

Austin Hartzler

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Education

University Of Colorado Colorado Springs 2025

Bachelor of Innovation Communication Digital Filmmaking

Cross-disciplinary: Business Administration

Personal statement

There is power in observation,

There is power in personal empathy

Observation and empathy pave the road for my relationships.

These relationships are pivotal to my success, no matter what.

For me, everything begins with relationships. They are the unseen threads that shape who we are and how we move through the world. I've always felt a deep pull toward understanding people—their stories, motives, and unspoken truths. Even in moments when I seem to blend into the background, I am fully present, observing, listening, connecting dots others might overlook.

People often underestimate me and are quick to judge, they could not be more wrong, always thinking that I am the quiet person in the corner. They are wrong. I am highly motivated, always listening, and finding solutions. My drive for creativity and Innovation is a part of my life.

Empathy is my compass. I feel deeply, and I use that to step into others' perspectives with genuine care. I've found that the best way to build trust and insight is not through force, but through presence—through really seeing someone when they're not asking to be seen.

Whether I'm supporting a friend through a hard time or navigating complex dynamics in a team, I bring this mix of observation and empathy to every interaction. It's not about control or performance; it's about connection—real, honest, human connection.

In a world that often rushes to speak, I've learned the value of watching, listening, and understanding first. Because sometimes, the most powerful thing you can be is the one who truly sees.

Innovation Statement

“The transformation of ideas into impact.”

I excel in collaborative environments, working with teams to deliver high-quality results. I am committed to producing solutions that not only meet expectations but exceed them, making a significant impact on every project I contribute to.

I have a true passion for creativity and innovation, I see every challenge as an opportunity to build, improve, and connect. I gravitate toward identifying what’s not working, taking apart mechanisms, or finding solutions to problems. I don’t just look at problems; I look through them, constantly asking “what if” and “why not.”

Innovation, for me, is not just about having ideas—it’s about bringing them to life in ways that make a real impact. With a strong sense of curiosity and a practical mindset to develop thoughtful, forward-looking solutions. At the same time, I understand that the best ideas rarely come from working alone. My strength in building genuine relationships helps me collaborate effectively, communicate clearly, and create environments where creativity and trust can thrive.

Whether I’m designing a project, contributing to a team, or leading an initiative, I strive to connect ideas with action and people with purpose. I believe innovation lives in the space between imagination and execution, and that’s the space where I do my best work.

Academic experience

Innovation classes

INOV 2010

Electrical Vehicles of Colorado Springs

Deborah Newman

City of Colorado Springs - Innovation Analyst

deborah.newman@coloradosprings.gov

Conducted Research to implement Electric vehicle chargers for the city of Colorado Springs.

INOV 3010

Western Mining Museum

Grant Dewey

Executive director

Museum.manager@wmmi.org

Recorded different machines found in their museum. This allowed them to show when they were not running.

INOV 4010

Travelstorys GPS
TravelStorysGPS, LLC
Matt Ellison/Jennifer Herkommer
Lead Software Developer/Marketing Manager
matt@travelstorysgps.com/jennifer@travelstorysgps.com
Conducted research to increase their social following.
As a team, we created a calendar for future social posts and filmed 3 videos showing different features found in their app.

BLAW 2010

Created and completed the application for a patent.

INOV 2100

Completed a grant proposal for SOS Outreach, an Outdoor Adventure nonprofit organization.

Business core classes

MKTG 4700

Currently completing certifications in Marketing.

MGMT 3300

Learned different skills needed to manage a team in the workforce.

COMM 2010

Oral communication in the workplace.

TCID 2090

Learned skills in technical writing and creating professional presentations.

MAE 1503

Completed the engineering design process using SolidWorks.

PHIL 1120

Learned skills in critical thinking and negotiation.

COMM 3000

I was the Director of Photography for a TV series called "The Bluffs".

ENTP 1000
Learned skills in entrepreneurship and creating a product to sell.

COMM 3470

Learned and perfected applications within the Adobe suite.

COMM 3270

Learned skills used in cinematography.

COMM 3100

Designated team leader which provided me the opportunity to direct a team that created a film.

Certifications

- SolidWorks CSWA - Mechanical Design
- Additive manufacturing
- First aid
- Wilderness First Aid
- Ski technician Marker Bindings
- Sexual harassment
- Van certification

Work experience

Evergreen Memorial Park

- Responsible for the care of the grounds of 200 acres
- Operated heavy machinery
- Sprinkler system repair
- Herding animals

SOLE Center at UCCS

- Customer service
- Instructor of Outdoor Activities (Mt. Biking, Rock Climbing, Rope safety, and skills)
- Instructor for "Wilderness First Aid" and "Map and Compass" classes
- Tour guide/Team leader for sandboarding, ski trips, skydiving, and snowmobiling.
- Used Fusion software for product rentals and sales
- Photographer/Videographer for the SOLE Center at UCCS for various outdoor functions and activities.

Rec Kids at UCCS

- Entertained children
- 20 kids
- Ages 7-14

VentoBot Marketing Internship

- Document design
- Website design
- Video editing

Stanford Sierra Conference Center

- Hospitality
- Hiking guide
- Kids camp
- Food service

Community involvement or service

- **Men's Lacrosse Club at UCCS** - Co-Founder, Vice President, Social Media Manager, and Secretary
- **UCCS Mountain Lion Ride Club** - Co-Founder, President received different sponsors who provided food for members
- **UCCS Climbing Club** - Member
- **SportsCorp** - Helped event coordinators set up and take down events. Was exposed to the work culture and process

Awards and recognitions

- TSA (Technology Student Association) Autonomous-Vehicle award