

# **Adam Kruse**

## **Class of 2000**



**Assistant Professor of Music Education**  
**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

**Education after BHS:**

Bachelor of Science in Music Education, Ball State University  
Master of Arts in Secondary Education, Ball State University  
Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education,  
Michigan State University

**Career Summary & Awards:**

I was a music teacher in the Batesville schools for four years, then taught music at Shelbyville Middle School in Shelbyville, IN for three years. I attended Michigan State University for doctoral study and worked as a graduate teaching assistant. At Michigan State, I earned a Research Enhancement Award from the College of Music and Graduate School, a Dissertation Completion Fellowship from the College of Music, and an Excellence in Diversity Award from the University. The Council on Research in Music Education recognized my dissertation with the 2014 Outstanding Dissertation Award. Since 2014, I have been an Assistant Professor of Music Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In my job, I mostly teach undergraduate and graduate music education students and conduct/publish/present original research focused primarily on Hip-Hop music. At Illinois, I have earned a Creative Research Award from the College of Fine and Applied Arts, a Make Music Matter grant from the School of Music, and a grant from University's Presidential Initiative to Celebrate the Impact of Arts and Humanities. I also received the 2017 Technology Initiative Award from The College Music Society.



**Family:**

My wife is Michaela (Meyer), who also graduated from Batesville High School in 2000. We have a daughter (Gloria) and a son (Calvin). I have four sisters who are also Batesville High School graduates and my parents still live in the community.

**Activities while at Batesville High School:**

I spent most of my time at BHS in music and theatre activities. I played a handful of instruments in the various bands, sang in a choir, and was in a play or musical just about every semester. I was also in Key Club and the National Honor Society.

**Best education-related memory from BHS:**

I had wonderful music teachers in Batesville, including Doug Norton, Phil Minnis, and Leon Enneking. I also really enjoyed the Drama Club productions with Lisa Barnett. While I wasn't a scientist by any means, I definitely learned a lot and enjoyed classes with Charlie Zimmerman and Jerry Stanbrough. The best memories of them all would have to be dating my future wife after we had hung out during rehearsals for the South Pacific musical in our junior year and sending notes back and forth on our graphing calculators in Calculus class.

**A personal quote about the importance of education:**

Education empowers people; so should school.