

Nashville State Community College

School of Business and Professional Studies

Education Department

Master Course Syllabus

Fall 2024 – **2nd 7 Week Term**

EDUC 2220-V60 – Introduction to the Exceptional Learner/Special Education

The purpose of the syllabus is to inform you how this course is organized, what the expectations are, and how you will be graded. In addition, there is important information about how the college will operate during severe weather and how the college will communicate with you. The syllabus is not a contract. Instead, it is meant to help you succeed in this course. If any of the content changes during the course term, you will be notified.

Course Information

Course Title: EDUC-2220-V60 Introduction to the Exceptional Learner/Special Education

Credit Hours: (3 credits)

Prerequisites: EDUC 2000 (formerly 2010), Level 2 placement in English and Reading.

Class Hours: TR 4:30-6:30 pm / 1st 7 week period) via zoom

This class will “meet” VIRTUALLY on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30-6:30 pm via ZOOM

The link below is for All class sessions

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

*If the link does not automatically open, copy and paste the link into a new tab.

[Academic Calendar](#)

Course Description

An introductory course designed to give an overview of information and issues related to the education of students with exceptionalities. The course provides an overview of current teaching strategies for meeting the needs of exceptional learners, a brief history of special education, specific information regarding individual disabilities, as well as implementing appropriate accommodations and behavior management techniques. Students will also explore the importance of advocacy for all students with exceptionalities.

Observation/Field Experience/Service Learning is required for this course. (Note: An additional cost of a criminal background check and liability insurance may be required for Observation/Field Experience/Service Learning. Students may also be required to attend an out of class orientation and/or professional development events.) **Prerequisite(s):** EDUC 2000 (formerly 2010) and Level 2 placement in English and Reading.

Instructor Information

Name: **Kurstin Bush**

Office Email: kurstin.bush@nsc.edu

Office Phone: 615-353-3359

Text me at: 615-544-5157

Zoom Virtual Office: [My Virtual Office](#) (by appointment)

Office Location: Main Campus (White Bridge Road) - D-24

Office Hours: (Best Times to Reach Me)

Day	Times Available
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	

To meet with me -Click link or QR Code to access [Calendly Appointment Schedule](#)



Other Campus Contacts

Main Campus EDUC Coordinator: Kurstin Bush

Phone: 615-353-3359

E-mail: Kurstin.bush@nsc.edu

Southeast Campus EDUC Coordinator: Kurstin Bush

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Phone: 931-472-3453

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Humphreys Co Campus: Director: Telaina Wrigley

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Dickson Campus: Director: Telaina Wrigley

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E-mail: Telaina.Wrigley@nsc.edu

Course Delivery

Hybrid: EDUC 2220-V60 is a **hybrid course** in which regularly scheduled class meetings are required to occur virtually or on campus and at least 50% of the course content and/or assignments are available in the NS Online D2L course. You are expected to meet **twice a week for 2 hours** each time. Some projects are designed to be completed over a series of weeks (See Fieldwork and PBL Project) but have associated deadlines listed in the schedule. Most assignments are due weekly.

Required Textbook(s) & Other Materials

Textbook(s): Special Education in Contemporary Society, 7th Edition Richard Gargiulo and Emily Bouck ©2020

ISBN: 9781544373652 or 9781071813461

Reference Materials: N/A

Supplies: N/A

Once enrolled, all students should verify that they have the correct textbook and materials information by consulting the D2L/NS Online shell for the course. You can look up your courses on the [bookstore's website](#) using your A# or by entering your course information. If you are registered with the Access Center and require an alternate format for the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center at 615-353-3363, or accesscenter@nsc.edu.

Digital Course Materials (DCM)

Once enrolled, all students should verify that they have the correct textbook and materials information by consulting the D2L/NS Online shell for the course. You can look up your courses on the [bookstore's website](#) using your A# or by entering your course information. If you are registered with the Access Center and require an alternate format for

the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center at 615-353-3363, or accesscenter@nsc.edu.

Honors Option

Honors credit is available in some classes. If you are interested in participating in the Honors Program, please contact your instructor **within the first two weeks of class**.

Purpose of the Course

In this course you will learn about the history and structure of Special Education in America, aspects of student diversity and disability, curriculum and classroom management considerations as well as evidence-based recommendations for effective teaching. Each student is expected to actively contribute as individuals using online resources that will include communication, documentation of development, time management, and project management skills.

Structure of the Course

This course is divided into **7 weekly modules**, which correspond to different chapter topics covered in the textbook. In addition to reading the chapter, you should review the other course resources associated with that module for a deeper understanding of key ideas. Each chapter has a reading comprehension quiz and application assignments associated with it. It is possible to work ahead if needed, since all assignments are available as soon as the course opens. However, folders will close to submission after the final deadline occurs (see late policy). **No discussions, quizzes or exams may be turned in late.**

Some projects are designed to be completed over a series of weeks (See Fieldwork and PBL Project) but have associated deadlines listed in the schedule. Most assignments are due weekly.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Recognize the historical and legal foundations of special education and how they have impacted the field. (INTASC 9)
2. Explore the different types of placements and related services for students with exceptionalities and use the characteristics of each to determine the least restrictive environment for each individual. (INTASC 2 & 3)
3. Articulate a general understanding of the assessment process leading to a student's eligibility for special education services. (INTASC 6)
4. Explain the basics of the "Response to Intervention" (RTI2) process the state of Tennessee uses to identify students with learning disabilities in order to secure an appropriate placement in special education. (INTASC 1,2 & 6)
5. Discuss how to work effectively with a multidisciplinary team of educators, various other professionals, and family members to design an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) for students with exceptionalities which includes appropriate documentation, assessment, goals, accommodations, and service delivery. (INTASC 6, 7 & 10)
6. Recognize specific information regarding individual disabilities such as causes, characteristics, and the most current teaching strategies for meeting the needs of these particular categories of exceptional learners. (INTASC 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 8)
7. Discuss and demonstrate basic knowledge and skills in constructing and modifying classroom learning environments by identifying the roles, responsibilities, and best practices for regular education teachers when working with students with exceptionalities. (INTASC 3 & 8)
8. Explore the importance of implementing appropriate behavior management techniques, modifications, and accommodations (including assistive technology) for students with exceptionalities. (INTASC 1, 2, 3 & 8)
9. Recognize the importance of working closely with the families of students with disabilities and explore the importance of advocacy for all students with exceptionalities. (INTASC 9 & 10)

Course Competencies

Tennessee Department of Education, Professional Education Matrix Standards:

The following standards are addressed in this course:

Standard 1: Discipline Taught and Foundations of Special Education

C. Demonstrate an understanding of the implications of disability legislation and special education policies and procedures.

Standard 2: Student Learning and Development

Understand that all individuals have universal and unique patterns of learning and development that vary individually in cognitive, social, and emotional and physical areas...

Recognize that students with disabilities have greater individual variation than students without disabilities...

Use this knowledge to optimize learning opportunities for each student...

2.1 Have knowledge of the characteristics of a wide array of disabilities and the ways that students' abilities and disabilities impact learning and development.

Standard 3: Diverse Learners

Candidates understand how students differ in their approaches to learning and create instructional opportunities that are adapted to diverse learners.

Standard 6: Communication

A. Understand effective verbal and non-verbal and media communication techniques and use them to support all students' learning.

C. Understand how cultural and gender differences can affect communication in the classroom

Standard 9: Reflective Practitioner

Evaluate the effects of their choices and actions on others ...and actively seek out opportunities to grow professionally

Standard 11: Technology

A. Apply computers and related technologies to support instruction in appropriate grade levels and subject areas.

Topics to Be Covered

1. Special Education in Context: People, Concepts and Perspectives
2. Policies, Practices and Programs
3. Culture and Linguistic Diversity and Exceptionality
4. Parents, Families and Exceptionality
5. Assistive Technology
6. Individuals with Intellectual Disability
7. Individuals with Learning Disabilities
8. Individuals with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
9. Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders
10. Individuals with Speech and Language Impairments
11. Individuals with Hearing Impairments
12. Individuals with Visual Impairments
13. Individuals Who Are Gifted and Talented

Course Assessments

For each of the activities listed below, be sure to follow the deadlines provided on the **Course Assignment Schedule**, which is available in the Getting Started Module. Missed activities will result in points being deducted. See additional penalties and policies listed under the Late Work section of this syllabus.

The following performance assessments will be used to demonstrate students' understanding, knowledge, and skills:

Assignment	Points Possible	% of Total
Discussions: (1 Flipgrid Video, 4 written) @ 10 points each	50 points	5%
Fieldwork Interview: 2 @ 50 points each	100 points	10%
Fieldwork Observation & Interview: 3 @ 50 points each	150 points	15%
Fieldwork Time Card	10 points	1%
Chapter Applications: 5 @ 20 points each	100 points	10%
Iris Module Assignments: 4 @ 30 points each	120 points	12%
Project: PBL (Problem Based Learning) Assignment	100 points	10%
Quizzes: 13 @ 15 points each + 1 @ 10 points	205 points	21%
Intervention Notebook Project	100 points	10%
Class Participation	50 points	6%
Total Points	985 points	100%

Note: When taking assessments:

- The **preferred** browsers to use for an assessment or PC and Mac users are Mozilla **Firefox** or Google **Chrome**. Please do not use Internet Explorer.
- Students should seek a computer with a wired connection if available. **If using a wireless connection**, be sure to **be close enough to a wireless router that has a strong signal**.

Letter grades for this course will be assigned based on the following scale.

Grading Scale

Assigned Grade	Percentage Range	Points Needed
A	90-100	886 - 985 Points
B	80-89	788 - 885 Points
C	70-79	689 - 787 Points
D	60-69	591 - 688 Points
F	59 and below	under 591 Points

FA

If you stop attending class or if you are in an online class and stop submitting assignments, but do not turn in a withdrawal form by the deadline, you are still enrolled in class. You will be given a grade of FA, which means you have failed due to not attending class and not completing your assignments. Please refer to the current academic calendar available on the Nashville State web site, looking for the date that indicates it is the "Last Day to Earn F for Attendance (FA)." If you stop attending your course after this date, you will receive an F.

FN

An FN is awarded if you have never attended your course or done any of the work in an online course.

Specific Course Requirements

Field Experiences:

8 Hours (minimum)

The student must have engaged in a minimum of 8 hours of observational field experiences in classrooms to meet this requirement. **Completion of ALL components of the fieldwork is required to pass this course.**

Students will keep a time card for documentation of hours completed. These hours will include:

1. Interview of a parent with a child, who has a disability
2. Interview a teacher of exceptional students
3. Three Classroom Observations and Interviews from Special Education inclusion and resource classrooms
4. Completion of ALL components of the fieldwork is required to pass this course.

Grading Feedback

There are several types of assessments in this course. Be sure to **follow the associated rubrics and directions to maximize points.** (A rubric is a scoring guide for assignments that details criteria for earning points.) **You will receive detailed feedback on your submissions, so look for instructor comments as well as the grade – even if you received full points.**

Grading Policy for Early Childhood and Education Majors

A grade of C or above must be earned in all early childhood education courses prior to graduation. The student majoring in any ECED program must receive a “C” or above in this class in order to meet prerequisite requirements for subsequent classes. EDUC students must have a 2.75 GPA in order to meet AST transfer requirements.

Assignment Format

- All assignments are to be typed (using 10, 11 or 12 pt. font), **double-spaced** with a 1 inch margin unless otherwise instructed.
- Please use **APA style headings** on all assignments.
- Spelling, punctuation, grammar, and comprehensibility will be taken into consideration in grading all assignments.
- Assignments should **reflect college-level work**. Misspelled words, incorrect grammar, and messy assignments will be penalized. Always re-read and proof your work prior to turning it in to the instructor.
- Any assignment turned in that is not typed or is unreadable with numerous grammatical and/or spelling errors may be returned to the student ungraded.
- The student will need to resubmit the assignment, but will receive a reduction in points (see policy for assignments not turned in on the assigned due date).
- See your instructor if you have questions.

Class Participation Grading Policy

EDUC 2120 = 50 points

General Criteria

- Attendance in class
- Camera on (or acceptable explanation for lack of camera + chat/icon use etc. – if meeting virtually)
- Frequent Responses & Sharing Ideas
- Completion of Class Related Activities
- Completion of Surveys: Advising, Study Skills, Feedback Reflections

25 points for attendance (2 points deducted per absence in MW/TR class, 3 points for a M night class)

25 points In Class Participation

5 points for camera on majority of time (*Being seen*)

5 points for frequent class responses (oral, symbols/icons, chat) (*Being heard*)

5 points for completing exit tickets, discussion posts, preparing content questions, etc. (*doing*)

10 points for completing 3 surveys: Advising, Study Skills, Feedback Reflections (*doing*)

Be sure to check your NS Online email regularly for announcements, reminders, and advice. You can also **email** your **instructor** or **classmates through the Classlist** under the Communication tab. Please communicate using **NS Online email** instead of a personal email address.

Optional: you can **set up automatic reminders** from NS Online: click on your name in the upper right corner of the screen, and then click Notifications. You can add your cell phone number and check the boxes for when you want to receive text message notifications through the app "**Brightspace Pulse.**"

Course Policies

Late Work Policy & Make-up Procedures for Missed Assignments and Work:

Points will be deducted for assignments turned in late. Any assignment is late if not turned in by the due date and time in D2L and listed on the course assignment schedule. All assignments must be submitted to the D2L drop box.

- Ten percent (**10% of the total points** for the assignment) will be **deducted** for an assignment not turned in on the due date but submitted **within 7 days**.
- An **additional 10%** will be deducted for the **second week** the assignment is late.
- No assignments will be accepted more than two weeks late without instructor approval, and no assignments will be accepted beyond the last class meeting.
- Discussions Quizzes and Exams **CANNOT** be taken late.

College Attendance Policy

The College is not an attendance taking institution as defined by 34 CFR 668.22(b)(1) in the Code of Federal Regulations; however, students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and laboratories.

- Absences in a course may affect your final grade.
- Tardiness may also affect your final grade.
- You are responsible for all work/tests that occur during any missed class session(s) regardless of reason(s) for absence.
- If you are not well enough to attend a course session (class), you must notify the instructor as soon as possible before the scheduled class time
 - *If you are unable to notify an instructor before the scheduled course time, you must contact the instructor as soon as reasonably possible.*
- *If you have an unavoidable conflict with a scheduled course session, you must notify the instructor before the course session.*
 - *If you are unable to notify an instructor before the scheduled course time, you must contact the instructor as soon as reasonably possible.*

For purposes of financial aid continued attendance is determined via engagement in the course. This can be accomplished in several ways including, but not limited to, continued attendance and/or participation in on-ground class sessions, participating in D2L as prompted (e.g., responding to an instructor's email, posting to a discussion board), and/or completing and submitting assignments.)

To the extent that attendance is kept in this class it is not for the purpose of the College but is instead associated with the instructor's individual grading rubric. The attendance policy for this class is:

Class Attendance Policy

1. Each student is expected to be on time, attend all scheduled classes, and stay for the entire class session.
2. Cameras are expected to be ON during VIRTUAL Classes for attendance purposes.
3. An absence is defined as non-attendance for any reason, including illness or emergency.
4. Absences Allowed:

Fall & Spring Semester- 7 week course: **No more than 1 absence**

Tardies: Coming to class late (after the instructor has taken attendance) and/or leaving early (before the instructor dismisses the class) counts as a tardy. Three (3) tardies count as one (1) absence. Any student arriving more than 30 minutes after class has started or leaving more than 30 minutes before class is dismissed may be considered as absent for the entire class.

5. Any student who is absent is responsible for the content of the class missed and any assignments given. The student is encouraged to get notes and information missed from another student in the class or contact the instructor.
6. In-class assignments and quizzes cannot be made up.
7. The instructor's grade book serves as the official record for grades and attendance.

Virtual / Zoom Expectations

This class is meeting "Virtually" via ZOOM. While the course is available online, it is NOT considered an "online" course, but rather a virtual course. **Attendance and participation in this course are thus similar to onground classes.** In order to participate fully, you must connect with a device that has a microphone and a camera. **You must be seen and heard in class to receive full attendance and participation credit.** In order to preserve some privacy, while attending class, consider using a virtual background available through the ZOOM app.

While using ZOOM remember to do the following:

- turn your **microphone on mute** unless you are speaking
- Keep your **camera on** (you may be kicked out of class if camera view is not in use)
- **use the chat and emoticon features** to participate as well
- **dress** for class and **sit in an appropriate location** to participate fully
- use a **virtual background or blur** your background for privacy if needed
- **communicate** with the instructor **any technology** or personal **issues** that affect you during class time

Time Management/Expectations

This Hybrid course may **require approximately 9-12 hours a week** to complete all necessary assignments. Just like in face-to-face courses, students may be expected to **expect 2-4 hours of homework per credit hour** on average in a college course. Associated weekly readings and assignments will also be expected to be completed quickly so plan accordingly. **Pro Tip:** *Treat this course like a part-time job and set aside several hours a week to dedicate to completing your projects and weekly assignments. Some weeks may be lighter than others, but the work ethic you represent will affect your ability to meet the course learning objectives and successfully pass this course.*

Student Responsibilities

My goal is for you to excel in this class and to develop the skills necessary to succeed in your chosen career. However, you have the major responsibility for doing well. Achievement of course objectives will require you to know what you

need to do to improve your performance and actually do it. You are expected to research all materials and software needed to complete your projects, apply the feedback returned to you, and document your process throughout. You cannot meet the objectives of this course by being a passive learner. As the semester progresses, you should be able to implement several ideas to improve your performance. In addition, you are expected to ask questions to clarify expectations, evaluations, or other aspects of the course not clear to you. Nashville State provides many student resources for academic and personal support; see the “Nashville State Community College Resources” section of this syllabus for more information.

D2L/NS Online and myNSCC

It is students’ responsibility to check D2L/NS Online course shells for all enrolled courses and myNSCC, including student email, on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students, who are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L/NS Online contains specific course information and myNSCC contains information important for other purposes. To register or access Nashville State online courses, go to [NS Online](#). NSCC web courses have a “W” section number. Any course ending with section number R50 is a TN eCampus course.

Contact Preferences

Email is my preferred, primary mode of contact. I will use the **internal email** provided **through our D2L course** to contact you. By using the course email, we will have a complete record of our correspondence over the semester. If you have advising questions or need to ask general questions, you can **also email me** at my office email address (kurstin.bush@nsc.edu)

Email messages should have a subject heading in addition to the subject provided by D2L. Reply times may vary from 24-48 hours but I may answer you sooner if I am available.

If you have an urgent question, you may also text me at (615) 544-5157. If I am available, I will try to reply to you asap, however, texts sent outside of my regular working hours may be responded to when I am next “at work.” Of course, we can also schedule a meeting to discuss any issues or questions by phone, in person or via *zoom as well*.

Instructor Presence/ Communication Plan

My primary method for interacting with you is through our class email. I will provide detailed commentary on your assignments in addition to using a scoring rubric. Even if you receive all of the points possible on an assignment, *there may be comments that speak to areas not covered within the scoring guidelines*. Once the deadline has passed, I will begin grading that week’s assignment and should have them graded within 7 days of submission.

Minimum Technology Requirements

Students taking courses that utilize online learning will be required to access a reliable computer and high-speed internet. You should have or will acquire the following technology skills throughout this course:

1. Downloading and installing software applications.
2. Using Microsoft Office 365 (or similar alternative software) to draft and save in multiple file formats.
3. Copying and pasting between documents and D2L. To **select all** press and hold *Ctrl* (the control key) on the keyboard and then press the *A* on the keyboard. To **copy**, press and hold *Ctrl* and then press the *C* on the keyboard. To **paste**, press and hold down *Ctrl* and then press *V*.
4. Communicate effectively using a webcam and microphone in synchronous interactions using supported video conferencing tools (Zoom or Microsoft Teams) to participate in video conferencing sessions, view recordings, or create recordings (if applicable).
5. Using D2L to upload files, post to discussion boards, complete tests, and submit files and assignment entries (where applicable).
6. Using NSCC email accounts to communicate with your instructors.

You should also have access to the following software and hardware:

- Computer or Laptop; Chromebooks or mobile devices may not be sufficient.
- High-Speed Internet
- **Internet Browsers:** [Google Chrome](#) and [Firefox](#) are the recommended browsers to use with NS Online D2L.
- [Install Office 365](#) (free)
- **Mandatory Accessory:** Webcam (built-in or external),
- Recommended Accessory: Noise-cancelling headphones/microphone (external, not one built into your computer)
- Student Wi-Fi Zones
 - [White Bridge Campus](#)
 - [Southeast Campus](#)
 - [Clarksville Campus](#)
 - [Humphreys County Campus](#)

Student Netiquette

I expect you, and your peers, to act as professionals throughout the entirety of the course. This includes posting weekly contributions for team communications, discussion contributions, appropriate planning methods among group members, consistent documented progress, and meeting of all established milestones and deadlines. In this course, you are expected to comply with the [NSCC Standards for Netiquette](#), which emphasizes respect, dignity, and integrity.

Classroom Misconduct

Disruptive conduct is not allowed in the classroom. Disruptive conduct is any behavior that prevents students from learning and interferes with the ability of the instructor to teach. This may change from course to course; therefore, your individual instructors will give you guidance on what qualifies as “disruptive conduct” in their courses. Please review the [Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy](#). Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or to be left unattended on campus.

Academic Misconduct

You have started this academic journey to prepare for a future career. Because of this, it is important that you learn the materials being presented in your courses. For this reason, cheating, in any form, robs you of your opportunity to learn and master the material that will enable you to succeed in that future career. Nashville State has a clear [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) that you are expected to follow. In addition, your instructors will clarify what Academic Misconduct looks like and the consequences for violations in each course that you take. The instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “zero” for such violations or for the term grade.

- **“Use of generative AI, such as ChatGPT, iA Writer, MidJourney, DALL-E, etc., is explicitly prohibited unless otherwise noted by the instructor.** It is imperative that all work submitted should be your own. Any assignment that is found to have been plagiarized or to have used unauthorized AI tools may receive a zero and/or be reported for academic misconduct.”

NSCC College Resources

You do not have to tackle the challenges of higher education alone! There are many resources available to Nashville State’s online students, from tutoring to counseling to address academic honesty. You are encouraged to utilize the available student and academic support services throughout the semester as needed. This information will also help students access D2L support and technology resources including minimal expectations of learner technology skills,

links to software applications, and technology requirements for D2L compatibility and services offered to students at Nashville State.

Technology Statement

- All classes at the College are web enhanced. “Web enhanced” means that components of the course, such as assignments and online discussions, may be located online in the class D2L/NS Online course shell and used in the course, even if the course meets in a classroom on ground.
- You must have access to a computer and an internet connection to complete assignments, engage in online discussions, and access various course materials through D2L/NS Online course shells.
- You may also be required to use free video conferencing platforms (examples: Zoom, Teams, etc.) for course sessions and meetings.
- You will be responsible for appropriate dress while on video. This means that you are expected to dress as if you were in a classroom.
- You will be responsible for a distraction free environment while on video. This means that the professor and others in the course should not be able to hear noise in your home, such as cell phones, TVs, or barking dogs. The best way to do this is to keep yourself on “mute” until you need to speak.
- You will be responsible for making sure your background is neutral. Keep in mind that students and professors come from all around the world, and you are all a part of our community. Therefore, please avoid having images in your background that may be offensive to your classmates.
- Certain publisher materials, such as textbook figures, may not work on cellphones and may require a laptop or a tablet.
- If you have questions or concerns regarding access to a computer or internet resources, please contact your instructor. Additional information is available on the [access to internet and technology website](#).

Computer Labs

Computers are available for student use at each campus during campus open hours. Open computer lab availability may vary from campus to campus.

Students should check **NSCC website** for current hours of operation.

ADA Compliance Statement

If you need accommodations due to a disability, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Access Center. Disabilities for which you can receive accommodations include documented physical, emotional, and/or learning conditions. Nashville State is committed to supporting your success, and we encourage you to get assistance if needed. If you require accommodations for any courses in which you are enrolled, contact the Access Center at 615-353-3363, or e-mail accesscenter@nsc.edu.

Equity Statement

Nashville State Community College strives to ensure that each student receives what that student needs to be successful, with goals of success beyond the classroom. We understand and practice ideals of equity and inclusion for our students by embracing a full spectrum of experiences, viewpoints, and intellectual approaches in order to overcome barriers to success.

Academic Early Alert System

If you are not doing well in your course, your instructor may send you an Early Alert through your @my.nsc.edu email. This email will go to your academic advisor and Student Success advisor, as well. If you get an Early Alert, contact your instructor immediately. Instructors send these when they want to help you figure out how to get extra support to pass the course. An Early Alert does not mean that you have already failed the course. Rather, it means

you are in danger of failing the course if you do not change your learning strategy. Please use an Early Alert to your advantage and as an opportunity to improve your grade.

Student Wellness

Your well-being is important to us. With this in mind, the college has several resources available to provide support when needed:

- [Free tutoring](#) can assist you beyond the classroom to help you make the most of your college education.
- [These resources](#) include NSCC email, scheduling, online courses, textbooks, tech check out and support, computer labs on campuses, academic advising, financial advising, COVID-19 information and procedures on campuses.
- [Services](#) that help with bus passes, food, childcare, textbooks, housing, financial counseling, personal counseling, suicide prevention, health insurance.

RAVE Emergency Alert System

You can log in to this free alert system to receive text messages about emergencies related to NSCC campuses through the [RAVE app \(https://www.getrave.com/login/nscc\)](https://www.getrave.com/login/nscc). The instructions for this are listed below.

- Your RAVE Username is your NSCC email address.
- If you've never received an email from RAVE with your password, or if you need to reset your password, select "Forgot your password?" and a new password will be emailed to you.
- Should the RAVE system indicate "user not found", select Register and create your own RAVE account.

Inclement Weather & Campus Closings

You get notices about campus closings in these places: text messages from RAVE and [the Nashville State website](#). Even when campuses are closed, you are still responsible for completing all assigned work. Check D2L/NS Online for a message from your instructor so you do not miss important assignments and due dates, which may change due to the campus closure.

Class Cancellation Policy

Our instructors post messages about cancelling classes in the [D2L/NS Online](#) course shells and/or on the classroom door on campus. These messages can be found in the News and Content section or the Email tab in the online shell. Please check these to be sure that you take advantage of opportunities for learning and points toward your grade.

NSCC Support Services

Listed below are Nashville State support service and policies. These support services are listed for your benefit should you feel the need to use them. These services or policies may change or be updated periodically. The instructor reserves the right to change or adapt materials within the course as needed.

John E. Mayfield Library

- [Mayfield Library](#)
- [Library Services](#)

What if I am struggling with attending college?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The college has resources to help you with:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transportation, Childcare, Food, Mental Health, Textbooks as well as Tutoring for class subjects <p>see full resources below</p>

Student Support Services

[Student Support Services](#) include resources you may need through the NSCC Foundation and include Campus Cupboard, Child Care Assistance, Textbook Assistance, Transportation Assistance, Community Support Services by County, Mental Health Resources, Health Insurance, Financial Empowerment Center, Support from Monroe Harding, and Homeless Student Liaison.

At the [Student Success Center](#), we'll connect you to resources and opportunities to maximize your success at Nashville State. At the center you will find our Student Success Advisors, Financial Empowerment Counselors, and Student Resource Managers.

Financial Aid and Attendance

The College is not an attendance taking institution as defined by [34 CFR 668.22\(b\)\(1\)](#) in the Code of Federal Regulations; however, students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and laboratories.

- Absences in a course may affect a student's final grade.
- Tardiness may also affect a student's final grade.
- Students are responsible for all work/tests that occur during any missed class session(s) regardless of reason(s) for absence.
- Students who are sick or not well enough to attend class must notify the instructor as soon as possible before the scheduled class time, unless incapacitated or unable to do so. In that case, students must contact the instructor as soon as reasonably possible.
- If a student has an unavoidable conflict with a scheduled class session, students must notify the instructor, preferably before the class session, or as soon as possible.

For purposes of financial aid continued attendance is determined via engagement in the course. This can be accomplished in several ways including, but not limited to, continued attendance and/or participation in on-ground class sessions, participating in D2L as prompted (e.g., responding to an instructor's email, posting to a discussion board), and/or completing and submitting assignments.

ON-CAMPUS RESOURCES

Find what you need on-campus with these [Nashville State resources](#) for students and faculty. Search for jobs at the Career Services Office, find that umbrella at the NSCC Lost and Found or buy textbooks at the bookstore.