



Elizabeth Crawford

Collins Career Technical Center teacher named an Ohio University Communication Fellow

By Sarah Roush

ATHENS, Ohio — Elizabeth Crawford, a social studies instructor at Collins Career Technical Center, was one of the nine teachers selected for the third annual Communication Fellows program in Ohio University's Scripps College of Communication. Focusing on curriculum development in communication across PK-12 levels of instruction, the program provides funding and mentorship support. Participants develop and implement a communication-related classroom project over the one-year course of their fellowship.

"It is a vital goal of our college to foster communication education among the state's youth and support teachers in innovative and dynamic projects relating to communication. My hope for the Communication Fellows program is to increase our impact on the state by bolstering the communication expertise of PK-12 teachers and enriching the education of their students," said Scripps College of Communication Dean Scott Titsworth.

Crawford graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in secondary education social studies from Marshall University, where she also earned a Master of Arts in school library media. She has been the social studies instructor at Collins Career Technical Center since July 2017 and was previously a social studies and science tutor at Dawson Bryant Middle School.

"What interested me the most in applying for this program was taking my subject area and getting more technology involved," Crawford said. "Government can be very lecture-based, but the skills I will learn through this program will help make it more interactive."

Communication Fellows attend a half-week summer residential experience at Ohio University's main campus in Athens and receive free tuition for a graduate-level online course, a \$1500 stipend and \$1000 classroom stipend. Fellows also work with college faculty mentors and college leadership to achieve their project proposals. *The COVID-19 crisis may necessitate adjustments to the residential experience for the 2020 cohort.*

Crawford's project will enable her American Government students to produce videos and podcasts to discuss current government policy and issues while referencing information they have learned in her class.

"Students will share factual information with watchers/listeners about current events within our country. They can then make informed decisions about candidates and policies happening around them. Providing students with an outlet to talk about what is happening in their world gives them ownership of producing something others can use," Crawford wrote in her project proposal.

Each year, up to 10 fellows are named, with five from rural Appalachian districts and five from urban districts in the state of Ohio. This program was established as part of the Scripps College of Communication's 50th anniversary in 2018.

For more information about the Communication Fellows Program, [visit the program's webpage](#). The Scripps College of Communication at Ohio University consists of five schools, each offering a variety of majors and programs for students who want to pursue communication-related careers. For more information, [visit our website](#).

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