Academic Support

Middle Tennessee State University has a large and beautifully landscaped campus of approximately 500 acres and 179 permanent buildings totaling over 4.6 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, students with ACT prescribed courses, and other special populations. In addition to course selection and registration, ASC advisors 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, and other academic initiatives. Students seeking academic assistance are encouraged to contact an academic advisor through their colleges or the Academic Support Center at (615) 898-2339.

Department of Art Visual Resource Center

Located in Andrew L. Todd Hall 223, the Visual Resource Center creates digital images for the art faculty and provides a digital database of art images for use by Department of Art faculty and students. The expanding digital database comprises over 25,000 art images from prehistoric to contemporary eras. It offers images in a variety of formats for study or use in presentations. Other resources include over 50,000 analog slides available for checkout to the University population at large. Hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Contact the curator at (615) 898-5532.

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 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, Health and Human Performance, 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 Farms 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 document’s the state’s historic black churches.

**Heritage education** addresses the use of cultural heritage resources as across-the-disciplines teaching tools in the K–12 grades. The center works with school systems, community heritage organizations, and higher education teacher training programs to assist in developing and presenting materials that meet current curriculum standards. Most recently, the center entered into a partnership with the Library of Congress to direct Teaching with Primary Sources across Tennessee. Serving educators and students at all levels, the center partners with other MTSU departments and educational institutions and organizations throughout the state. The center director also serves as the senior editor of the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, a valuable tool for high school and college teachers and students.

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 assists the alliance’s Heritage Development Institutes, which are professional training workshops held across the nation.

**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 southern 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 historic preservation courses each year for the Department of History and direct a number of theses and dissertations. The center hosts graduate assistants from the Ph.D. program in Public History as well as those studying at the M.A. level. Graduate and undergraduate students who work at the center assist staff on a variety of applied research and public service projects, gaining valuable interdisciplinary experiences to supplement their in-class training. The Downtown Heritage Center in Murfreesboro and the Glen Leven Center in Nashville provide learning labs for students to address issues and programs in preservation and history.

Our largest history 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. Revised in 2001, the encyclopedia Web site is 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, songbooks, 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 170,000 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**
- **The Jennings and Rebecca Jones Chair in Urban and Regional Planning**
- **The John Seigenthaler Chair in First Amendment Studies**
- **The Dr. Carl Adams Chair in Health Care Services**
- **The National HealthCare Chair in Nursing**
- **The Robert E. and Georgianna West Russell Chair in Manufacturing Excellence**

Albert Gore Research Center

Named for Senator Albert Gore Sr. (B.S., MTSU ‘32), the Albert Gore Research Center houses a variety of historical documents, photographs, oral history recordings, and objects available to students and the public for research. The center’s collections focus on the history of MTSU and its alumni, state and federal political leaders, and all aspects of life in and around Rutherford County. Center materials are especially strong in local military history, women’s history, and social history. Gore’s Congressional papers (1939–1970) form the single largest collection in the repository; another noteworthy addition came with the donation of the Margaret Lindsley Warden equestrian history collection. Visit gorecenter.mtsu.edu for more information.

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 School of Music. (See also School of Music in this catalog.)
Information Technology

The MTSU Information Technology Division (ITD) supports computing and information technology resources of the University. 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 computer hardware and software; provides a 24/7 help desk when classes are in session; supports MTSU’s primary administrative applications including RaiderNet, 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 which provides access to on-campus information technology resources as well as state, regional, national, and international networks including the Internet. Students may activate their accounts at www.mtsu.edu/changepw. The account will be ready to use within 10 minutes. Faculty and staff accounts are automatically created after job data has been set up in the administrative system. Faculty and staff may activate their accounts at www.mtsu.edu/changepw. Additional information regarding faculty and staff accounts, as well as class or organizational accounts can be found at www.mtsu.edu/itd/facstaff_accounts_itd.shtml.

For more information, call the ITD help desk at (615) 898-5345 or e-mail help@mtsu.edu.

Office of Institutional Diversity

The purpose of the Office of Institutional Diversity is to ensure that diversity concerns remain in the forefront. The office will promote equity for all members of the University community by continuing to promote diversity as a core value that achieves a more enriching educational experience for the entire student body. An advisory committee of university and community personnel shares in the work of the office and in the design and updating of a university plan that confirms the short- and long-range educational benefits of diversity. The office will consult, monitor, evaluate, and report on progress in achieving the diversity goals and objectives of the University.

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.

Instructional Technology Support Center

The Instructional Technology Support Center (ITSC), in the McWherter Learning Resources Center, provides computer and media facilities and support for MTSU faculty and 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, an advanced technology classroom, and a satellite and webcasting center.

The ITSC manages the University lab at the LRC, which includes two PC computer labs and one PC/Macintosh computer lab. 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 and webcasting services. Audio/Visual Services also offers professional video production services for MTSU faculty and administrators, including studio production, remote production, postproduction, satellite uplinks and downlinks, and webcasts.

Instructional Media Resources (Media Library) - See above.

The Satellite and Webcasting Center offers quality educational programming to K–12 schools by satellite to many rural Tennessee counties and by cable television to viewers in Rutherford and two other middle Tennessee counties. We also webcast our programs to viewers across the state. 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 and 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;
- several ATM machines;
- 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 the Department of Art 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, men's and women's dressing rooms, and weight training equipment.

Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU)

Since 2006, MTSU students and faculty have benefited from the University's membership in Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). ORAU is a consortium of 96 colleges and universities and a contractor for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) located in Oak Ridge. ORAU works with its member institutions to help their students and faculty gain access to federal research facilities throughout the country; to keep its members informed about opportunities for fellowship, scholarship, and research appointments; and to organize research alliances among its members.

Through the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), the DOE facility that ORAU operates, undergraduates, graduates, and postgraduates, as well as faculty, enjoy access to a multitude of opportunities for study and research. Students can participate in epidemiology, engineering, physics, geological sciences, pharmacology, ocean sciences, biomedical sciences, nuclear chemistry, and mathematics. Appointment and program length range from one month to four years. Many of these programs are especially designed to increase the numbers of underrepresented minority students pursuing degrees in science- and engineering-related disciplines. A comprehensive listing of these programs and other opportunities, their disciplines, and details on locations and benefits can be found in the ORISE Catalog of Education and Training Programs, which is available at www.orau.gov/orise/educ.htm.

ORAU’s Office of Partnership Development seeks opportunities for partnerships and alliances among ORAU’s private industry and major federal facilities. Activities include faculty development programs, such as the Ralph E. Powe Jr. Faculty Enhancement Awards, the Visiting Industrial Scholars Program, consortium research funding initiatives, and faculty research and support programs, as well as services to chief research officers.

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 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.

Undergraduate Research Center

The Undergraduate Research Center (URC) fosters the implementation of active and engaging modes of learning in the curriculum. It also serves to facilitate the creation of an environment where students desiring to excel can reach their full potential through research opportunities and creative activities with inherent pedagogical value. The URC promotes change that institutionalizes a culture of inquiry and scholarship for all students. It also coordinates the integration of research-based learning in undergraduate education, from introductory experiences to senior capstone experiences.

The URC is a clearinghouse for information regarding all such programs aimed at involving undergraduate students in research and creative activities. The center also serves as the focal point for publicity and reports activities sponsored by the center. It serves as a catalyst for the development of proposals aimed at securing funding for innovative undergraduate learning and scholarship.

**URSCA.** A component of the URC is the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity (URSCA) initiative. This program provides financial support to undergraduate students who want to get involved in research and creative projects at all points in their undergraduate studies. Students can apply for funding using the guidelines accessible on the URSCA Web site. A committee that includes representative faculty for all colleges reviews proposals and selects recipients. Awards are administered by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research.

URSCA’s primary intent is to immerse students in a culture of research, scholarship, and/or creative activity as a part of the educational process and preparation for the workplace. URSCA-supported students carry out research under the guidance of a faculty mentor, prepare a statement of the proposed activity, and present the final result(s) of the project. Research or creative projects will typically relate to the work of one or more faculty members but may be of the student’s own design. The interactions of faculty mentor(s) and student(s) should be governed by the important elements of mentoring that meet best practices for mentorship in each department/discipline.

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 collec-
tions 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 and PipelineMT account, 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 http://library.mtsu.edu/.

**Women’s Studies Library**

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