



DIVISION OF  
Arts and Sciences

Arts and Sciences Division  
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Dear Arts & Sciences Students, Faculty, and Staff:

Hello, I am Jason Stone, the Division Head of Arts & Sciences at OSU-OKC. I would like to take a moment to briefly talk to you about your future.

The habits that you create for yourself today are going to govern your life trajectory. Learning how to think is one of the most important accomplishments that you will learn at during your time at college.

The faculty and staff at OSU-OKC have had a lot of conversations recently with our industry partners: major metro employers like Dell Computers, OGE, Integris Health, AT&T, Tinker Air Force Base, FAA, Chesapeake Energy, and Sonic Corporation. I would like to share with you some of what those stakeholders have shared with us.

Those organizations are looking for college graduates with good thinking habits, like the ability to be creative, solve problems, work with others, and innovate. Some of our graduates have those good habits. Others do not. Some of what we are hearing is that our graduates would be more successful in these organizations and in life if they had better Habits of the mind.

That is why this academic year, we are emphasizing the “Habits of the Mind” in our Arts & Sciences classes here at OSU-OKC. The habits of the mind are 16 different dispositions or “ways of thinking” that are frequently displayed by intelligent people to problems that they are having a hard time solving. Our stakeholders say that they want you to know about these habits, for you to embrace them as ways of thinking, and for you to bring these habits to their workplaces. These habits will help you reach your goal of being a productive, educated, full-filled, and contributing member of our society.

We are all governed by our habits. You will be successful at work and at school based on the habits that you have developed over your life. In fact Aristotle once said, “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit.”

There are as many bad thinking habits as there are people. The reason that we are discussing the “Habits of the Mind” is not to accuse others of poor thinking practices, but rather to familiarize ourselves with the thinking habits of successful people. I hope that you will listen to what some of the biggest employers in the metro area are saying they are looking for in our graduates. An integral part of your future success in the workforce is the cultivation of good thinking habits. If you watch the rest of the videos in this series and internalize those lessons, you will have a leg up on the competition in job



**OKLAHOMA CITY**

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interviews, professional situations, and most importantly in your life. Please join me and attend to the other videos in this series. Thank you for time and attention.

Have a great day and go pokes,

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