



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

We are Racers.



Special Edition

Mid-semester Milestone: Midterm Grades

Midterm grades are due on October 16, 2024.

What are midterm grades?

A midterm grade provides a snapshot of a student's academic performance in a course at that point in time. It does not reflect the final grade and is not part of the student's permanent record. However, midterm grades serve as valuable feedback for students. Student should be reminded that it's important not to become overconfident, as in some courses, a significant portion of the final grade may depend on the final exam or project.

What kind of feedback do midterm grades provide?

- **A, B** These are good grades and students should feel good about their progress but should not let down on their good study habits to help them get through the last half of the semester. A student should:
 - Continue to use University resources.
 - Build habits that lead to success.
 - Keep focus on their goals.
 - Review the course syllabus to find out how the final grade is calculated and what projects are due or exams will be administered in the coming weeks.
- **C** This grade is a concern and students should closely monitor their grades. Students should:
 - Use University resources such as [tutoring](#) or the [writing center](#).
 - Focus on building habits that lead to success.
 - Talk with the instructor of the course to discuss ways to improve the grade.
 - Review the course syllabus to find out how the final grade is calculated and what projects are due or exams will be administered in the coming weeks.
- **D, E** (E=failing) - This is a major concern. A student should:
 - Use University resources such as [tutoring](#) or the [writing center](#).
 - Focus on building habits that lead to success. A good resource for study skills and time management can be found [here](#) (courtesy of UCF).
 - Review the course syllabus to find out how the final grade is calculated and what projects are due or exams will be administered in the coming weeks.
 - Talk with the instructor of the course to discuss ways to raise the grade. If they can't, then they should talk with their academic advisor and know the W-drop [deadlines](#) as well as implications for dropping a course.

If your student is in their first year, they might be surprised to see a noticeable difference in their grades compared to high school. Many first-year students are shocked to find their grades lower than expected. This is an important time for them to start taking advantage of the resources available to them. Asking for help early and often is the right thing to do.

How can I talk to my student about their midterm grades?

Midterm is a great time to have a conversation with your student. Before asking your students about their grades, consider asking some of these questions while [actively listening](#).

- What have you discovered about yourself as a learner?
- What strategies and habits are working well for you?
- What areas could you improve in?
- What new habits do you need to adopt to achieve your goals?
- What obstacles are standing in your way?
- What university resources have you used this semester?
- Are you attending classes regularly and actively participating?

How can I see my student's midterm grades?

Students' grades are protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). We encourage students to talk with their parents/family members about their grades and their academic progress. To learn more about FERPA, [watch this video](#).

What resources are there to support my student?

There are caring faculty and staff eager to support your student. A student must take ownership and ask for assistance as well as respond to outreach from staff.

- Faculty – encourage students to go to office hours frequently
- Course syllabus
- [Tutoring](#)
- [Academic Advising](#)
- [Registration Information](#)
- [Important Academic Deadlines](#)
- [Mental Health and Well-being Resources](#)
- [Glossary of Terms](#)
- [Student Support Offices through Student Affairs](#)
- [Student Engagement and Success](#)

Each of these relationships is two-way; students must actively participate, clearly communicate their questions and needs, and take responsibility for their experience at Murray State University.



The following email was sent to students on October 14 to encourage them to check their midterm grades and take steps to celebrate successes and/or improve grades of concern.

SUBJECT: Stay on the Winning Race Track: Check Your Midterm Grades!

It's Mid Semester... Time to check midterm grades, adjust study habits to finish strong in December and prepare for spring course registration, or for some, graduation!

Mid-Semester Grades Will be Posted for many courses by October 16, 2024

To **VIEW YOUR GRADES**, check the Academics Tab, Student Grades section in [myGate](#) **OR** the Courses Tab in your [Starfish Student Success Network](#) account (accessed via myGate or Canvas). It's important to look at these grades and then make an adjustment if necessary. If a grade is not posted on myGate, check [Canvas](#) and/or email your instructor. If you have a concern about a grade, find out what you need to do to improve the grade. Ignoring it won't make the grade improve.

Second-Half and Last 5-Week Semester Courses May be an Option

There are several options for adding courses to maintain your academic progress, including those that fulfill University Studies requirements, some major or minor requirements, or simply hours to degree. Second-half semester courses start today (October 14) and the last day to add one is October 16. Also, there are 5 week course options that start on October 29, 2024. If you wish to consider adding a course, meet with your academic advisor today. Use myGate (Registration Tools channel, Schedule of Classes link) to search for course offerings.

Racer Support

Free Tutoring: In-person and Zoom! Check it out at murraystate.edu/tutoring

Learn about [Mental and Emotional Well-being resources](#) available for you.

Learn about [Student Support Resources](#) available for you.

Connect with your academic advisor. Learn more at murraystate.edu/advising

The **Ready, Set, Register Fair** will take place on Wednesday, October 23 from 2-4 pm in the Lowry Center (1st and 2nd floors). You can meet with financial, registration, academic units, and advising staff to resolve holds, ask questions, and get ready to register.

Spring 2025 Advanced scheduling (registration) opens November 1 and the week of November 4

Winter Term Advanced scheduling (registration) opens October 28 at 8 am

Course Withdrawal Deadlines to Note for Fall 2024^{1,2}

Please meet with your academic advisor and the [Office of Financial Aid](#) (msu.sfa@murraystate.edu) before you drop a course.

November 21: Last day to drop (W grade assigned) full semester classes

November 29: Last day to drop (W grade assigned) second-half semester classes

¹Students who are classified as athletes, international, and/or military connected are strongly encouraged to meet with staff in those offices **before** dropping a course. Unique enrollment requirements apply for these groups of students.

See all deadlines at murraystate.edu/deadlines

Caring staff in [Student Engagement and Success](#) are here for you and to help. Please don't hesitate to contact us at msu.success@murraystate.edu. Along with your advisor and instructors, we want to see you succeed and be fully engaged in your learning experience. Thank you for the privilege of your time.

Sincerely,

Peggy Whaley, Director

Center for Student Engagement and Success

Division of Student Affairs

*Students who wish to drop all classes (drop deadlines apply) must withdraw from the semester. Submit a withdrawal request through myGate > Academics tab, > Registration Tools channel, > Withdraw from All Classes for a Semester link. Contact the Registration office, msu.registration@murraystate.edu or 270.809.5630 for additional information.

Racers! 

READY, SET REGISTER!

Prepare for Advanced Scheduling
and Clear Your Registration Holds

WEDNESDAY

23 OCTOBER, 2024



OPEN AT

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM



LOWRY CENTER

1ST AND 2ND FLOORS



For More Information, Email
msu.success@murraystate.edu



**MURRAY STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Student Engagement and Success

JOIN US!



Reminder about Changes to Health Services

[Campus Health Services](#) is now operated by Murray-Calloway County Hospital (MCCH)/Murray

Medical Associates (MMA).

[Campus Health Services](#) serves as a satellite location for MCCH/MMA and is located on the 1st floor of Wells Hall (on the Quad side). There are designated parking spaces located directly south of the Nash House, on 16th Street, for individuals visiting Campus Health Services. [Campus Map](#).

The hours are 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. for lunch) for the fall and spring semesters.

Campus Health Services is available to students, faculty, staff and the campus community.

Allergy shots: Please call MMA at 270.753.0704 to schedule your allergy shot, unless you have arranged to continue to receive your allergy shot from Village Medical (former provider for health services on campus).

Students who are current patients with Village Medical through Campus Health Services may continue their patient experience with Village Medical at 1000 South 12th Street or submit a record request for their records to be transferred to MCCH/MMA to continue to be seen through Health Services. For more information about transferring your medical records, you may learn more [here](#).

Please contact the Office of Student Affairs at 270.809.6831 if you have any questions.

Caring About Racers Everyday (CARE) Box



The We CARE (Caring About Racers Everyday) Box initiative allows family members or friends an opportunity to send a We CARE Box and supportive note to a student. We CARE Boxes are provided free of charge to students by the Center for Student Engagement and Success.

---> Request Form <---

Submission Deadline:

Requests will be processed weekly on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am (CST). Requests received after this time will be processed the following week.

Parent/Family Member Referral

If you are concerned for your student, please consider submitting a [Parent/Family Member Referral](#). Staff from [Student Engagement and Success](#) will outreach to your student based on the information you provide in the referral form.





FIRST-GEN CELEBRATION



FACES OF FIRST-GEN
FELLOWSHIP | REFRESHMENTS

NOVEMBER 6, 2024
3:30-4:30 pm

First-Gen Thrive Lounge | Lowry | 2nd Floor

All are welcome! Email msu.success@murraystate.edu with questions.



MURRAY STATE
UNIVERSITY

Student Engagement and Success



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Your full address comes here, City, Country

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Division of Student Affairs at Murray State University 425 Wells Hall | Murray, KY 42071 US

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