

Kylie Harlan, Lecturer
Davis College Instructor Award

Kylie Harlan earned a master's degree in agricultural communications from our department in 2023. During her time as a graduate student, Kylie served as a graduate teaching and research assistant. In July of 2023, we hired her as a lecturer to teach three sections of ACOM 2302, Scientific Communications in Agriculture and Natural Resources, as well as one section of ACOM 2300, Professional Development in Agricultural Communications. Throughout her time as a lecturer, Kylie has become an effective and reliable instructor for courses that play an integral role at the department and college level. In two semesters, she has taught 518 students across Davis College.

ACOM 2302 is a writing intensive course designed to improve written, visual, and oral communications in agriculture. This course is required in all degree programs in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications. In addition, it is a part of the communication literacy plan for a number of degree programs within the Davis College. Kylie teaches two large sections for students in Davis College who are not an agricultural communication majors. The in-person section has an enrollment capacity of 134 students, and the online section has a capacity of 100 students. In addition, she also teaches an in-person section that is tailored specifically for agricultural communication majors, which has a capacity of 36 students.

Kylie also teaches ACOM 2300, which focuses on professional development for agricultural communications majors. In this course, students spend time preparing professional documents, as well as learning about business etiquette, professionalism, and event planning. This in-person class has an enrollment capacity of 40.

Prior to her first semester, Kylie created new content and adjusted the curriculum for all of her ACOM 2302 courses to ensure both the in-person and online students were receiving a consistent and worthwhile education. As an instructor of record, Kylie's responsibilities include maintenance and delivery of course content both in-person and via Blackboard, creating assignment descriptions and rubrics, grading, management and communication with students in the course, and calculating and assigning grades for the course. Kylie also coordinates a team of six teaching assistants and four undergraduate graders across her courses to ensure accurate and consistent grading among all members of the grading team.

Kylie's dedication to positive student learning experiences is supported by her course evaluations. She has consistently been at or above the average for the department, college, and TTU. It should be noted that she has received these positive results in two courses that are large sections and one course that is delivered online, both qualities that tend to have negative influences on teaching evaluations. Beyond the quantitative evaluation of her teaching, the comments from students offer additional insight into the care and attention given to the course.

- Ms. Harlan is an excellent instructor who makes going to class fun. She always includes real world examples that relate to the young audience she is speaking to and it helps effectively get her point across. I learned a lot throughout my time in this course, and I will walk away from it a better writer and researcher.
- Ms. Harlan is great, the content of her lectures and assignments is cleared focused and is effective in teaching us what we need to learn. She communicates and works with her students well, and is understanding while still maintaining a productive learning environment. She was definitely my favorite professor from this semester.
- Your class is one of my favorites from this year. Before it, I found writing, research, and communications dreadful. Now, I can actually enjoy it. You opened up a whole new door of learning

for me. Thank you for your class. Thank you for being such a friendly, warm, and knowledgeable professor.

Despite having only a teaching appointment, Kylie is also active in research and service within the department since beginning her role as a lecturer. She often collaborates with faculty and graduate students and is the lead author of two refereed conference papers, one accepted to the 2023 Western Region American Association of Agricultural Education (AAAE) conference, and the other accepted to the 2024 National AAAE conference. In addition, she is also the lead author of an innovative idea poster that will be presented at the 2024 National AAAE conference. Kylie is also a superintendent for the Texas FFA Agricultural Communications Career Development Event and is a theme editor for the 2024 November-December Edition of *The Agricultural Education Magazine*.

Both in and outside of the classroom, Kylie has become a valuable member of our department in a number of ways. I am pleased and confident to recommend her for the Davis College Instructor Award.