

DANA BARKER

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EDUCATION

Master of Science, Geosciences/Applied Meteorology **Aug 2014**

Mississippi State University

Capstone Project: “A Thorough Analysis of Tornadic Debris Signatures Using Dual-Polarization NEXRAD Radar”

Advisor: Dr. Michael Brown, Mississippi State Climatologist

Bachelor of Arts, Communication **May 2010**

Columbus State University

Bachelor of Science, Geosciences/Broadcast Meteorology **Dec 2008**

Mississippi State University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Severe/hazardous convective weather events and forecasting
- Detection of severe weather events through radar and satellite
- Mesoscale/microscale land features affecting return periods of hazardous weather events
- Changes in hydrology and flood risk due to land use changes
- Societal impacts/behaviors around hazardous weather preparedness and messaging

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Part-Time Instructor, Auburn University

Department of Geosciences, College of Sciences and Mathematics

- **Spring 2025:** GEOG 5210/6210 (Intro to Climatology)

Guest Lecturer, Osher Lifelong Learning institute (OLLI) at Auburn

Spring 2024 “Brown Bag Series”

- Lectured on 50th anniversary of April 1974 “Super Outbreak”
In Alabama and comparisons to April 27, 2011 tornado outbreak
 - Highlighted similarities and differences in antecedent weather conditions and type/mode of each event
 - Presented enhancements in the warning process in 2011 vs. 1974 and vulnerabilities exposed during both outbreaks

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE (cont'd)

Guest Lecturer, Columbus State University

College of Arts and Sciences

- **Spring 2024:** lectured in Weather and Climate course on the 2024 Solar Eclipse, weather conditions affecting view of the eclipse, and changes to sensible weather from the eclipse along the path of totality
- **Fall 2021:** lectured in Weather and Climate course on contributing thermodynamic and kinematic factors leading to the March 3, 2019 Beauregard, Ala. tornado and associated outbreak
- **Spring 2021:** participated in Earth Science lecture series on the March 3, 2019 tornado outbreak, including contributing meteorological factors and the warning process by the National Weather Service and broadcast media
- **Spring 2015:** presented lecture among prospective journalists in the role of social media, two-way communication, and using visual aids to amplify messaging using the April 27, 2011 Tuscaloosa tornado as an example

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Part-Time On-Air/Digital Meteorologist, Gray Communications **Nov 2021 - present**

- Currently working on freelance/as needed basis for WTVM-TV in Columbus, Ga. and WALB-TV in Albany, Ga.
- Provide both routine forecast information and critical information on high-impact or hazardous weather via multiple channels: on-air, social media, mobile app, and website

Weekend/Staff Meteorologist, WLTZ-TV

Dec 2012 - Nov 2020

- Served as meteorologist for station's Sunday night broadcasts and filled in on as needed basis
- Provided both routine forecast information and critical information on high-impact or hazardous weather via multiple channels: on-air, social media, and website
- Served as primary analyst during severe weather events