A Guide to Speakers and Sources

The UT Martin Guide to Speakers and Sources features the wide range of talent and expertise found among the university’s faculty and staff. News media and other organizations can reference this information for subject-matter experts who can serve as speakers for meetings and events or as resources to answer questions on many topics.

Speakers are listed in alphabetical order. Each entry contains contact information and topics. This list is searchable by name or keyword.

The Office of University Relations can assist you in making contacts or answer any related questions about this service. For assistance, please contact us by telephone at 731-881-7615 or by email at univrelmail@utm.edu.
Kelle Alden
Associate Professor of English; Director, UT Martin Hortense Parrish Writing Center; Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages
Office phone: 731-881-7294
Email: kalden@utm.edu

- Writing
- Writing across the curriculum
- Developing drafts
- Composition
- Rhetoric
- Creative writing

Jason Alexander
Associate Professor of Physics; Department of Chemistry and Physics
Office phone: 731-881-7431
Email: jalexa39@utm.edu

- Atomic, molecular and optical physics (including biophysics applications)
- Lasers; optics (applied and fundamental problems)
- Physics education research
- Applied physics or history of technology-related topics

Julie Alexander
Assessment Coordinator; Educator Preparation Program
Office phone: 731-881-7214
Email: jalexa61@utm.edu

- Business management
- Consumer behavior
- Corporate social responsibility
- Customer service
- Educator preparation
- International business/culture
- Manufacturing
- Marketing strategies; issues in marketing
- Operational efficiency
- Product development
- Purchasing
Patrick Baker
Associate Professor of Law; Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science
Office phone: 731-881-7237
Email: pbaker13@utm.edu

- Current legal issues
- State and federal law
- Constitutional law
- Energy and natural resources law
- Environmental law

David Barber
Professor of History; Department of History and Philosophy
Office phone: 731-881-7465
Email: dbarber@utm.edu

- Civil rights
- Racial relations
- Civil rights history
- History of the 1960s
- African American history
- Black Lives Matter

Amanda Batts
Assistant Professor, Coordinator of Instructional Leadership Preparation Program; Department of Educational Studies
Office phone: 731-881-7130
Email: abatts5@utm.edu

- Instructional leadership
- Trauma-informed practices of both students and teachers
- Cultural competency in education
- Leading for equity
- The power of connection – students, educators and community members
Chris Baxter
Professor of Political Science; Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science
Office phone: 731-881-7367
Email: cbaxter@utm.edu

- Government and politics; courts
- Law school (pre-law advising)
- Tennessee politics

Erica Bell
Executive Director; Office of Regional Centers and Online Programs
Office phone: 731-881-7089
Email: ebell3@utm.edu

- Off-campus educational sites/branch campus administration
- Distance and online education
- Dual enrollment and early post-secondary opportunities
- Career and technical education
- Hyflex—distance learning classrooms

Will Bird
Associate Professor of Agricultural Education; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources
Office phone: 731-881-7271
Email: wbird1@utm.edu

- Agriculture education
- Youth organizations
- Positive youth development
- Teaching methods
- Leadership education
- History of American agriculture
William Bishop
Assistant Professor; Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7233
Email: wbishop2@utm.edu
- European/Near Eastern/East Asian history
- English (early Medieval-Modern)/German (late Medieval-early Modern) literature
- Business/professional communication
- Business administration
- German/Old English (Anglo-Saxon)/Latin language
- Educational pedagogy/course design/classroom management
- Brand creation/technology usage/social media promotion

Jody N. Blake
Associate Professor of Music Education
Department of Music
Office phone: 731-881-7482
Email: jblake17@utm.edu
- Choral and general music education
- Christian hymnology
- History and philosophy of music education

Cindy Boyles
Associate Professor of Criminal Justice; Department of Behavioral Sciences
Mobile phone: 407-579-3438
Email: cboyles2@utm.edu
- Community corrections
- Correctional training
- Lynching in West Tennessee
- Memorializing victims of lynching
- Leadership and management
Christopher Brown
Professor of Philosophy; Department of History and Philosophy
Office phone: 731-881-7471
Email: cbrown43@utm.edu
- Philosophy
- History of philosophy
- Catholic philosophy and theology

Gloria Browning
Professor of Nursing; Department of Nursing
Office phone: 731-881-7145
Email: gbrownin@utm.edu
- Health promotion
- Holistic nursing
- Leadership and management in nursing
- Population health nursing
- Nursing education

Cassie Burks
Assistant Professor of Nursing; Department of Nursing
Family Nurse Practitioner
Office phone: 731-881-7132
Email: cburks4@utm.edu
- Breastfeeding
- Contraceptive options
- Critical care
- Nursing history
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Women's health promotion
Trisha Capansky
Associate Professor of English; Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages
Office phone: 731-881-7291
Email: tcapansk@utm.edu

- Technical communications
- Resume writing; career building
- Urban planning
- Declaration of Independence

David Carithers
Associate Professor of English; Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages
Office phone: 731-881-7300
Email: dcarithe@utm.edu

- Essay writing
- Songwriting
- Topics in American literature from beginnings to present
- Coordinating community reading programs/book clubs

Brian Carroll
Dietetic Internship Director; Department of Family and Consumer Sciences
Office phone: 731-881-7102
Email: bcarro18@utm.edu

- General topics in nutrition
- Nutrition per age (infant, child, elderly)
- Sports nutrition
- Illness/disease and nutrition (diabetes, heart disease)
- Weight loss, weight management
Jerry Carpenter
Volunteer Coach, Golf; Special Assistant to Athletics Director; Office of Intercollegiate Athletics
Office phone: 731-881-7337
Email: jecgolf@utm.edu

- High school athletics
- Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA)
- Refereeing high school sports
- Collegiate athletics
- Coaching
- Recruiting
- Collegiate experience

Philip Acree Cavalier
Provost; Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Office phone: 731-881-7010
Email: pcavalie@utm.edu

- Enrollment in four-year institutions
- Academic program development
- Higher education in Tennessee
- Student success at four-year institutions

Christie Hui-Chuan Chen
Professor of Operations Management; Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7209
Email: hchen38@utm.edu

- Supply chain management
- Operational efficiency
- Health-care management
- Data science
- International business/culture
David Coffey
Professor of History; Chair, Department of History and Philosophy
Office phone: 731-881-7342
Email: dcoffey3@utm.edu

• American history; Civil War
• Latin American and Mexican history; current events and culture
• Military history and related issues
• Politics and international relations
• Esophageal cancer
• Member of “The House Band” – available to play campus and community events

Brittany Cole
Assistant Professor of Finance, Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science
Cell phone: 901-598-0643
Email: bcole12@utm.edu

• Financial markets; investments
• Corporate bonds; municipal bonds
• Student-managed investment funds
• Financial literacy

Lionel Crews
Associate Professor of Physics; Department of Chemistry and Physics
Office phone: 731-881-7436
Email: lcrews@utm.edu

• General astronomy
• Astrophotography
• Photometry of variable stars
• Star and planet formation
• Astronomical observatories
• General physics
• Cosmic and stellar evolution
Dexter Davis
Professor of Sport Business; Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7369
Email: ddavis78@utm.edu
- The business of sport
- Internships and experiential education
- Mega events (Super Bowl, Final Four, etc.)
- International sport business

Lajuan Davis
Professor of Business Communication; Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7364
Email: ldavis91@utm.edu
- Business communication
- Professional presence
- Professional attire
- Career paths
- Resume and job interview tips and techniques
- Teaching students writing skills
- Business grammar
- Presentation skills
- Networking
- Community service
- Experiential learning
- Writing and AI (artificial intelligence)

Brian Donavant
Professor of Criminal Justice; Department of Behavioral Sciences
Phone: 731-332-9941
Email: bdonavan@utm.edu
- Adult education; degree completion
- Forensics
- Law enforcement/police: operations, training, policy
Keith Dooley
Associate Professor of Child and Family Studies and Gerontology; Chair, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences
Office Phone: 731-881-7100
Email: wdooley@utm.edu

- Child development
- Parenting
- Successful aging
- Gerontology
- Family caregiving
- Elder mistreatment
- Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)
- Childhood resilience

Jason Earley
Veteran Services Coordinator; Office of Veteran Services
Phone: 731-881-1689
Email: jearley3@utm.edu

- Leadership
- Team Building
- Veteran and dependent student support
- Military-to-civilian transition support
- Physical fitness programs

Cahit Erkal
Professor of Physics; Department of Chemistry and Physics
Office phone: 731-881-7432
Email: cerkal@utm.edu

- Chaos theory applied to economics
- Gifted education
- Heart rate variability analysis using nonlinear dynamics
- Elementary particle physics
- Nonlinear dynamics and chaos
- Physics education
- Robotics and autonomous driving
Derek Ezell
Assistant Professor of Marketing; Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7244
Email: dezell1@utm.edu
- Marketing research
- Consumer behavior
- Advertising
- Brand management
- Ethical consumption

Mark Farley
Assistant Professor of Finance; Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science
Office phone: 731-881-7243
Email: mfarley4@utm.edu
- The Federal Reserve System
- Alexander Hamilton, father of the U.S. economy
- Economics of good and evil
- Ethics and the U.S. economy and financial system
- The unique role of philanthropy in the U.S.
- Community banks and rural U.S. economies

Chelsea Farmer
Assistant Softball Coach; Office of International Intercollegiate Athletics
Office phone: 731-881-7162
Email: cfarmer21@utm.edu
- Females in athletics
- Coaching females
- Pitching at the collegiate level
- Fast-pitch pitching
- Healthy habits and body image
Julie Floyd  
Professor of Nursing; Department of Nursing;  
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner  
Office phone: 731-881-7134  
Email: jfloyd11@utm.edu

- Mental health and illness  
- Health assessment and care  
- Acoustic neuroma

Rodney Freed  
Instructor of Communications; Department of Mass Media and Strategic Communication  
Office phone: 731-881-7532  
Email: rfreed@utm.edu

- Television production  
- Directing and editing  
- Photojournalism (video and still)  
- Digital media production  
- Sports production

Yancy Freeman  
Chancellor; Office of the Chancellor  
Office phone: 731-881-7500  
Email: yfreeman@utm.edu

- Enrollment management  
- Post-secondary student success  
- Higher education funding formula
Anton Garcia-Fernandez
Professor of Spanish; Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages
Office phone: 731-881-7422
Email: agarciaf@utm.edu

- Spanish and Galician literature, language, and linguistics
- History, cinema, music, and popular culture of Spain
- Literary theory and writing
- History of jazz and American roots music

Ann Gathers
Associate Professor of Biology; Department of Biological Sciences
Office phone: 731-881-7178
Email: agathers@utm.edu

- Speech and language development and disorders
- Hearing science
- Face processing and vision
- Development and the brain
- Neurological diseases and disorders

Jennifer Greenwood
Professor of Biology; Department of Biological Sciences
Office phone: 731-881-7175
Email: jgreenw1@utm.edu

- Algae
- Human impact on freshwater ecosystems
Bud Grimes  
Vice Chancellor for Communications and Marketing;  
Office of University Relations  
Office phone: 731-881-7615  
Email: rgrimes@utm.edu

- Public relations planning  
- UT Martin overview and update

Jack Grubaugh  
Professor of Biology; Department of Biological Sciences  
Office phone: 731-881-7181  
Email: jgrubaug@utm.edu

- Entomology  
- Freshwater ecology  
- Mammalogy

Mahmoud Haddad  
Professor of Finance; Department of Accounting, Finance,  
Economics, and Political Science  
Office phone: 731-881-7249  
Email: mhaddad@utm.edu

- Financial planning; investment and portfolio  
management; security markets; project financing;  
hedging and risk management  
- Option and futures markets  
- Market structures, pricing, forecasting and  
microstructure  
- International and Middle East issues
Dana Hagan
Director, Office of Physical Plant Administration
Office phone: 731-881-7601
Email: dhagan@utm.edu
- Construction project management
- Leadership
- Women's issues
- Teenage/college-age issues
- Marriage and family
- Sign language (not a licensed interpreter)

Elaine Harriss
Professor of Music; Department of Music
Office phone: 731-881-7411
Email: elaineh@utm.edu
- What can music do for children?
- Music and young children
- Piano
- Flute
- Music for the trio of piano, flute and clarinet
- Time management for busy people

Jenifer Hart
Clinical Coordinator of Counseling Services; Office of Student Health and Counseling Services
Office phone: 731-881-7750
Email: jhart28@utm.edu
- Being an effective communicator
- Conflict prevention and management
- Diversity training
- Grief issues
- Suicide prevention and awareness; QPR training
- Alcohol and drug topics
- Emotional health and wellness; mental health topics
- Positive living
- Relationships
- Positive parenting
- Decision-making skills
- Test/performance anxiety
- Stress management
- Time management
Nathan Howard
Professor of History; Department of History and Philosophy
Office phone: 731-881-3470
Email: nhoward@utm.edu
- Ancient Greece, ancient Rome, late antiquity, Medieval, Renaissance
- World history
- Gender in the Ancient World and early Christianity
- Early Christianity; church history
- History of Christian/Muslim relations

Carrie Humphreys
Associate Professor of Political Science; Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science
Office phone: 731-881-7473
Email: chumph16@utm.edu
- International organizations such as the EU and UN
- European politics, elections and parties
- Comparative immigration politics
- Niche political parties

Brian Johnson
Lecturer; Department of Psychology
Office phone: 731-881-7536
Email: bjohns24@utm.edu
- Social psychology
- Human relations
- Industrial-organizational psychology (psych and work)
- Research methods, statistics and critical thinking
- Social psychology and the law
Cooper Johnson
Associate Professor of Management; Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7498
Email: bjohn150@utm.edu

- Teamwork
- Employee motivation
- Goal setting
- Customer service
- Business management

Stephanie Kolitsch
Associate Provost; Division of Academic Affairs
Office phone: 731-881-7477
Email: skolitsc@utm.edu

- SACS accreditation
- Assessment
- Academic programs and policies
- Math education

John LaDue
Assistant Professor, Information Literacy Librarian; Paul Meek Library
Office phone: 731-881-7061
Email: jladue@utm.edu

- Information literacy
- Media literacy
- Mass media and society
- Propaganda
- Imperialism
Lane Last
Professor of Art; Department of Visual and Theatre Arts
Office phone: 731-881-7489
Email: llast@utm.edu

- Visual art
- Graphic design
- Computer/media arts
- Artificial intelligence art

Jamye Long
Associate Professor of Management; Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7331
Email: jlong59@utm.edu

- Management
- Leadership
- Small-business management
- Human resource management

Jeffrey Longacre
Professor of English; Chair, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages
Office phone: 731-881-7300
Email: jlongac1@utm.edu

- Irish literature and culture (especially James Joyce)
- Film studies
- 19th and 20th Century British literature (emphasis on Modernist and Romantic periods)
Roberto Mancusi
Professor of Music; Department of Music
Office phone: 731-881-7405
Email: rmancusi@utm.edu

- Singing; opera; musical theatre; vocal music
- Effective/dynamic use of the speaking voice
- Care and maintenance of the voice
- History and usage of music in movies

Katie Mantooth
Assistant Director; Career Planning and Development
Office phone: 731-881-3716
Email: kpmantooth@utm.edu

- Resume and cover letter writing
- Personal branding/building a LinkedIn profile
- Networking, job search and interview strategies

Michael McCullough
Professor of Management; Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7325
Email: mccullou@utm.edu

- Human resource management
- Organizational effectiveness and environmental sustainability
- Business ethics; power and politics in organizations
- Leadership
- Organizational communication; employee motivation; teams; industrial psychology
- Stress management
- Time management
Dan McDonough
Professor of History; Department of History and Philosophy
Office phone: 731-881-7466
Email: dmcdonou@utm.edu

- History of Ireland
- American Revolution; Lincoln and the Civil War; Declaration of Independence; United States Constitution; founding fathers; Revolutionary and Civil Wars
- Current politics; politics in Chicago and Boston

Joey Mehlhorn
Dean, Graduate Studies; Professor of Agricultural Economics; Gilbert Parker Chair of Excellence in Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources
Office phone: 731-881-7275
Email: jmehlhor@utm.edu

- Agriculture policy issues
- Agricultural management and marketing issues
- International agriculture
- Entrepreneurship

Robert Nanney
Professor of Communications; Chair, Department of Mass Media and Strategic Communication
Office phone: 731-881-7556
Email: rnanney@utm.edu

- Print and online journalism
- Community journalism
- Mass media and society
- First Amendment law; freedom of the press
Daniel Nappo  
Professor of Spanish; Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages  
Office phone: 731-881-7428  
Email: dnappo@utm.edu

- History and phonetics of the Spanish language
- Mexican history, literature and cinema
- Latin American history and literature
- Studies in Spanish and Latin American popular culture

Erik Nordberg  
Dean; Paul Meek Library  
Office phone: 731-881-7070  
Email: enordber@utm.edu

- Library and information resources
- History of libraries at UT Martin
- Industrial history
- History of clay mining in West Tennessee

Michael O’Neill  
Director of Public Safety; Department of Public Safety/Campus Police  
Office phone: 731-881-7775  
Email: michael.oneill@utm.edu

- Criminal justice/law enforcement
- Military issues
- Leadership and followership
- Organizational change
Joseph Ostenson
Professor of Psychology; Chair, Department of Psychology; Director, UTM in Siena
Office phone: 731-881-7542
Email: jostenso@utm.edu

- Marriage and family relationships
- Sex education

Eric Pelren
Professor of Wildlife Biology; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Coordinator, Center for Sustainability
Office phone: 731-881-7263
Email: epelren@utm.edu

- Wildlife
- Natural resources management
- Sustainability issues

Ross Pruitt
Professor of Agricultural Economics; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources
Office phone: 731-881-7254
Email: rpruit10@utm.edu

- Livestock and poultry marketing and policy
- Agricultural commodity markets
- Farm management and marketing
- Agricultural price analysis
- Agricultural marketing
Mary Radford  
Professor of Nursing; Chair, Department of Nursing; Family Nurse Practitioner  
Office phone: 731-881-7140  
Email: marye@utm.edu  
- Nursing education  
- Physical examination  
- Health topics

Adnan Rasool  
Assistant Professor of Political Science; Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science  
Office phone: 731-881-7728  
Email: arasool1@utm.edu  
- International relations  
- Asian politics  
- China (U.S.-China trade war)  
- South Asia (India, Pakistan, Afghanistan)  
- U.S. foreign policy  
- International trade  
- Regional development

Richard Robinson  
Professor of Mass Media and Strategic Communication; Department of Mass Media and Strategic Communication  
Office phone: 731-881-7555  
Email: rrobins2@utm.edu  
- Radio broadcasting  
- College radio – WUTM  
- Mass media changes and trends  
- Mass media history  
- Broadcast news media  
- Propaganda efforts; political media campaigns
Jeff Rogers
Professor of Geography; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources
Office phone: 731-881-7442
Email: jrogers3@utm.edu
- Maps; cartography; geographic information systems
- "Gas-food-and lodging"

Saman Sargolzaei
Assistant Professor of Engineering; Department of Engineering
Office phone: 731-881-7395
Email: ssargolz@utm.edu
- Neuroimaging and brain mapping
- Pediatric concussion and traumatic brain injury
- Virtual reality
- Artificial intelligence

John Schommer
Professor of Mathematics; Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Office phone: 731-881-7366
Email: jschomme@utm.edu
- Habitat for Humanity
- History of mathematics
- Point-set topology
- Catholicism
Aaron Scott
Assistant Professor of Meteorology; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources
Office phone: 731-881-7439
Email: ascott92@utm.edu

- Severe weather
- Winter weather, tropical weather
- Climate change
- Storm chasing
- Numerical weather prediction models

Derrick Shepard
Assistant Professor of Counseling; Department of Educational Studies
Office phone: 731-881-7223
Email: dshepar3@utm.edu

- Social class
- Multiculturalism
- Social class pedagogical practices in counseling

Terry Silver
Professor of Educational Studies; Department of Educational Studies
Office phone: 731-881-7213
Email: tsilver@utm.edu

- Service-learning implementation
- Lions Quest curriculum training
- Classroom organization and management program
- Social and emotional learning (adults and students)
- Mindfulness training in education
- Trauma-informed instruction
Philip Smartt
Professor of Natural Resources Management; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources
Office phone: 731-881-7954
Email: psmartt@utm.edu

- Drone technology
- State parks and national parks
- Forestry
- Natural resources
- Heritage interpretation
- Tennessee Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences

Clinton Smith
Professor of Special Education; Chair, Department of Educational Studies
Office phone: 731-881-7193
Email: csmit279@utm.edu

- Special education
- Autism spectrum disorders
- Applied behavior analysis
- Classroom management
- Social skills

Anderson Starling
Interim Associate Provost; Associate Professor of Political Science; Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science
Office phone: 731-881-7305
Email: astarlin@utm.edu

- Local, state or federal elections
- Federal government and institutions
- National and regional American politics
Chara Van Horn
Associate Professor of Communications; Department of Mass Media and Strategic Communication
Office phone: 731-881-7548
Email: cvanhor2@utm.edu

- Public speaking
- Rhetoric
- Political communication
- Conspiracy theories
- Multicultural communication
- Debate

Sean Walker
Professor of Management; Interim Chair, Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems
Office phone: 731-881-7304
Email: swalke47@utm.edu

- Business management
- Mediation
- Conflict resolution
- Human resources
- Discrimination
- Workplace bullying
- Organizational behavior
- Government mandates in the workplace

Tim Wallace
Lecturer of Geosciences; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources
Office phone: 731-881-7438
Email: twalla18@utm.edu

- Severe weather and storm chasing
- Winter weather
- Other weather- and climate-related topics
Diana Watson
Assistant Professor of Animal Science; Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources
Phone: 731-695-2847
Email: dwatso30@utm.edu
- Animal health
- Animal husbandry
- Animal science
- Veterinary sciences

Janet Wilbert
Associate Professor of Health and Human Performance; Department of Health and Human Performance
Office Phone: 731-881-3318
Email: jwilber1@utm.edu
- Transitioning from high school to college
- Navigating the college scene
- Study skills
- Time management/organization
- College readiness
- Leadership
- Athletic training career preparation

Dawn Wilkins
Professor of Biology; Department of Biological Sciences
Office phone: 731-881-7188
Email: hwilkins@utm.edu
- Ecotourism/avitourism and conservation biology
- Various topics related to birds
- Ecology of cavity-nesting birds in Tennessee
Adam Wilson
Director, UT Martin Online
Office phone: 731-881-7959
Email: awilson9@utm.edu

- African American history
- World War I – American perspective
- Online learning/education

Susan Winters
Lecturer of Nursing; Department of Nursing
Office phone: 731-881-7133
Email: swinter6@utm.edu

- Nursing history
- Leadership and management in nursing
- Cultural competency in nursing
- Simulation in nursing

Amy Yeung
Professor of Music; Department of Music
Office phone: 731-881-7408
Email: kyeung@utm.edu

- Classical vocal training
- International Phonetic Alphabets (IPA)
- Kinesthetic approach to vocal techniques
- Vocal “yoga,” literature and health
- Women composers