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Veterans Upward Bound Newsletters

Spring 1-1-2022

2022 Spring - Veterans Upward Bound Newsletter

Veterans Upward Bound, East Tennessee State University

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Recommended Citation

Veterans Upward Bound, East Tennessee State University, "2022 Spring - Veterans Upward Bound Newsletter" (2022). *Veterans Upward Bound Newsletters*. 16.

<https://dc.etsu.edu/vub-newsletters/16>

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Veterans Upward Bound

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VUB Spring Semester Information and Instructions

Page three of the newsletter contains the Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) 2022 Spring Semester schedule of classes. Some of our pre-college classes are taught online using Comfit[®] and Zoom but they still contain all the pre-college class opportunities for most veterans to prepare for entrance into and success in a post-secondary program.

We will continue to offer Math and English

tutoring for those who need to brush up on their basic skills.

We also provide tutoring using Comfit[®] online tutoring system for those who need additional preparation before taking the college assessment and placement exam.

Our Zoom[®] tutoring sessions in Math, English, and Computer Skills are taught by Dr. Marian Young. They are offered on Tuesday and Thursday nights

6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Computer Skills class and other pre-college classes meet once a week for the ten-week semester.

Check out the schedule on page three and contact any VUB staff member if you have questions or to register for classes/tutoring.

If you are already enrolled in college, keep us informed of your progress. Call if you need help, and let us know if you change your address or phone number.

NAVUB & TASP Scholarship Winner



The Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) staff would like to congratulate Ms. Helena Ritz for being selected as a winner of a National Association of Veterans Upward Bound (NAVUB) scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Helena also won a scholarship from TN TRIO (TASP), in the amount of \$400. She is working toward a bachelor's degree in social work and hopes to help veterans as a Social Worker.

Helena is a disabled Navy veteran. She joined the Navy March 20, 1980,

at Lakewood, California, and entered boot camp in Orlando, Florida. Her first duty station was Fighter Squadron 43 out of Oceana, Virginia where she worked on the flight line as an A-4F plane captain. Over the next few years, she was stationed with the Air Test and Evaluation Squadron out of Point Mugu, California where she worked testing aircraft's abilities. She left active service on October 30, 1993.

A few years ago, Helena began thinking about starting another career and she wanted it to be one which she could be passionate about and not just a job. To start this new career, she knew she would need to return to school and reached out to VUB where she was guided through the process of applying for Federal Financial Aid, Veterans Benefits, and enrolling in ETSU. She also participated in academic tutoring to be prepared to begin classes in spring 2020.

Helena is doing well and has been on ETSU's Dean's List several times over the last few semesters. The VUB staff wishes Helena all the best in her college career.

2020-2021 Polly Archer Award Winner



(L-R) Greg Stout, Andrew Wilson

Congratulations to Mr. Andrew Wilson for being selected as a recipient of the 2020-2021 VUB Polly Archer Award. This award was named in honor of Mrs. Polly Archer, retired, long-time ETSU Veterans Affairs representative, and was established in 1996 to recognize the most outstanding VUB college student with the best academic year performance.

Drew's 2020-21 academic year included completing two ETSU undergraduate semesters with a total of 24 credit hours, being selected for the Dean's List both semesters, and completing that course work with a 4.0 GPA in B.B.A. in Finance at ETSU. He plans on pur-

su-ing a Master's in Finance concentrated in Investments from Southern New Hampshire University once he completes his bachelor's.

Andrew served in the Marine Corps from 2013 to 2018, with most of my time spent stationed at Camp Lejeune with the 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion.

Andrew contacted VUB for assistance in applying to ETSU and Andrew completed all the requirements for acceptance to his program of study. Along with his studies, he is currently working as the Associate Director for a Christian ministry organization called "Bible Study Two" in Kingsport that caters to the ministry and mentoring of middle and high school-age boys.

Andrew has displayed the highest standard of conduct while participating in VUB and in his ETSU finance classes. We salute you Andrew for being among Veterans Upward Bound's best of the best!

VUB's Spring 2022 Postsecondary Enrollment

<u>East Tennessee State University</u>		<u>Northeast State Community College</u>	
Charles Cummings	Army	James Camron	Army
Jeremiah Flake	Navy	John Driskell	Air Force
Anthony Friday	Air Force	Michael Graham	Marine Corps
Lee Lanthorn	Air Force	Austin Pamplin	Air Force
Tanner O'Laughlin	Air Force	Tristan Whitehead	Air Force
Anthony Rainbolt	Navy	<u>Tennessee College of Applied Technology</u> <u>Elizabethton</u>	
Kenton Rowe	ARNG TN	Megan Seppala	Air Force
Peyton Sexton	Army	<p>Congratulations to these fine veterans who have prepared well and have taken the wise step forward and upward by entering a postsecondary program. We thank you for your service and the sacrifices you have made and will continue to make.</p>	
Scott Scharper	Marine Corps		
<u>Baker's School of Aeronautics</u>			
Jacob Peters	Navy		
<u>West Virginia University</u>			
David Martin	ARNG WV		

VUB's Summer/Fall 2021 Postsecondary Graduates

<u>East Tennessee State University Baccalaureate Degree</u>	<u>Northeast State Community College</u> <u>Certificate and Associate Degree</u>
David Leonard Cipriana Simerly	Daniel Tucker A.A.S. in Computer Information

The staff of Veterans Upward Bound would like to congratulate all our veterans on the completion of their degrees. It has been a long haul, but we are sure you will agree that it is all worth it.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY VETERANS UPWARD BOUND
VUB 2022 SPRING SEMESTER: JANUARY 24 - APRIL 1
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES/TUTORING (ETSU Main Campus)

***Our Online ComFit Tutorial Software is available anytime, anywhere!**

ComFit provides online tutorials for students to refresh math, reading, and writing. The program focus is primarily on three core subjects that contribute to academic success: language fluency/writing, reading comprehension, and math.

Contact the VUB office for access. 423-439-2281 | 423-439-8653

CLASSES

COMPUTER SKILLS

Consists of Windows 2010, MS Word, Internet & E-mail
 Monday/Wednesday ~ 9:00-10:30 / 2:30-4:00

INTRO TO THE ACTIVE PRACTICE OF STATISTICS

Tuesday ~ 1:30-3:30

LITERATURE/STUDY SKILLS ~ TBD

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Thursday ~ 9:00-12:00

SCIENCE *Includes physics, chemistry, earth science*
 Wednesday ~ 1:30-3:30

TUTORING

MATHEMATICS THRU PRECALCULUS

ENGLISH

COMPUTER SKILLS

Monday through Friday ~ Flexible Time

Call the VUB office to arrange date & time.

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS *(Dates/times may be adjusted to meet student needs)*

ETSU KINGSPORT-ALLANDALE

COMPUTER SKILLS I

Tuesday ~ 9:00 - 10:30

COMPUTER SKILLS II

Tuesday ~ 10:30 - 12:00

ENGLISH/MATH TUTORING

Tuesday ~ TBD

BRISTOL PUBLIC LIBRARY

COMPUTER SKILLS/ENGLISH/MATH

Tuesday ~ TBD

ETSU NAVE CENTER ELIZABETHTON

COMPUTER SKILLS

ENGLISH

MATH

Monday/Wednesday ~ 5:30 - 9:30

**JOHNSON COUNTY EXTENDED
SERVICE CENTER**

COMPUTER SKILLS

ENGLISH/MATH

Wednesday ~ 4:30 - 7:30

Consult a VUB staff member at (423) 439-2281 to register for classes/tutoring or if you have any questions.

DATES TO REMEMBER

VUB Spring 2022 Semester ~ January 24 – April 1

Good Friday ~ April 15 (Offices Closed)

VUB Summer 2022 Semester ~ May 2– July 1

Financial Literacy Information

The lack of financial literacy among veterans in America is one of many reasons for homelessness in the veterans population. The following article can be found at <https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/financial-literacy/VA-overpayment.pdf#>. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

A VA overpayment is when a Veteran receives more VA benefits than he or she is entitled to and therefore must pay that extra money back to the Department of Veteran Affairs. Often this may happen if a Veteran is delayed in submitting paperwork or forgets to update records. When discovered, those funds are owed to VA, and may result in a deduction of your future monthly benefit amount until the debt is repaid.

It is important to keep an accurate and timely record of any change that could impact your benefits. Make any necessary changes through <https://www.va.gov/> or by calling 1-800-827-1000 immediately before an overpayment occurs.

Some common overpayment situations are:

- A Veteran in the Reserves may be called up for active duty and still be receiving VA benefits
- A Veteran receiving education benefits does not complete the course requirements
- A Veteran has a change in marital status and does not notify VA
- A Veteran does not report that a school-age child has married
- He or she experiences the death of a dependent and does not notify VA
- A Veteran receives care at a VA medical facility and does not pay a required co-pay
- A Veteran or beneficiary is incarcerated but still receives benefits during the period of incarceration
- A Veteran or beneficiary receiving an income-based pension doesn't report a change in income

The Vocational Rehabilitation program purchased a service or tools for a Veteran, who then leaves the program without a valid reason

How do I get my overpayments waived or cancelled?

If you believe you have received an overpayment notice in error, then you may request a waiver to terminate collection action on a debt. If a waiver is granted in full or part, you will not be required to pay the amount that was waived.

Work with an accredited Veterans Service Organization representative to assist with the waiver process, or contact VA's Debt Management Center for additional information. Visit <https://www.va.gov/debtman/index.asp> or call 1-800-827-0648.

Note:

If you send your request for waiver within 30 days of the overpayment notice, then you will continue to receive your full VA benefits until a decision regarding your request for waiver is provided. For more information about the waiver process, visit https://www.va.gov/debtman/Submit_A_Waiver_Request.asp

Veterans Upward Bound is a unique program designed to assist eligible veterans to prepare for entering and succeeding in a program of postsecondary education. VUB has operated successfully at ETSU since 1980 helping hundreds of veterans achieve their educational goals. Through academic counseling, advising, encouraging, motivating, providing basic skill and short-term remedial and refresher courses, assisting veterans in securing support services from other locally available resources such as the Veterans Administration, state veterans agencies, veteran associations, and other state and local agencies that serve veterans, VUB has been an important program in the lives of many veterans.

Take advantage of the many benefits VUB has to offer.

Check us out on the web! www.etsu.edu/vub

