the organization's history with 18 annual recognitions. Dr. John Berzett and Professor Debra Vaughn (pictured) serve as the Alpha Iota chapter advisers. Officers for the 2019 fiscal year were Elizabeth Mead (President), Colton Hicks (Vice President), and Danielle Marcum (Secretary).

Star Chapters must meet or exceed Society standards for chapter operation and administration, must either induct at least 80% of their eligible candidates or more candidates from the previous year, participate in the scholarship program, and complete community service projects or business-related activities on campus. Delta Mu Delta was founded at New York University in 1913. The Athens State chapter was originally formed in 1970 and has grown to be one of the largest and most active chapters within the national organization. The Athens State chapter is housed in Sanders Hall.

Cyber Frontiers

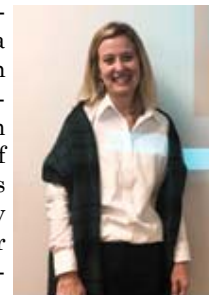


Established in Fall 2019, the purpose of the Cyber Frontiers Club is to promote cybersecurity awareness for Athens State University faculty, staff, students, and the community. The Cyber Frontiers Club supplements classroom curricula with edu-

cational meetings, participates in collegiate and other cyber competitions, and establishes an environment that fosters education by sharing cyber concepts. The Cyber Frontiers Club encourages the application of cybersecurity techniques by promoting active involvement with the tools and education needed to advance cybersecurity careers. In Fall 2019, Cyber Frontiers student members visited Decatur Heritage Christian Academy for their onsite support of a technology review.

During the Spring 2020 semester, students in Dr. Kim Roberts' Management of Technology course students and Dr. Darren Waldrep's

Cyber Frontiers club heard from a cybersecurity expert, Joy Waldrep (pictured below), a Senior Cyber Architect with Northrop Grumman. She presented a session on the field of cybersecurity and the skills needed for the profession. Mrs. Waldrep is a graduate of Athens State University in computer science. She holds a Master's degree in Information Systems Security from the University of the Cumberland and the highly sought after CISSP certification from (ISC)².



On the Road with IMA Accounting Club

In October 2019, Dr. Diann Hammon accompanied six accounting students to ASCPA Interview Day in Montgomery, Alabama. A total of 19 firms participated in the event, and Athens State students participated in 56 interviews! In November, members of the Athens State IMA Accounting Club attended the Institute of Management Accountants Student Lead-

ership Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. The chapter was presented with the IMA Gold Award of Excellence which is presented to only five chapters nationally and includes a \$1,000 monetary prize. The Accounting Club is advised by Athens State professors Emily Corzine, Diann Hammon, and Chris Nelson.



On October 16, 2019, the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) met for its inaugural meeting. The class of 155 student members worked toward meeting organization leadership training requirements to be inducted. In attendance to witness the inaugural event were Senior Director of Student Success, Derrek Smith, as well as College of Business professors, Dr. LaDoris Baugh and Dr. Jim Kerner.

Training Effective Leaders

On October 23, 50 new chapter members of NSLS were in attendance to complete the second part of their leadership training which last-



ed for more than three hours. Students paired off into groups to pick a project that would need to be completed prior to their formal induction. Then on November 12, NSLS hosted Athens State University President Philip Way for a discus-

sion that centered around leadership.

Chartered Fall 2019 at Athens State University, the National Society of Leadership and Success is the nation's largest leadership honor society. It was established to create a support group that will help college students achieve their goals and better their lives while simultaneously building leaders who make a better world.



SHRM Hosts Special Guest

On January 15, the Athens State University student chapter of SHRM (Society for Human Resource Management) held its first meeting of 2020. The special guest was Dr. Harry Hobbs, SHRM-SCP VP of Employee Relations at Huntsville Utilities. Dr. Hobbs presented “How to Manage Conflict Resolution in General and in the Workplace.” The meeting was also made available via Facebook Live.

SHRM is the leading voice of the HR profession. The Athens State Student Chapter allows students

to gain access to an immense information resource at the local, regional, state, and national level, and to have opportunities to meet HR practitioners, like Dr. Hobbs, so as to develop personal contacts and networks. The organization also provides professional development workshops, access to HR conferences, and creates visibility for recruitment for HR internships and permanent HR opportunities. The faculty advisor of the Athens State SHRM student chapter is Dr. Gary Huckaby (pictured with Dr. Hobbs).



APICS Has a Busy Year

Last fall, students and faculty from the Athens State University student chapter of APICS attended the 2019 Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM) National Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the conference, they heard from keynote speakers such as Fareed Zakaria—CNN worldwide host, Washington Post columnist, and best-selling author, and Carey Lohrenz—former lieutenant and first female F-14 Tomcat pilot. The conference offered learning paths featuring more than 65 educational sessions covering all areas of the value chain: plan, source, make, deliver, return, and

enable. Students raised funds throughout the previous year to attend the conference. Attendees were Dr. Mike Essary, Marcus Eubank, Kimberly Brooks, Manina Harrison, Dr. Kim Roberts, Melissa Rogers, and Krystal Owens.

In December, the Athens State student chapter selected the Athens Health and Rehabilitation facility in Athens, Alabama, as their fall semester service project. APICS chapter members purchased snacks, hygiene items, and other goodies and distributed the gift bags to residents. Krystal Owens assembled the gift bags, and Lakeisha Coleman, Activities Assistant for the facility, accompanied the student group. Erba Barker, Kim Roberts, and Krystal Owens are pictured with one of the facility’s residents.

Dr. Mike Essary and Dr. Kim Roberts are faculty advisors for the Athens State APICS chapter. The organization



offers students the opportunity to participate in conferences, serve in leadership positions, participate in community service projects, and network with school, local, and national chapter members. Students are also able to partner with the business professionals of the Tennessee Valley APICS, nationally recognized as a GOLD Award Winning Chapter.



New Faces

The College of Business has added some new faculty and staff in 2019-2020.



Whitney Michael is the new Faculty Support Services Coordinator for the College of Business. Whitney is an Athens State alumna with a Bachelor's in Management and Human Resource Management. While a student, she served as an Athenian Ambassador and gained a true love for the Athens State University campus environment. She lives in Athens with her husband Lee and their four children.



Dr. Steve Wang is the new Associate Professor of Advanced Manufacturing Management.

Dr. Wang has a Master's Degree in Management of Technology and Ph.D. in Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering from Lehigh University. He has previously taught at California Baptist University and the University of Alaska Anchorage. Dr. Wang will be full time at Athens State beginning in Spring 2021, once he completes his current overseas travel.



Dr. John Wells is an Assistant Professor in Occupational Health and Safety Management. He has his M.S. in Occupational Safety and Health from Murray State University and his EdD

in Higher Education and Leadership from Union University. Dr. Wells is a Senior Consultant for EHSPR, a company that provides consultative and research services assisting in the development of Environmental Health and Safety Systems. Dr. Wells started his full-time teaching load in Fall 2019.

New Places

At the beginning of this academic year, we saw a shift in roles for some individuals:



Mallory Jackson has begun a new role as Graduate Support Services Administrator and Talent Development/Credentials Coordinator. She will be working closely with Dr. Wright, De-

partment Chair for GLSCM and Graduate Studies.



Dr. Kim LaFevor has been appointed as Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs until the search for a new Provost/VP of Academic Affairs has concluded. She is assisting President Way with development of new programs and strategic planning.



Dr. Jim Kerner is currently serving as the Interim Dean of the College of Business.



Dr. Lionel Wright is serving as Interim Associate Dean of the College of Business.

Other Faculty and Staff Recognitions

At this year's faculty/staff inservice, the following COB faculty and staff received service awards:

- 10 Years—**Kim Bell, Emily Corzine, Dr. Tom Pieplow, Dr. Charles "Rick" Roberts**
- 15 Years—**Stacie Hughes, Dr. Kim LaFevor**
- 30 Years—**Dr. Bryan Kennedy, Molly Pepper**

Dr. Lisa Rich received the honor of Professor Emerita for her many years of service at Athens State University.

Mrs. Molly Pepper, Executive Assistant to the Dean and Assessment Coordinator, earned Certified Administrative Professional credentials.

Strictly Business is a publication of:

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

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Sanders Hall, College of Business

Invest in the future...

With the challenges facing higher education, your help is very much needed and greatly appreciated. We solicit your assistance in ensuring the continued progress of our institution through course offerings, programs, and progress in the College of Business. We urge you to make your tax-deductible contribution to the ASU Foundation in support of the College of Business.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ to the College of Business.

(Make checks payable to the ASU Foundation/College of Business.)

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Mail your contribution to: College of Business, ATTN: Dr. Kim LaFavor,
Dean, College of Business, Athens State University, 300 North Beaty
Street, Athens, Alabama 35611

Now a Word from Our Students

Have you ever wondered if you are doing a good job? Have you ever wished that you could hear from former students about their experiences and whether or not they appreciate the time and effort you put into your courses or student organizations? Over this past year, some of our College of Business faculty were fortunate enough to get this kind of feedback.

Marcus Eubank is involved with the student APICS group while working toward his B.S. in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. Marcus served in the marines for eight years as a diesel mechanic. Through his involvement with APICS and the networking that the club provides, Marcus landed a position with Northrop Grumman in San Diego, California. Marcus states, "APICS has directly linked me to my first job in the supply chain field through utilizing the expertise of the faculty and organization's networking." He is just one

example of how successful someone can be with the support of student groups and involved advisors.

Kathy Brewer graduated last May with a B.S. in Human Resource Management with a minor in Aviation Management. Kathy continues to be an active member of AIAA (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics). In an email to Dr. Wayne McCain, AIAA club sponsor, Kathy thanked him for the support she had received from him and the professional development opportunities he had provided. She wrote, "From Morehead University to The Space and Missile Defense Symposium(s) and from The Space and Rocket Center to the Meridianville Flight Show, I have had so many unique opportunities that I know most people will never experience. I am so thankful to you for making that possible." Kathy went on to inform Dr. McCain of her recent hiring at Optimal GEO Inc., a company that specializes in geospatial

services. It was her Aviation minor that prompted the COO of the company to specifically pull her resume that led to an interview.

These testimonials are indicative of the great benefit that Athens State attempts to provide to students who take advantage of the opportunities to become actively involved in student organizations. It is what makes the time, money, and effort of being a faculty advisor to a club or honor society worth the effort and sacrifice. Thanks to all of our club sponsors and advisors for making that effort.

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