Academic Support

Middle Tennessee State University has a large and beautifully landscaped campus of approximately 500 acres and 116 permanent buildings totaling almost 4 million square feet. Campus buildings are shown on a map printed in this catalog.

Academic Advising

In addition to the academic assistance provided by the faculty, MTSU has five academic college advisors, one per undergraduate college: Basic and Applied Sciences, Business, Education and Behavioral Science, Liberal Arts, and Mass Communication. Academic college advisors assist students in their academic growth and adjustment to university life. The advisors work primarily with freshmen, transfers, and potential majors within a specific college, as well as with students in academic difficulty. Advisors counsel students regarding correct college courses, make referrals to faculty major advisors, assist students during CUSTOMS orientation and registration activities, and make referrals to Guidance Services. Any student seeking academic assistance is encouraged to contact an academic college advisor. Also, the academic advisor for undeclared freshmen assists students in selecting a major.

Center for Energy Efficiency

The Center for Energy Efficiency (CEE), established in 1998 under the vice president for Finance and Administration in cooperation with Academic Affairs, is interested in providing facilities support to the campus to upgrade the infrastructure and to improve operations and maintenance. The CEE promotes economic and environmental awareness and stewardship by providing educational and training opportunities and experience for the students, faculty, administration, and others in the community. Through association with DOE’s Rebuild America, EPA’s Energy Star and Green Lights, and Tennessee’s State Building Energy Management Program, the CEE supports campus, classroom, and community efforts to accomplish energy efficiency and provides leadership in meeting rapidly changing energy management needs.

Center for Health and Human Services

The Center for Health and Human Services is a federation of academic units that share the common goal of preparing the health and human services workforce in Tennessee. Coordinated by the chairholder of the Adams Chair of Excellence in HealthCare Services, the center encourages quality interdisciplinary education, research, and service programs in health and human service areas. MTSU programs affiliated with this center include Aging Studies, Athletic Training, Child Development and Family Studies, Communication Disorders, Criminal Justice Administration, Early Childhood Education, Environmental Science and Technology (Engineering Technology and Safety), Exercise Science and Health Promotion, Family and Consumer Studies, Health Education, Health Sciences (nuclear medicine technology, radiation therapy technology), Nursing, Nutrition and Food Science, Pre-professional Programs (pre-cytotechnology, -dental, -dental hygiene, -health information management, -medical, -medical technology, -occupational therapy, -pharmacy, -physical therapy), Psychology (mental health), Recreation and Leisure Services, and Social Work.

Center for Historic Preservation

One of two Centers of Excellence at MTSU, the Center for Historic Preservation was established in 1984. It is a research and public service institute committed to the identification, conservation, protection, and enhancement of the historic environment. Through its varied projects, programs, and activities, the center responds directly to the needs and concerns of communities and organizations working to include heritage in their future economic development strategies. Providing leadership and assistance on a local, state, regional, and national basis, the center’s work falls within six initiatives.

Town and country preservation recognizes the unique heritage, resources, and problems of rural areas and small towns. National Register nominations for individual buildings and historic districts are an ongoing priority of this initiative. The Tennessee Century Farm Program is a documentary and educational project for farms that have been in the same family for at least 100 years. The African-American Rural Church Project, also a continuing project, documents the state’s historic black churches, often identifying schools and cemeteries as well.

Heritage education addresses the use of local historic resources as teaching tools in the K-12 grades. The center cooperates with the MTSU College of Education and Behavioral Science and local schools to develop and test new teaching materials and provide teacher-training workshops. The center also works closely with community heritage organizations to guide and assist them in preservation and education projects. The Heritage Education Network is a national Web site for teachers.

Heritage tourism is specifically directed at research and methods for communities to use to attract and increase visitation to local cultural and historic sites while protecting and interpreting these significant resources. The center’s current projects include the development of the National Heritage Area on the Civil War in Tennessee (www.mtsu.edu/~tncivwar).

Building technology and architectural conservation involves research methodology and technology for dating, analyzing, and applying restoration techniques. The center offers assistance with paint and wallpaper analysis and structural investigation and recommendations. The center is the
lead agency in a national project on curatorial standards for architectural fragment collections.

**Information resources management** includes the center’s computer resources, such as autocad drawings, access to preservation databases, desktop publishing, and other necessary support programs for the development and completion of projects in each of the center’s initiatives.

**Museum and historic sites** offers assistance to heritage museums in basic planning, adaptive restoration of historic buildings for museum use, collections management, and exhibit development. The center focuses on addressing the needs and problems of small museums.

Graduate-level staff teach two to three historic preservation courses each year for the Department of History and direct selected theses. The center also funds a limited number of graduate research assistantships each year. Graduate and undergraduate students work at the center to assist staff on a variety of applied research and public service projects, gaining valuable interdisciplinary experience to supplement their in-class training. The center’s technical library and facilities are visited by and serve students, interested individuals, and preservation professionals.

One recent project, *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*, is a partnership among the center, the Tennessee Historical Society, and the Tennessee General Assembly, to produce a modern, comprehensive reference book on history and culture. The book was released in 1998.

**Center for Popular Music**

One of two Centers of Excellence at MTSU, the Center for Popular Music is an interdisciplinary research center devoted to promoting scholarship in and disseminating information on American popular music. The center recognizes popular music as a unique form of human expression that is shaped by a variety of socio-cultural, artistic, commercial, and technological factors and as one which has always occupied a significant place in American cultural history. In support of its aims, the center maintains an extensive archive and sponsors various research projects, publications, and public programs.

The center’s research collection is broadly representative of the diversity of American vernacular music, while being particularly strong in its holdings of music of the southeast. Rock and roll (and its roots) and the many forms of vernacular religious music are major focuses of the collection. Holdings encompass a variety of media, including sheet music, sound recordings, audio and video tapes, books, serials, photographs, posters, manuscripts, clippings, and microforms.

The center is engaged in an extensive program of activities, including sponsoring lectures, conferences, and symposia; producing concerts of historical popular music; and producing extensively-annotated sound recordings.

The center’s resources support undergraduate, graduate, and faculty research in a variety of disciplines and departments.

Noteworthy among these are the Department of Recording Industry, the Music Industry concentration in the School of Music, the Public History Program in the History Department, and the interdisciplinary Southern Studies and African American Studies minors. The center’s resources also serve the music industry, scholars from other institutions in North America and Europe, trade and university presses, and the broadcast media.

**Day Care Laboratory**

The MTSU Day Care Laboratory provides a safe, healthy, and stimulating environment where children ages three to five can stay on a half-time basis (either Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Tuesday, Thursday) while their parents are at school. The maximum capacity is 24 children per day with the following enrollment priorities:

1. children of students who need part-time care (first priority in Fall and Spring Semesters);
2. children of students who need full-time care (first priority in the Summer Semester);
3. children of University employees;
4. children of community residents.

**Endowed Chairs**

Several academic programs are enriched through the establishment of Chairs dedicated to the support of a particular discipline. The chairholders may be full-time faculty members or may be individuals from the appropriate business or professional field who are on campus for special seminars or lecture series.

Two Chairs, funded by gifts to the University Foundation, are administered through the Economics and Finance Department, of which the chairholders are members. More information is available through that department. The Chairs are **Martin Chair of Insurance**

**Weatherford Chair of Finance**

MTSU houses nine Chairs of Excellence, established with a combination of private, University, and State funds. They are **The Jennings Jones Chair in Free Enterprise**

Jennings A. Jones College of Business

**The Jennings Jones Chair in Urban and Regional Planning**

Jennings A. Jones College of Business

**The John Seigenthaler Chair in First Amendment Studies**

College of Mass Communication

**The Dr. Carl Adams Chair in Healthcare Services**

Several departments

**The National Healthcare Chair in Nursing**

School of Nursing

**The Robert E. and Georgianna West Russell Chair in Manufacturing Excellence**

Engineering Technology and Industrial Studies Department

**The Katherine Davis Murfree Chair in Dyslexic Studies**

Several departments
Albert Gore Research Center
The Albert Gore Research Center preserves and makes available for research a variety of historical documents and photographs. Its collections focus on the history of politics and public policy and on Middle Tennessee State University and the region it serves. The Gore Center assists a variety of researchers, including undergraduates; graduate students; MTSU administrators, faculty and other scholars; the media; and citizens of the local community. The center is named for Albert Gore, Sr. (B.S., MTSU ’32), whose papers from his Congressional career (1938-1971) form the largest and one of the most important collections in the repository.

Information Technology
The MTSU Office of Information Technology (OIT) manages and supports information technology resources on campus. OIT manages the campus network and MTSU’s primary academic and administrative computing systems, provides telecommunications services, promotes and supports instructional technology, provides academic computing support, provides technical support, supports MTSU’s primary administrative applications such as student information, Web and telephone registration, and oversees the campus ID system. For more information, see the OIT Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~oit.

Any MTSU student, faculty, or staff member may have an account on the central server for accessing on-campus resources as well as state, regional, national, and international networks including Internet. Accounts for MTSU students are generated upon completion of registration. To activate that account, access the MTSU home page from any Internet accessible computer, click on the Computing Accounts button, and read through the information about your campus computer account—especially the directions on deciding on an acceptable password. Following the onscreen directions, go to www.mtsu.edu/changepw and enter your student identification information and password. The account will be ready to use within 10 minutes. Faculty and staff accounts are created on completion of an application. These application forms are available in the Office Information Technology (OIT), in the basement of Cope Administration Building, Room 3, or at the OIT Help Desk (898-5345).

The Instructional Technology Support Center
The Instructional Technology Support Center (ITSC), in the McWherter Learning Resources Center, provides facilities, training, and support for the use of instructional technology by MTSU faculty, MTSU students, and K-12 teachers. The ITSC consists of several related units and facilities, including Audio/Visual Services, Instructional Media Resources, two computer labs, faculty and graduate student multimedia development centers, a twenty-first century classroom, a video conferencing classroom, and a satellite video conferencing center.

Two Pentium computer labs are available in the ITSC for use by faculty and students. Computers in both labs have access to the campus network. A description of the hardware and software in the computer labs and a monthly listing of open hours are posted on the ITSC Web page (http://www.mtsu.edu/~itsc). Faculty and graduate students can create multimedia lectures or presentations at five multimedia development stations in the ITSC.

Audio/Visual Services maintains an inventory of audio-visual equipment for faculty check-out, repairs campus audio-visual equipment, provides dubbing services, records off-air programming for classroom use, and supports satellite downlinking. Audio/Visual Services also offers professional video production services for MTSU faculty and administrators, including studio production, remote production, and post production.

Instructional Media Resources (IMR) manages a large collection of videotapes, audio tapes, slides, filmstrips, computer software, CD-ROMs, and laserdiscs available for faculty use in classrooms and for on-site use by students. Instructional Media Resources also has typewriters and both Macintosh and Pentium computers available for walk-in use by faculty and students. Faculty can reserve IMR materials and place their own multimedia resources on reserve in Instructional Media Resources for on-site use by their students.

The Satellite Video Conferencing Center offers quality educational programming to K-12 schools by satellite to six rural Tennessee counties and by cable television to viewers in Murfreesboro and Rutherford County. The satellite facilities can be scheduled by units across campus for local, state-wide, or national broadcast of special events and programs. Both digital and analogue C-band transmission options are available.

Keathley University Center—James Union Building
The Keathley University Center and James Union Building are service-oriented buildings for the use of the campus community. Services and facilities include
- a modern, self-service bookstore;
- a complete-service post office with individual mailboxes available;
- recreational facilities for activities such as billiards, ping-pong, cards, chess, checkers, and electronic games;
- a mini-market with a variety of snacks;
- meeting rooms, ballroom, and auditorium for clubs, organizations, and campus-sponsored programs;
- diversified programs which include movies, musical groups, speakers, dances, and cultural events all planned and presented by student committees; and
- food services including the Keathley University Center Grill and James Union Building banquet and luncheon services.
McWherter Learning Resources Center

The McWherter Learning Resources Center provides the opportunity for a different approach to learning. Completed in 1975, this unique 65,000 square-foot facility received national recognition for the award-winning design and is considered a model by other institutions throughout the region. The McWherter Learning Resources Center is the primary facility for teacher education programs and provides instructional technology support to faculty and programs at MTSU as well as area school districts.

In addition to the Instructional Technology Support Center, the support areas of Photographic Services and Publications and Graphics have the dual responsibility of producing materials for classroom use and for serving the entire University community’s photography and publication needs. Also housed in the facility are the WMOT-FM Radio Station and the Albert Gore Research Center.

Murphy Center

Charles M. Murphy Center is a multi-purpose building for instruction, recreation, athletics, and convocations. This versatile structure provides facilities that enhance total health, physical education, recreation, and safety programs as well as house outstanding athletic and entertainment events. The complex includes the Monte Hale Basketball Arena, two auxiliary gymnasiums, four handball courts, classrooms, two dance studios, an indoor track, indoor tennis courts, men’s and women’s dressing rooms, and weight training equipment. The ticket office and student ID office are also located in Murphy Center (track level).

Parking and Transportation Services

The Parking and Transportation Services Office issues parking permits and enforces parking regulations for the MTSU community.

All students (including part-time, full-time, graduate students, night students, etc.), administrators, faculty, and staff (whether full- or part-time) intending to park a vehicle on campus must obtain a permit through Parking and Transportation Services and place the permit on or in the vehicle being operated on campus. Each individual is responsible for violations received by any vehicle bearing his/her parking permit.

Public Safety

The Department of Public Safety maintains 24-hour coverage with police patrol and communications operators and is responsible for the safety and protection of the MTSU community. Services provided include law enforcement, communication of emergency services, building security, escorts, and general assistance to students.

College and University Security Information Act

Pursuant to the provisions of the “College and University Security Information Act,” Public Chapter No. 317, enacted by the 1989 General Assembly, Middle Tennessee State University makes available crime rates and statistics as well as security policies and procedures to interested parties. Persons wishing to review or receive a copy of this information, may contact Chief Jack Drugmand, Public Safety Department, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, (615) 898-2424.

Information to help avoid becoming a victim of crimes such as theft and sexual assault is available in the MTSU Student Handbook, the Fall and Spring Schedule Books, and the Public Safety Orientation calendar.

Religious Opportunities

The Philosophy Department offers courses for academic credit in religious studies. In addition, every MTSU student is encouraged to attend worship services of his/her choice. The University seeks neither to promote nor to exclude any creed. Campus ministries are located in facilities that border the campus; these include the Baptist Student Union, Christian Center, Wesley Foundation, Presbyterian Student Fellowship, and Catholic Student Center.

Statement of Community Standards of Civil Behavior

Middle Tennessee State University is committed to sustaining an environment of tolerance for diversity among its students, staff, and faculty. In addition, the University acknowledges a responsibility for encouraging all members of the community to observe certain standards of civility in their interactions with one another. The choice to associate one’s self with this fellowship of scholars is freely made by each participant, but obligates those who do join to observe the following expectations for civilized conduct within the MTSU community:

• the practice of personal honesty in all matters;
• a positive regard for the dignity and value of each citizen in the community;
• respect for the individual rights and possession of community members;
• disdain for bigotry and hatred expressed in any form or medium and directed toward identifiable groups or individuals in the community;
• tolerance for the convictions and opinions of others, even when not in agreement with one’s own beliefs;
• a recognition of community members’ mutual needs and concerns, and acceptance of a responsibility held in common to support the personal growth and efforts of each individual in furtherance of the well-being of the entire community.

Student-Athlete Enhancement Center

MTSU’s Student-Athlete Enhancement Center is the academic support program for over 300 student-athletes in 17 NCAA sports. Center personnel monitor the student-athlete’s progress toward a degree and are committed to the academic growth of our student athletes.
Facilities for the Student-Athlete Enhancement Center are located at the Football Stadium and include administrative offices, tutoring rooms, a computer center, and a study hall open 67 hours per week.

The center provides an atmosphere of personal attention and encouragement as well as tutorial assistance, advice during registration, and recognition for academic accomplishments.

The center is also a member of the NCAA Life Skills Program, a five-point commitment program dedicated to assisting the student-athlete in developing skills to cope with every aspect of life. Some of the seminars and workshops presented to the student-athletes include instruction in communication skills, social development, value and ethics awareness, emotional health, fiscal responsibility, community outreach, and career development.

University Library

The University Library provides access to information from its own collections and from resources around the world. In addition to printed volumes of books, reference sources, and government documents, the library contains periodicals, newspapers, and research titles in microtext. The library receives many subscriptions to periodicals and also serves as a partial depository for United States government publications. A broad variety of electronic databases are purchased by the library and licensed for student use.

A new central facility opened in January 1999, providing expanded resources for student research, inquiry, reading, study, and discussion. The collections of materials and services support course assignments, term papers, projects, and student research. In addition, recreational reading materials and other information are available. The new facility provides many kinds of study areas as well as 350 computers for accessing both local and international information resources. Special features of the new library include an Adaptive Technologies Center to meet needs of students with disabilities and small group study rooms.

Students are encouraged to ask librarians about the kinds of available materials and about the methods for retrieving information. Librarians are available at the main floor Reference/Information Desk. A student ID card is required to check out library materials. Library policies help to make library resources accessible to every student. Various research guides are published by the library to provide further information about collections and services. More information on these and other aspects of library service at MTSU can be found on the library’s Web site at http://www.mtsu.edu/~library.