

## AIRBORNE INGENUITY

UAT STUDENTS AND MCSO JOIN FORCES  
FOR HIGH-FLYING DRONE PROJECT

3 Meet  
New  
Students

5 LARP  
Tournament

8 Puppy  
Love

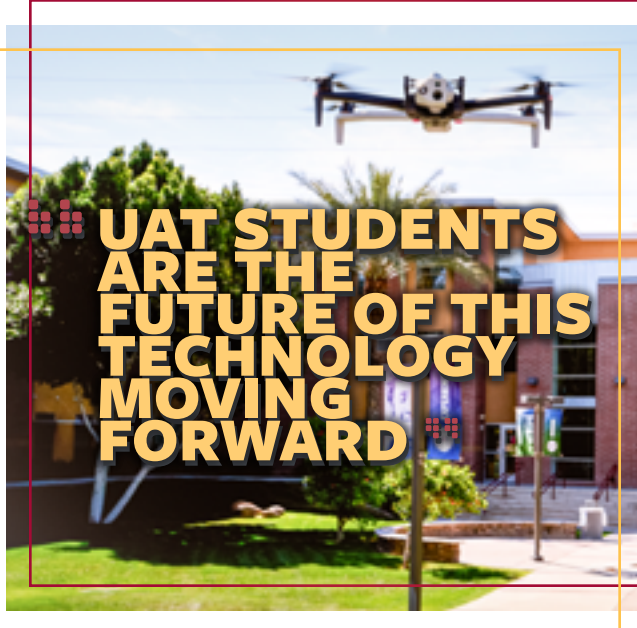


**DRONE ENTHUSIASTS AT UAT AREN'T JUST LEISURELY FLYING THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY FOR FUN—they're contributing to groundbreaking advancements in how drones can be used to combat crime through a growing alliance with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO). The MCSO drone team's collaboration with UAT dates back to 2018, as the team has incorporated drone technology into their operations for surveillance, evidence collection, search and rescue, and other uses.**

The MCSO drone team's latest visit to UAT's technology-infused Tempe campus included a demonstration and display of multiple iterations of drone technology, in the form of drone equipment ranging from massive wingspans of seven feet to near-micro-size drones for more covert operations.

UAT students don't just get to observe this drone technology, but also talk to the MCSO drone team to offer insights on how the dozen or so drone models on display could be used in innovative ways. For example, UAT students previously offered a suggestion to use signal boosters or repeaters in order to expand the drones' range.

**"UAT students are the future of this technology moving forward,"** Brad Licking, Drone Commander for the MCSO said, explaining why the UAT insight is so valuable.



**"Anybody that's around this type of tech, we kind of consider ourselves nerds. We love showing our stuff off, we love people coming out and flying. And anything that we can do to bring extra technology into the Sheriff's Office, it just helps our overall mission of serving the citizens of Maricopa County."**

In addition, Licking noted that the MCSO could benefit from observing innovations UAT students are working on in 3D printing, an emerging technology they'd like to implement in their work.

Licking reports that the MCSO drone team plans to continue to collaborate and gather insights from UAT students in the future.

**"We'll come back to UAT every time we're invited—we love to share this stuff. You can see how much drone technology has changed throughout the years. And so we know next year, the students are going to be even smarter than they are today. And we're going to try to pick their brains as much as we can!"**

**TAKE IN ALL THE SIGHTS:**  
[uat.edu/G411/360-tour](http://uat.edu/G411/360-tour)

# MAKING ARIZONA SAFER FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

**CJ LOGSDON** | DIGITAL MEDIA, 2018

**SINCE GRADUATING FROM UAT'S DIGITAL MEDIA PROGRAM IN 2018, CJ LOGSDON HAS BEEN A DRIVING FORCE IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SAFETY EFFORTS ACROSS ARIZONA.**

In her past work as a Community Outreach Coordinator with the Arizona Attorney General's Office, CJ made significant strides in leveraging technology and education to address pressing issues within the state, furthering the Office's mission to provide valuable resources and education free of charge to all of Arizona.

In her previous role, CJ spearheaded a pioneering program aimed at colleges statewide, including UAT, focusing on opioid awareness and prevention. The focus of the program is to combat the ongoing opioid epidemic plaguing Arizona communities by providing crucial insights into prevalence, prevention strategies, and support networks. The Attorney General's Office staff is also being formally trained in the administration of Naloxone in order to provide educational facilities with the lifesaving Narcan.

The Office is addressing a spectrum of societal challenges. From educating young adults about consumer safety to raising awareness about human trafficking and dispelling myths surrounding vaping, CJ's efforts encompassed a comprehensive approach to community well-being.

As a proud alumna of UAT, CJ Logsdon continued to make a significant impact in Arizona's safety landscape through innovative solutions. True to her UAT roots, CJ still flexes her design muscles whenever she can. She is passionate about color psychology and calls herself a "graphic design nerd."

**DISCOVER WHERE UAT'S FLEXIBLE LEARNING APPROACH CAN TAKE YOU AND YOUR CAREER:**

[uat.edu/G411/synchronic-learning](http://uat.edu/G411/synchronic-learning)



## PROGRAMS OFFERED BY THE ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

### CONSUMER GUIDE FOR YOUNG ADULTS

This program addresses how young adults can be safe consumers and avoid becoming victims of scams and identity theft. First-time car buying tips as well as an overview of how to safely apply for credit cards, housing, car loans, and student loans will also be provided.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

Human Trafficking doesn't just happen in other countries; it happens right here in Arizona communities. Learn how traffickers in Arizona recruit their victims, the role of social media, and steps parents and others can take to protect children. We also provide real-life examples of human trafficking in Arizona and explain what you should do if you suspect someone may be a victim.

### VAPING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Presenters will bust the common myths and misconceptions about the e-cigarette and vaping industry. Attendees will learn about the evolution of e-cigarette products and the dangers associated with both the devices and vaping liquid or "juice."

# UNPLUGGED AND BLOOMING

Students took a much-needed screen break at UAT this spring to instead embark on a brief reprieve into the world of mini terrarium making. Glass jars can become enchanted realms when science and creativity collide—who knew?!

### PLANT YOURSELF HERE:

Envision your future home by exploring UAT dormitories. [uat.edu/G411/housing](http://uat.edu/G411/housing)





## JOSHUA BLATNIK

Advancing Computer Science

A year ago, a UAT postcard in the mail sparked a new journey for Joshua Blatnik. Postmarked from Tempe, the mailer arrived in his hometown of Eveleth, Minnesota, and inspired him to learn more about the technology-fused curriculum on offer. Soon enough, he was starting his very own UAT adventure. Joshua didn't have to swap the cold weather for the dry heat, though—as a UAT Online student, he can still maintain his full-time work in Minnesota without sacrificing his educational pursuits.

What's more, Joshua was able to focus on his interests with the UAT Online model, in which all coursework is geared toward technologically-savvy individuals and their needs. He became interested in a career in the field of software engineering in particular after tinkering with some unsatisfactory server setups while playing *Grand Theft Auto V*. Little did he know that learning server modifications for fun would eventually lead him to his career path! At 19 years old, Joshua now already has more than four years of programming experience in a diverse offering of languages, including C#, Java, JavaScript, and Lua.

Although an online student, Joshua has still connected from a distance with the UAT community and feels a sense of camaraderie due to a near ubiquitous shared love for video games.

**“It’s hard to describe UAT students. They’re very technology-focused people, they crave video games. And that’s why they’re interested in attending UAT. A lot of them are Twitch streamers. They’re very involved in the internet space. And that’s how I think of the culture: Everyone’s kind of doing their own thing on the internet. And then we’re all together in the same class.”**

When not gaming, working, studying, or programming, Joshua enjoys being active outdoors through mountain biking. One of the things he is most looking forward to in his college career is gaining an internship at a well-known technology company, such as Microsoft or Samsung, in order to achieve his future goal of becoming a software engineer.



## KENNEDEE CAMERON

Digital Video // Digital Marketing

Hailing from Maricopa, Arizona, Kennedee Cameron arrived at UAT with passion and ambition, and immediately felt like she was among her people.

**“I would say the UAT community is like the Shire from *The Lord of the Rings*. It’s like everyone is like you in a way. One person can be different from you and very unique—but you can always find a common ground or something you both agree on.”**

Kennedee says that in addition to UAT looking like “a good crowd,” she liked that the curriculum allows her to study her interests from the start.

**“Compared to other universities where you have to take all these other classes first if you want to focus on your major, at UAT [general education requirements] still help you focus on your major.”**

For Kennedee, she is especially exhilarated by the fact that there is always something new to learn as “every quarter is really a new quarter” at UAT. She arrived with knowledge in Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, but has already learned so much about new areas related to digital video that she didn't anticipate, such as the intricacies of lighting and effects in video production and editing.

As for who motivated Kennedee to pursue this academic and career path, she credits her high school graphic design teacher, Maria Pour, of Maricopa High School. Mrs. Pour inspired her to learn all she could about design, and even perhaps consider a future career teaching teenagers in this field.

For now, Kennedee is absorbing as much knowledge as she can at UAT to work towards a dream career working for Marvel as an editor or digital marketer one day. She says one of her biggest goals would be to someday work with James Cameron. When Kennedee isn't busy with schoolwork, she likes to spend her time creatively expressing herself through editing on her phone, writing, and even community theatre—she will soon perform in the ensemble cast of a Maricopa Community Theatre production of *Heathers: The Musical*.



## TYLER JONES

Game Art and Animation

A freshman with a passion for technology and a drive to pursue animation, Tyler Jones, a Game Art and Animation major, didn't have to go far geographically to start his UAT journey. Amidst the vast landscape of college options, UAT stood out to this Arizona native for its intimate size and welcoming community. For Tyler, the allure of a small campus promised an environment where he could explore his academic pursuits without feeling overwhelmed.

**“What I really liked about UAT is that it’s not too big of a college. Big colleges, for me, would be kind of overwhelming. Here, there are just two buildings, and it’s easy to know where to go.”**

Tyler has already gleaned valuable lessons from his time at UAT—even in areas he didn't anticipate, such as in the realm of language and writing. A creative writer at heart, this has been a welcome surprise for Tyler. He cherishes the opportunity to hone his craft and refine his skills, to weave compelling narratives that captivate audiences.

**“I really like to create my own world, my own characters—I’m full of creativity.”**

As a video game lover, Tyler is interested in potentially learning additional skills, like coding, to try and create his own games. He feels right at home in a place where he says “pretty much everybody” likes gaming.

**“UAT has a great culture and sense of community. The people here are very wide open and very supportive. Faculty especially, are very supportive.”**

Though he's still in his first year at UAT, Tyler has no shortage of ambition when it comes to where he hopes his technology-centered education takes him. His dream career would be to work in the video game industry. As a detail-focused individual, Tyler hopes to lend his talents to the more meticulous elements of animation—focusing on 3D modeling, lighting, texturing, or any other areas that need extra attention.



# CALLING ALL SIDEWALK PICASSOS!

UAT students of all backgrounds and skill levels came together to paint their dreams onto the pavement! It was not only a great opportunity to connect with other students and express themselves creatively, but also a chance to beautify our Tempe campus. From whimsical doodles to intricate masterpieces, the joy and ingenuity of our campus community shines through every piece of sidewalk art.

Dive into the colorful world of chalk art and get inspired!

## **CHALK IT UP TO DELIGHT:**

Tour UAT's campus and imagine yourself here! [uat.edu/G411/campus-tour](http://uat.edu/G411/campus-tour)



# CLUBS & GROUPS

## **DND CLUB**

This is a space for UAT students to connect with fellow *Dungeons & Dragons* players, allowing for immersive gameplay and fun interactions. Adventure awaits!

## **DRONE ZONE**

Ready to fly high, explore far, and innovate endlessly? Join a group of like-minded individuals who are passionate about drones (multi-rotors), First Person View (FPV), Drone Racing, and who have or plan on getting their PART 107 certification.

## **FIGHTING GAME CLUB**

Choose your fighter! Uniting casual and competitive fighting game connoisseurs, this club is for those who love multiplayer fighting games and competing in tournaments. Battle against your classmates for the win!

## **GARDENING CLUB**

Calling all green thumbs: This club brings students together through teaching them how to care for a garden while contributing to the beautification of UAT's campus.

## **MAGIC: THE GATHERING**

Whether you're a seasoned Planeswalker or just starting your journey, this club is the place to meet fellow MTG enthusiasts, trade cards, and hone your strategies. See you on the battlefield!

## **MOVIE CLUB**

A club to entertain film buffs, both seasoned and new. Join us to watch, analyze, and discuss a variety of movies. Don't forget the popcorn!

## **NERF WARZ**

Join an epic Nerf battle—UAT-style. Darts everywhere! So. Many. Darts. Grab your blasters and take cover!

## **ROBOTICS CLUB**

The Robotics Club enables students to express their creative engineering abilities through the construction of robots and offers the opportunity to represent UAT in robotics competitions. Gear up, future innovators!

## **STAR WARS CLUB**

May the force be with you! Learn choreographed *Star Wars* fight scenes using dueling lightsabers and engage in lively discussion and debate surrounding the iconic franchise in this club.

## **VR / AR CLUB**

Calling all virtual voyagers! Join the VR/AR Club for discussion of new software, hardware, and developments in the extended reality (XR) space. This is a community for UAT students to use as a brainstorming resource or for anyone interested in XR technology.

## **WYVERNS ESPORTS**

Join fellow gamers and form teams for various esports games, such as *League of Legends*. Teams battle it out and may even enter competitions at the collegiate level or higher. Victory awaits!

## **FIND YOUR PEOPLE:**

*There's something for everyone at UAT!*  
[uat.edu/G411/clubs](http://uat.edu/G411/clubs)





SUMMON YOUR

**UAT** contributed to the enduring legacy of LARPing (*that's Live Action Role-Playing, if you didn't know!*) by holding a LARP Tournament on campus. What happened next was a chaotically fun event where imagination knew no bounds! Whether you're a seasoned adventurer or a curious newcomer, there's a place for you in UAT's vibrant LARPing community. **Grab your boffer and embark on an unforgettable journey through time, fantasy, and camaraderie!**

# INNER ADVENTURER!



Champions of the Realm

Acts of Heroism

Fallen Warriors



## LARPing Through the Ages

### LATE 1970s— The Birth of LARPing

LARP is just too quirky for a single point of origin! Independent groups began the activity in North America, Europe, and Australia, taking elements of tabletop RPGs and genre fiction to a physical setting.

### 1982—Treasure Trap

After LARP as a hobby grew in popularity leading into the 80s, the first ever large-scale LARP event, Treasure Trap, took place in the U.K. at Peckforton Castle.

### 1997—Amtgard Established

One of the most prominent LARP organizations, Amtgard, is founded in Texas. Amtgard chapters can now also be found in Canada, Germany, Croatia, and South Korea.

### LATE 90s TO EARLY 2000s— LARP in Pop Culture

LARP as a hobby gained mainstream recognition through exposure in films and television shows, such as *Freaks and Geeks* (1999), *Role Models* (2008), and *Community* (2009).

### 2020s & BEYOND— LARP Levels Up

Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, LARPing communities demonstrate resilience and adaptability, exploring virtual and hybrid formats to maintain connections and creative pursuits. As LARP evolves, an increasing emphasis on inclusivity, diversity, and accessibility has enabled participants of all backgrounds, ages, and abilities.



# REVENGE IS SWEET



## STUDENTS STRIKE BACK WITH CREAMY CONFECTIONS DURING THE PIE YOUR PROFESSOR EVENT!

Take a look back at UAT's 'Pie Your Professor' event through this gallery of candid shots! From the aftermath of fruity explosions to the messy remnants of custard collisions, these images capture the playful chaos and sweet satisfaction of the pie-throwing festivities that took place on our Tempe campus near the end of the spring semester. What fun it was to witness the camaraderie and mischief shared among participants! And what better way to avenge some mid-semester stress than by turning your professors into willing targets of whipped cream and pie crust?



## 'JUST DESSERTS' WALL OF FAME

**ASHLEY FUENTES**

Assistant Director of Student Services

**BRANDI BEALS**

Dean of Students and Academic Operations

**JACOB HRESHCHYSHYN**

Game Professor

**DERRIC CLARK**

Game Studies Regent

*MEET THE CRÈME DE LA CRÈME OF UAT:*

[uat.edu/G411/faculty](http://uat.edu/G411/faculty)



**ENGAGE ALL YOUR SENSES:** [uat.edu/G411/café](http://uat.edu/G411/café)

## GRILLIN' & CHILLIN'

UAT's campus came alive with the tantalizing scent of barbecue as students and faculty gathered for a sizzling cookout extravaganza at our spring event. From juicy burgers to classic hotdogs, our Tempe campus was transformed into a culinary hotspot, where the spirit of community and the love of good food collided in a mouthwatering feast. Check out some snapshots from the cookout and experience the sights, sounds, and flavors in retrospect—just try not to drool!



# HOT COURSES GIVE YOU A COOL EDGE

**UAT OFFERS COURSES DESIGNED TO IGNITE CURIOSITY AND CHALLENGE INTELLECT—ALL WHILE INTRODUCING STUDENTS TO THE MOST EXCITING TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS THAT WILL RESHAPE THE FUTURE.**

Step into the forefront of innovation with these thrilling new UAT courses on offer. From exploring the depths of the nervous system to traversing the highs and lows of the product development lifecycle, UAT has an exhilarating odyssey available to embark on!

**SPT323: *Advanced Prototyping***

Ready to take your ideas from concept to creation? Prepare to take on complex prototyping challenges across varied contexts, for coursework competencies that can apply toward a career in product design, architecture, and other industries. Students learn cutting-edge skills in virtual reality prototyping, CAD, generative design, and simulation techniques through hands-on experience with software like Gravity Sketch, Autodesk Fusion, Ultimaker Cura, Bambu Studio, and more. Generative design and automation concepts will be explored, using AI and machine learning to accelerate the design process.

Proficiency in simulating prototypes, including electronics cooling and injection molding, will enable rigorous testing and refinement before physical prototyping.

**SPT323: *Interfacing with the Nervous System***

The nervous system is the root of our biology—managing everything we sense, integrating all that information to formulate decisions, and carrying out those decisions throughout the body. Thanks to advancements in technology, we can now measure and interact with our biological core. This course will explore the technologies used to interface with the nervous system: Electroencephalogram, Brain Computer Interfaces, Electromyography Controlled Prosthesis, Deep Brain Stimulation, and others. The course culminates with the creation of students’ own Minimum Viable Product (MVP) of a new technology used to interact with the nervous system. Prepare to unravel the mysteries within!

**TCH200: *Product Development***

Gain a nuanced understanding of the product development lifecycle for technologies in this course. Students will review case studies, tracking insights discovered from inception to innovation, all the way to production and eventual distribution to market. Discussion of these findings as well as considerations necessary for long-tail product development will ensue, enhancing students’ understanding of the trials and triumphs of the contemporary product development lifecycle.

ON CAMPUS

- Advancing Computer Science
- Advertising Art
- Artificial Intelligence
- Business Technology
- Data Science
- Digital Maker and Fabrication
- Digital Marketing
- Digital Video
- Game Art and Animation
- Game Design
- Game Programming
- Human Computer Interaction
- Network Engineering
- Network Security
- Robotics and Embedded Systems
- Technology Forensics
- Technology Studies
- Virtual Reality

ONLINE

- Advancing Computer Science
- Advertising Art
- Artificial Intelligence
- Business Technology
- Data Science
- Digital Maker and Fabrication
- Digital Marketing
- Game Art and Animation
- Game Design
- Game Programming
- Human Computer Interaction
- Network Engineering
- Network Security
- Robotics and Embedded Systems
- Technology Forensics
- Technology Studies
- Virtual Reality

MASTER OF SCIENCE

- Cyber Security
- Game Production & Management
- Software Engineering
- Technology Innovation
- Technology Leadership

## READY SET GO »

EXPLORE OUR  
TEMPE CAMPUS:  
[uat.edu/G411/360-tour](https://uat.edu/G411/360-tour)

The UAT admissions process should begin as early as your sophomore year of high school. This can be a great benefit for you since it allows you to create a relationship with an advisor from the University who can help guide you every step of the way. In addition, applying early gets you access to:

- » Scholarship opportunities for those who qualify
- » Notification of scholarship eligibility when you apply
- » Select your spot in the dorms
- » Better class choices
- » Campus events
- » Student news

**WHO’S ADMITTED TO UAT?**

UAT welcomes exceptional students who are passionate about learning in every phase of their lives. Just as important in the admissions process is your aptitude for technology. For instance, a good student who has been programming and building websites or advanced robots is of more interest to UAT Admissions than someone who has top grades and test scores, but does not demonstrate an aptitude for technology. In other words, we’re looking for future innovators!

**SO... WHAT’S NEXT?**

Prospective students can apply online at [uat.edu/G411/apply](https://uat.edu/G411/apply). Soon after your application has been received and reviewed by our Acceptance Committee, you will be notified of your acceptance status. If you need help or advisement with the application process, or if you just have questions, please contact our Admissions Office at **800-658-5744** or email [admissions@uat.edu](mailto:admissions@uat.edu).

**FALL 2024 SEMESTER**  
September 9 - December 22

**SPRING 2025 SEMESTER**  
January 15 - May 4

**SUMMER 2025 SEMESTER**  
May 12 - August 24



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UAT STUDENTS UNLOCKED THEIR INNER ARTISTRY WITH A SPLASH OF COLOR ... TO THE FACE!



## BRUSHES AND BRIGHT COLORS

At a vibrant spring activity, students were transformed into whimsical characters and adorned their cheeks with bold designs. From playful animals to intricate patterns, every stroke of paint brought out the joy and imagination of our Tempe campus community. Admire the artistry and get inspired to create your own cheeky masterpiece!

**CATCH A GLIMPSE OF OUR COLORFUL CULTURE:**  
[uat.edu/G411/culture](http://uat.edu/G411/culture)



EXPERIENCE CAMPUS LIFE:  
[uat.edu/G411/campus](http://uat.edu/G411/campus)

AMIDST THE WHIRLWIND OF ACADEMIC PURSUITS and technological endeavors at UAT, the unexpected (but very welcome) arrival of furry, four-legged companions to

UAT students missing their pets back home have an abundance of volunteer opportunities available to them to get some much-needed puppy (or kitten) love!

HERE ARE A FEW PLACES WHERE VOLUNTEERS CAN MAKE A



LOST OUR HOME PET RESCUE  
[lostourhome.org](http://lostourhome.org)



HALO ANIMAL RESCUE  
[halorescue.org](http://halorescue.org)