Academic and Student Services

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.

Adult Services Center

The Adult Services Center serves as an information and referral center for students, especially for those returning to formal studies or beginning college for the first time as adult learners. The center is an advocate for the needs of adult learners. Workshops designed to help the adult learner succeed in re-entering college are offered. Located in Keathley University Center, Room 320, the center helps make available the services of various other university offices to students on campus for classes at hours other than regular business hours. Students may pick up a variety of forms so that their concerns may be forwarded to the appropriate offices.

The center also provides a place to meet and share ideas with other adult learners. A student organization called OWLS (Older Wiser Learners) is coordinated through the center. Additional information is available by calling (615) 898-5989.

Alumni Association

The MTSU National Alumni Association encourages interaction between Middle Tennessee State University and the extended University family of alumni, students, parents, and friends through a variety of activities and programs. Through the promotion and development of geographical alumni chapters and reunion programs, the Alumni Association stimulates and enhances communication for MTSU. Events and activities in conjunction with University athletic and fine arts programs, especially at Homecoming, are held to offer continuing support and interaction. Establishing and promoting scholarships is an on-going endeavor of the Alumni Association as well as the maintenance of the alumni information database and development of periodic alumni directories. The Alumni Relations Office is located in the Alumni Center, one of the four original buildings on campus.

Athletics

The MTSU Athletics Program strives for excellence in the development of its student-athletes and the quality of its several sports teams. The program supports the academic, athletic, and social education of its student-athletes by encouraging them to develop the values of respect for themselves and others and to take pride in achievement and making positive contributions to the communities in which they live.

MTSU is committed to quality athletic programs that bring the campus community together and promote a sense of pride and tradition in academic and athletic excellence. Athletics also brings the University regional and national recognition and provides a link among the university, its alumni, and the community at large. It helps to generate alumni and public support for all aspects of the University. The athletics program provides quality faculty and leadership to campus programs. It gives students, faculty, and alumni opportunities for innovative public service activities, such as the “Reading Raider” program which has worked with area elementary schools to promote students’ reading skills. It uses athletic, financial, and physical resources to maintain and develop athletic programs to accomplish the mission of the University.

The University is a member of the Sun Belt Conference and National Collegiate Athletic Association, competing in NCAA Division I in all sports. MTSU is represented annually in baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, tennis, indoor track, and outdoor track for men and by basketball, cross-country, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, indoor track, outdoor track, and volleyball for women.

Both full-time and part-time students are admitted to all home football, basketball, and baseball games by presenting their valid ID cards at the gate. Athletic events in other sports require no admission and are open to the public and campus community. There are two ticket office locations; one is in Murphy Center on the track level and the other is at Floyd Stadium Gate IA. Additional ticket information can be obtained by phoning (615) 898-2103 or 1-888:YES-MTSU.

MTSU’s Title IX coordinator is Forrestine Williams, 220 Cope Administration Building, (615) 898-2185.

Cafeterias

Four University locations offer wholesome food for students at reasonable rates: the Grill in Keathley University Center; McCallie Dining Hall in Corlew; James Union Building Cafeteria; and CyberCafe in Woodmore. They are operated for the benefit and convenience of the students, faculty and their guests, and other guests on the campus who may be attending conferences or other official functions. Several different meal plans are available for those who are interested.

Career and Employment Center

The University provides a year-round centralized placement service for its students and alumni through the Career and Employment Center located in Keathley University Center, Room 328. The program is designed to assist prospective graduates and alumni in securing career positions. Each year employers from business, industry, government, and education conduct on-campus interviews with students in the Career Center. Other placement services include the development of reference files for credentials, career job listings, part-time and summer employment opportunities, and the career library.
Students seeking part-time jobs in the community may apply through the Student Employment Center, 898-2500. Referrals to prospective employers will be made by the center.

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.

Disabled Student Services

Disabled Student Services is the coordinating body which distributes information concerning services available to students with disabilities. The office acts as an advocate for disabled students at the University, surveying the needs of these students and developing programs to meet those needs. Information and assistance can be obtained by calling (615) 898-2783 or visiting the office located in Keathley University Center, Room 120.

MTSU’s ADA/504 coordinator is Watson Hannah, 119 Cope Administration Building, (615) 898-5366.

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

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 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.

Housing and Residential Life

Housing facilities on campus include 24 residence halls and apartment complexes housing 3,800 single students and families. Information may be obtained from Housing and Residential Life, Keathley University Center 300.

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 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 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, 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;
- 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).

Recreation Center

The Campus Recreation Office, located in the Recreation Center, administers a comprehensive recreation program for MTSU students. Opportunities include participation in team or club sports, outdoor pursuits, fitness activities, aquatic programs, and leisure clinics. A wide variety of outdoor and other recreation equipment is available for checkout by students. The Recreation Center, which opened in Fall 1995, provides students with a state-of-the-art facility. The center includes
six basketball/volleyball courts, six racquetball courts, an indoor track, an aerobics room, an 8,000-square-foot free weights area, cardiovascular machines, an indoor swimming pool, locker rooms, an indoor gym for soccer and roller hockey, a rock climbing wall, an outdoor pool, an outdoor ropes course, and a sun deck with four sand volleyball courts adjacent. The center is open seven days a week during the Fall and Spring semesters and the Summer term. The Recreation Center closes during fall break, Thanksgiving holidays, Christmas holidays, and spring break. The schedule may be adjusted during other University holidays and for certain special University events. More information on programs or the center may be obtained by contacting the Campus Recreation Office at (615) 898-2104.

Student Access to Educational Records
This policy may be found on page 40 of this catalog.

James E. Walker Library
The James E. Walker 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.

Women’s Center
The June Anderson Women’s Center (JAWC) has been serving women at MTSU since 1977. Support groups, workshops, and programs for women are offered during the academic year. A free legal clinic is open the last Thursday of each month during Fall and Spring semesters. The office, located on the main floor of the James Union Building, Room 206, provides a safe space for women to meet together or use the JAWC library. A resource and referral file includes information on financial aid for women, housing, and community legal, health, and mental health services.

The Women’s Leadership Conference for college and university women students is coordinated through the JAWC and the Women’s Studies Program in the spring. Students are invited to attend and to volunteer for this and other Women’s Center activities.

During Spring semester, the Women’s Center, working collaboratively with the National Women’s History Month Committee, sponsors events, programs, and films which bring together the campus and community in a celebration of women’s contributions to culture and society.

A full-time professional counselor is available at the Women’s Center for crisis intervention and personal counseling for students dealing with women-identified issues and concerns. Confidentiality is assured. The counselor may be contacted at (615) 898-5725.

Additional information about the Women’s Center’s activities or services is available by calling (615) 898-2193 or via the Internet.