

Desire to Learn (D2L)

D2L is the online learning platform through which instructors and students interact, either for a completely online course or as a supplement to a face-to-face course. Your instructor may use D2L as the format for providing course handouts or links to videos, hosting discussion boards, or for the electronic submission of assignments and to take exams. Find more tips for navigating D2L at mtsu.edu/ait/D2L/tips/index.php.

Early arrival transition programs

MTSU hosts two early arrival programs that are designed to serve all students, with emphasis on the needs of first generation, underrepresented, and/or underprepared students, by providing them with an introduction to college in a supportive learning environment. The **Scholars Academy** begins with a two-week pre-semester program that helps students acclimate to college-level learning. The **S.T.A.R.** program begins with a one-week pre-semester program that supports students as they transition from high school to college. Both programs continue through the fall semester with additional meetings, activities, and events. For more information, and to apply for the program, please see the website for the Scholars Academy at mtsu.edu/studentssuccess/eap/scholarsacademy.php or for S.T.A.R. at mtsu.edu/studentssuccess/eap/aboutstar.php.

Academic maps and DegreeWorks

MTSU has created an academic map for each major to help students get a preview of a **suggested four-year schedule of courses** based on degree requirements in the undergraduate catalog. Milestones, courses, and special requirements necessary for timely progress to complete a major are designated to **keep you on track to graduate in four years**. Use this map alongside **DegreeWorks** on **PipelineMT** to track and plan your progress. The academic map is not a substitute for academic advisement. Contact your advisor if you have any questions about scheduling or about your degree requirements. To find your map, go to catalog.mtsu.edu/index.php and choose **Academic Maps** from the menu on the left.



Academic dates and deadlines

Keeping up with academic dates and deadlines will help you better plan your semester and will ensure that you are making good decisions related to any course withdrawals or drops that you are contemplating. The MTSU academic calendar is at mtsu.edu/dates.php. Make special note of fee payment deadlines; failure to pay can cause your schedule to be canceled. Each semester the updated Registration Guide will provide fee payment and withdrawal deadlines and other important information about registering for classes. mtsu.edu/registration/registration-guide.php.

TRIO Student Support Services

TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) is a federally funded program designed to support the academic and personal success of first generation, income eligible students. SSS provides its students with tutoring, financial advising, cultural and campus events, personal support and encouragement, and many other services. Grants and scholarship awards may be available to eligible participants. To learn more and to apply for the program, visit mtsu.edu/ssupport/ or call **615-898-5443**.

Career development

The Career Development Center assists students in all stages of career exploration. Beginning in the freshmen year, students can seek help in exploring majors and career interests; writing résumés and cover letters; developing interview and job search skills; and reviewing listings of part-time and full-time employment opportunities. To learn more, go to mtsu.edu/career/index.php or visit their office in Room 328 of the Keathley University Center.

Study Abroad and National Student Exchange

MTSU students have many opportunities to extend their educations beyond the boundaries of Murfreesboro. MTSU Abroad helps students connect with both short-term or semester-long opportunities to learn in countries that range from Brazil to Germany to Japan and include special programs focused on everything from music to accounting to tropical ecosystems. Learn more about Study Abroad at mtsu.studioabroad.com.

The National Student Exchange (NSE) program gives eligible MTSU students the opportunity to spend a semester studying at a partner school elsewhere in the United States, from Alaska to New York to Puerto Rico, as well as some schools in Canada. For more information on NSE, visit mtsu.edu/nse.

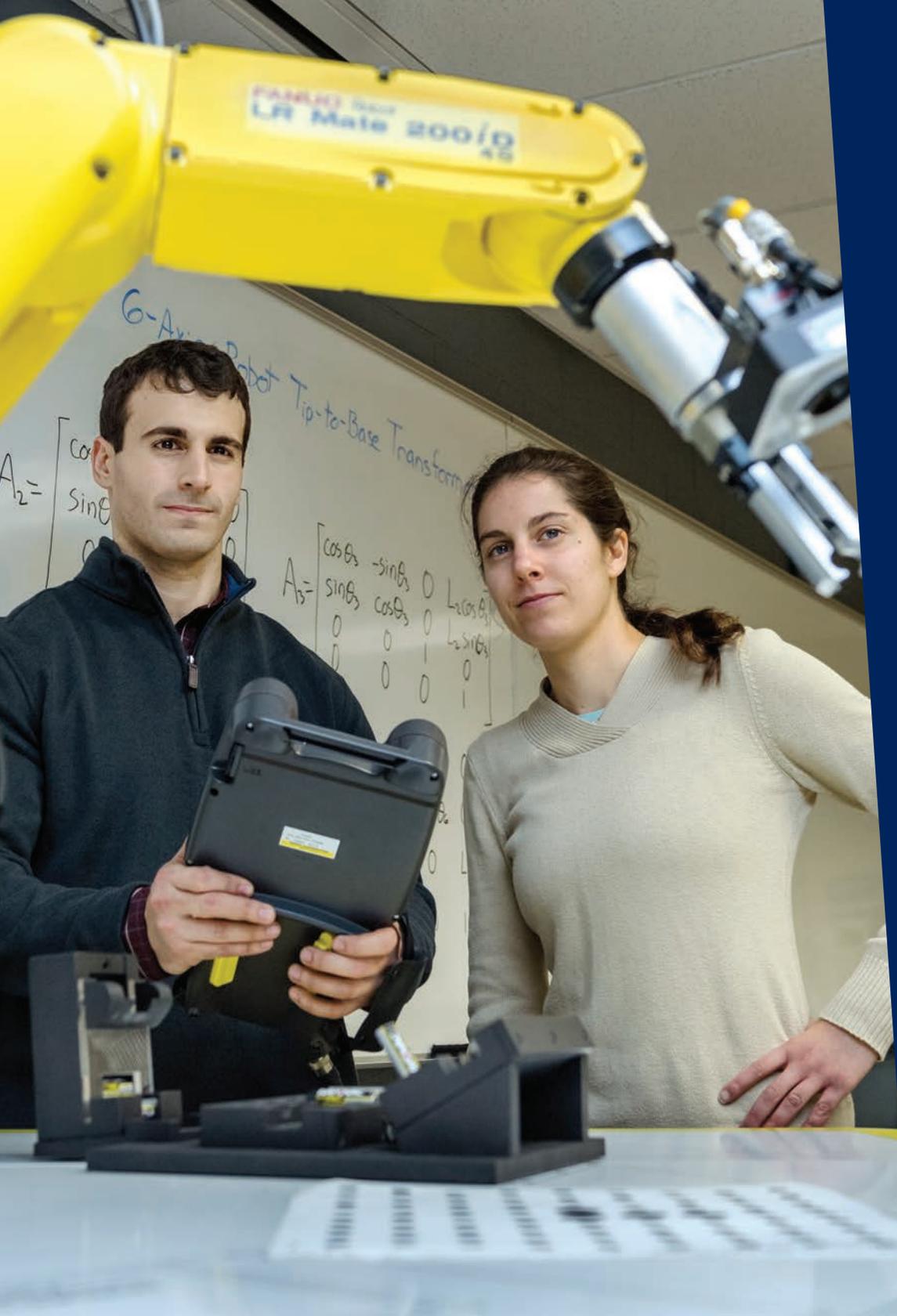
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2021-22 RESOURCES FOR SUCCESS IN THE CLASSROOM

MIDDLE
TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY





TRUE SUPPORT

The core of your experience at MTSU will be in the classroom. Though you've experienced lots of classroom learning to this point, college learning will look a little different. Here are a few things your instructors want you to know about college classes:

- 1) Your **academic success** requires attention to two things—your in-class learning, which will usually average three hours per week for each class, and the time you spend studying outside of class.
- 2) Your classes are going to cover more content than high school classes did, but in less time. The majority of your learning will happen **outside of class**. You have to decide to do the work that learning requires of you.
- 3) Even our very best students will need help at times, and when you do, **it's your responsibility** to let your instructor know that you're stuck or confused. Remember: Classes move quickly, so **ask questions as soon as you have them**.
- 4) It's always appropriate to email an instructor or to drop in during their office hours to get clarification on class content or assignments.
- 5) College is less about memorizing facts and more about understanding how pieces of information connect. You'll probably need to **change your study practices** a bit. Focus on using or evaluating the things you're learning.
- 6) Your faculty expect you to be invested in your learning. You can fail college classes. If you don't do the work, you won't learn, and your grades will reflect your efforts. Figure out how you learn best, and put in the necessary effort.
- 7) Your classes will each look different, with **different grading scales, different types of assignments**, different classroom policies and technologies. Don't assume that just because something is true for one class, it is true for another. **Look over your syllabi carefully** for details on how each class functions.
- 8) Finally, we're here at MTSU because we think your learning is important. We understand that each student learns at a different pace, that life happens, that you have different interests and different goals. We can be a profound asset to your learning, **so let us help!** We are here because we love students and we want you to learn.

TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

University Writing Center

The Writing Center supports all levels of writers in all majors at any stage of the writing process. We work with students on any kind of written project or assignment, including multimedia projects. We offer 25-minute and 45-minute sessions face-to-face or online as well as group sessions and long-term writing partnerships. To schedule an appointment, find out about types of appointments, learn about WC Online, or get tips for a successful visit, go to mtsu.edu/writing-center/ or call us at **615-904-8237**.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available at no charge to MTSU students in over 200 courses in subjects such as biology, history, computer information systems, physics, math, economics, recording industry, study skills/learning strategies, and many more. Online tutoring for students studying remotely is also available. To find out more, visit mtsu.edu/studentsuccess/tutoring.php or call us at **615-494-8650**.

Academic advising

The relationship between MTSU students and their academic advisors will be among the most important relationships of their college careers. Academic advisors are available to assist students in course selection, guide them to academic services that support success, and help keep students on track for a timely graduation. Academic advisors are assigned through the college that is home to the student's major. For more information about advising, go to mtsu.edu/advising/.

Supplemental Instruction

Supplemental Instruction (SI) provides peer-assisted group study and discussion to help students establish success in some of our most challenging courses. SI leaders are current MTSU students who have excelled in the course. They returned to offer informal SI sessions outside of class that are designed to help classmates explore challenging concepts or ideas; review and analyze class notes; deconstruct and discuss difficult reading assignments; learn test-taking strategies; and review for exams. For more information about SI, visit mtsu.edu/si/ or call the Office of Student Success at **615-494-8650**.

