Academic Support

Middle Tennessee State University has a large and beautifully landscaped campus of approximately 500 acres and 155 permanent buildings totaling over 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 academic college advisors in each undergraduate college. 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 Counseling Services.

The Academic Support Center (ASC) provides academic advising services for MTSU students with undeclared majors and students with courses in the Developmental Studies program. In addition to course selection and registration, ASC advisors will provide guidance and information to help students select appropriate majors early in their academic careers. Students interested in changing a major or exploring the majors MTSU has to offer should also visit the center. The Academic Support Center also coordinates learning communities, the community reading program, the Raider Book Clubs, and other academic initiatives. Students seeking academic assistance are encouraged to contact an academic advisor through their college or the Academic Support Center at (615) 898-2339.

Art Department Slide Library

Located in Saunders Fine Arts 309, the Slide Library is a resource for the art faculty and for the University population at large. The library’s 50,000 slides include examples of art from the prehistoric to contemporary era. (See also Art Department in this catalog.)

Center for Energy Efficiency

The Center for Energy Efficiency, established in 1998 under the vice president for Finance and Administration in cooperation with Academic Affairs, supports the overall education and community service mission of the University by implementing energy efficiency activities designed to improve campus facilities and by providing educational opportunities to students and the professional community. The multifaceted center provides engineering and management services that promote efficient practices and environmental awareness and stewardship on campus, in the classroom, and in the broader institutional and business communities.

The center develops and implements energy efficiency projects through the Facilities Services Department for campus facilities, utility systems, and infrastructure. Energy saving performance contracting, new building design, operation and maintenance support, transportation and grounds support, metering, and utility procurement are other campus areas in which the center is involved. The center offers direct support of academic activities to enhance educational and training opportunities and experiences for students and faculty in the Engineering Technology and Industrial Studies Department and Environmental Science and Technology Program. The center is involved in curriculum development, teaching, and student project support as well as providing scholarships, internships, co-op opportunities, and job placement services. The center also provides professional energy-related training and consulting services to higher education institutions, public and private sector agencies, companies, and individuals. Associations with state and federal agencies and professional energy and engineering organizations offer continuing 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 Health Care Services, the center encourages quality interdisciplinary education, research, and service programs in health and human service areas. The center also collaborates with public agencies and private not-for-profit organizations to develop and implement programs designed to improve the health of the middle and greater Tennessee community. MTSU programs affiliated with this center include Aging Studies; School of Nursing; Departments of Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology, Social Work, HPERS, and Human Sciences; Communication Disorders; Pre-professional Health Sciences; and graduate studies in gerontology and health care management.

Center for Historic Preservation

One of two Centers of Excellence at MTSU, the Center for Historic Preservation (histpres.mtsu.edu/histpres) was established in 1984. It is a research and public service institute committed to the preservation, protection, enhancement, and sensitive promotion 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 four initiatives.
Rural preservation recognizes the unique heritage, resources, and problems of rural areas and small towns. The overall goal is to create a heritage infrastructure for successful, long-term project development in small towns that have outstanding resources but lack the expertise to use heritage resources for cultural and economic improvement. National Register nominations for individual buildings, historic districts, and cemeteries are an ongoing priority of this initiative. The Tennessee Century Farm Program, established in 1985 in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, is centered on program expansion, new publications, agritourism potential, and regional conservation planning for farms that have been in the same family for at least 100 years. The Rural African American Church Project, established in 1997 in partnership with African American heritage groups and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is a continuing project that documents the state’s historic black churches.

Heritage education addresses the use of local historic resources as teaching tools in the K–12 grades. The center works closely with school systems and community heritage organizations to guide and assist them in preservation and education projects. The Heritage Education Network (histpres.mtsu.edu/thcn) is a national Web site for teachers sponsored in part by the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. The center director also serves as the senior editor of the Tennessee Historical Quarterly, a valuable tool for high school and college teachers.

The Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (histpres.mtsu.edu/tncivwar) was created by Congress in 1996. The Heritage Area focuses on the preservation, interpretation, and heritage development of the multiple legacies of the Civil War and Reconstruction era in Tennessee. The center is the only university unit in the nation to serve as the administrative head of a National Heritage Area, which are partnership units of the National Park Service. The Heritage Area provides technical services to institutions, agencies, and property owners across the state and develops funding partnerships with groups, governments, and institutions which work with the center to establish joint projects and programs of long-lasting benefit to the state and nation. As part of the Heritage Area effort, the center plays an active role in the Alliance of National Heritage Areas and directs the alliance’s Heritage Development Institutes, which are professional training workshops held across the nation. The alliance provides support for graduate interns who participate in the workshop programs.

Heritage Diversity focuses on incorporating the stories and traditions of all Tennesseans into the history and preservation of the state. Identifying, documenting, and assisting in the interpretation of historic African American schools, cemeteries, farmsteads, and businesses and contributions to the arts are a part of this initiative. National Register documentation of Tennessee and Birmingham, Alabama, sites associated with the civil rights movement are continuing projects. Women in architecture and preservation as well as women involved in farming across the state address important issues. The center works with the National Park Service to document and develop preservation alternatives for National Register-eligible properties along the Trail of Tears in Tennessee. In cooperation with the MTSU Department of Sociology and Anthropology, the center has partnered with archaeology staff and students on projects associated with the sensitive interpretation of sites of prehistoric Native American habitation.

Graduate-level staff teach two historic preservation courses each year for the Department of History and direct a large number of theses. The center funds a limited number of graduate research assistantships and fellowships 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 Online Edition, is a partnership among the center, the Tennessee Historical Society, and the University of Tennessee Press. Launched in 2003, the encyclopedia Web site provides a comprehensive reference for the state’s history.

Center for Popular Music

The Center for Popular Music (CPM) is an archive and research center devoted to the study of American popular music from the Colonial era to the present. It was established in 1985 as one of sixteen Centers of Excellence at universities in the Tennessee Board of Regents system. The center’s mission is to promote research and scholarship in American popular music and to foster an appreciation of America’s diverse musical culture. To carry out this mission, the CPM
maintains a large research library and archive; presents public programs that interpret various aspects of American vernacular music; engages in original research projects; and disseminates the results of research through publications in various media.

The CPM’s library and archive is one of the largest and best popular music research collections in the country. Materials in the center’s archive and library fall into three broad categories. First are extensive holdings of the various types of media in which music has been fixed and sold as a commodity. These include print materials such as sheet music, song books, song broadsides and songsters, and sound recordings in formats ranging from cylinders to compact discs. The center’s sound archive is one of the largest in the country and consists of approximately 160,000 commercial sound recordings as well as many hours of unique unpublished recordings of music and interviews. The CPM’s sheet music collection of approximately 65,000 items is the largest in the Southeast, and its library of gospel songbooks is one of the most extensive of any repository not associated with a religious organization. Second are various materials that are needed to study popular music in all its musical, cultural, historical, technological, and commercial contexts, including items such as photographs, posters, playbills, concert programs, trade catalogs, news clippings, and personal papers of musicians, songwriters, and business people. Third are books, periodicals, and other reference materials about popular music. The center has one of the largest and most comprehensive libraries of books and periodicals about popular music in the country.

Materials in the center’s collection do not circulate but are available to anyone doing research on American popular music. The center’s resources support undergraduate, graduate, and faculty research in a variety of disciplines and departments. In keeping with one of the aims of the Centers of Excellence program, the Center for Popular Music serves as a research resource for people far beyond the bounds of the University. Center staff members have fielded research queries from every state in the union and from foreign countries representing every continent except Antarctica. Authors, journalists, media producers, performers, and students writing dissertations have all made use of the center’s archive and library.

The center’s public programs include lectures, conferences, symposia, and concerts of contemporary and historical popular music.

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 A. Jones Chair in Free Enterprise**
  Jennings A. Jones College of Business
- **The Jennings and Rebecca 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 Health Care Services**
  Interdisciplinary
- **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**
  Interdisciplinary
- **John C. Miller Chair in Equine Reproductive Physiology**
  School of Agribusiness and Agriscience
- **Mary E. Miller Chair in Equine Health**
  School of Agribusiness and Agriscience
Albert Gore Sr. Research Center

The Albert Gore Sr. 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 (1939–1970) form the largest and one of the most important collections in the repository.

Philip C. Howard Music Library

Located within Instructional Media Resources in McWherter Learning Resources Center, Room 101, Howard Music Library houses audio and video recordings and equipment, musical scores, and reference materials. Anyone with a valid MTSU ID may borrow scores. Recordings circulate only to faculty and staff but may be used by anyone in-house. The Howard Music Library is part of the McLean School of Music. (See also McLean School of Music in this catalog.)

Information Technology

The MTSU Information Technology Division (ITD) supports computing and information technology resources on campus. ITD manages the campus network and MTSU’s primary academic and administrative computing systems; provides telecommunication services for the campus; promotes and supports instructional technology, including faculty consultation and training and maintenance support for all campus technology-based classrooms; provides technical support and training for the use of microcomputer hardware and software; provides a 24/7 help desk during the semester; supports MTSU’s primary administrative applications including student information, human resources, PipelineMT, and the data warehouse; and administers the STA (Student Technology Assistant) program, the campus ID system, and the MTSU Web site.

Any MTSU student or faculty or staff member may have an account on the central server for accessing on-campus resources and state, regional, national, and international networks including the Internet. Students may activate their accounts at www.mtsu.edu/changepw, on any Internet-accessible computer. The account will be ready to use within 10 minutes. Faculty and staff accounts are created upon completion of an application. The application forms are available online at www.mtsu.edu/~itd/forms and at the Information Technology Division Office, Cope Administration Building, Room 3.

For more information, call the ITD help desk at 898-5345 or e-mail help@mtsu.edu.
**Instructional Media Resources (Media Library)**

Instructional Media Resources (IMR), located in McWherter Learning Resources Center, Room 101, manages a large collection of videotapes, DVDs, laserdiscs, audio tapes, CDs, and CD-ROMs. It also features study rooms and carrels, an open computer lab with both Macintosh and Pentium computers, laser printers and scanners, and typewriters available for walk-in use by faculty and students. Faculty members may check out all materials, reserve IMR materials, and place their own multimedia resources on reserve in the Media Library for use by their students. Staff and students may view video materials in the Media Library and may check out audio materials.

**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, a graduate student multimedia development center, a twenty-first century classroom, and a satellite videoconferencing center.

Two PC computer labs and one PC/Macintosh computer lab are available in the ITSC for use by faculty and students. 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 (www.mtsu.edu/~itsc). Graduate students can create multimedia projects or presentations at four 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 services. Audio/Visual Services also offers professional video production services for MTSU faculty and administrators, including studio production, remote production, post production, and satellite uplinks and downlinks.

**Instructional Media Resources (Media Library)** - See above.

The Satellite Videoconferencing Center offers quality educational programming to K–12 schools by satellite to nine rural Tennessee counties and by cable television to viewers in Rutherford and two other middle Tennessee counties. The satellite facilities can be scheduled by units across campus for local, statewide, or national broadcast of special events and programs. Both digital and analog 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;
- 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.

**Libraries and Archives**

Numerous library and archive resources are located on the MTSU campus. Copying of materials housed in these facilities is permitted only in compliance with federal copyright statutes and in accordance with departmental rules and regulations. Resources include Art Department Slide Library, Center for Popular Music, Gore Center, Howard Music Library, Instructional Media Resources, Walker Library, and Women's Studies Library. Detailed information about each is in this section.
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 is the WMOT-FM Radio Station.

Murphy Center

Charles M. Murphy Center is a multipurpose 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.

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 the 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 or online at http://police.mtsu.edu.

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.

Community Standards and Expectations, Statement of

Middle Tennessee State University is committed to the ideal of developing and nurturing a community of scholars. The choice to associate or affiliate with the MTSU community is freely made by students, staff, and faculty; nevertheless, it is assumed that each person who joins the community will accept and practice the following core values and expectations:

1. **Value of Honesty.** The notion of personal honesty and academic integrity is central to the existence of the MTSU community. Community members will not engage in cheating, plagiarism, or fabrications of any type. All members of the community will strive to achieve and maintain the highest standards of academic achievement.

2. **Respect for Diversity.** The MTSU community is composed of individuals representing different races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and cultures. The community embraces and celebrates this diversity as a pillar of its strength.

3. **Commitment to the Community.** Citizens of the MTSU community will be good stewards of the University’s resources and will not engage in conduct which damages or exploits the community.

4. **Freedom of Expression.** The MTSU community is a marketplace of ideas and opinions. Community members are encouraged to freely communicate their ideas and opinions concerning issues both within and outside the community.

Student-Athlete Enhancement Center

MTSU’s Student-Athlete Enhancement Center is the academic support program for over 400 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.

**James E. Walker Library**

The James E. Walker Library is an important resource for a quality education. The centrally located facility, opened in January 1999, contains print and electronic research collections and a variety of services to support course assignments, term papers, general reference, projects, and student research. Through partnerships and carefully selected databases, the library provides access to a broad selection of information and research from both local and worldwide sources. The building offers a variety of individual and group study areas as well as close to 300 computers for accessing information resources. Special features of the library include group studies, two instruction rooms for learning how to use library resources, Special Collections, and an Adaptive Technologies Center to meet needs of students with disabilities.

Librarians are available to help with reference, research, and information questions. Students are encouraged to ask for help. With a University ID card, students can access all books, periodicals, and electronic databases in the library collection from within the building and from their campus dorms, and most library resources are available from off-campus locations. Classes as well as individual instruction sessions are offered on the use of library resources, and research guides are published to provide further information about collections and services.

More information can be found on the library’s Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~library or by calling (615) 898-2772.

**Women’s Studies Library**

The Women’s Studies Program, located in JUB 308, maintains a collection of materials related to women’s and gender studies. Most volumes circulate. (See also Women’s Studies Program in this catalog.)