

Academic Success for Nontraditional Students

Many nontraditional students are attending college after years of being away from formal learning, and some do not know of the resources that are available to them. A commitment to learning and knowing tools that are afforded to undergraduates may assist them in their academic success.

Concerns

Many nontraditional students who are attending college for the first time have fears, doubts, and misconceptions about their pursuit of a degree. They may lack the support system of many traditionally aged college students, the resources that they need, or the amount of time that is needed to academically succeed.

Nontraditional students may face the following issues when attending a college:

- Lack of understanding of how a college works.
- Little knowledge of how to maneuver through everyday tasks such as utilizing online learning.
- Have been away from education for an extended period of time and may lack study or writing skills.
- Have families and dependents that make attending college challenging.

These issues can contribute to lower retention rates, periods of transition that are stressful, and can result in poor academic performance. Gustavus Adolphus College has resources to help with transitioning back into academics and to assist with basic skill sets.

Resources

Gustavus Adolphus College has resources for students to help shape academic success. Trained staff or tutors can guide students through the process of writing an effective paper, preparing for an important exam, or completing a challenging assignment.

By visiting the CARE office, students can work with a staff member to best meet their academic needs.

Visit the Academic Advising Center website for tips and links on an array of subjects such as time management, note taking, study habits, and more.

A full list of tutors and writing center hours are available here: <https://gustavus.edu/advising/tutors.php>.