



# Veterans Upward Bound

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## VUB Fall Semester Information and Instructions

Page three of the newsletter contains the VUB 2020 Fall Semester schedule of classes. As part of the national response to the coronavirus outbreak, most ETSU employees are now working from home, but we're still ready to serve you. All of our pre-college classes are now taught online using Comfit©, Khan Academy©, or our YouTube© channel but they still contain all the pre-college class opportunities for most veterans to prepare for entrance into

and success in a postsecondary 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.

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

We recommend participants register for at least two courses to receive the full benefit of instruction and be better prepared when you enter a postsecondary program.

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

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.

## TASP Scholarship Winner



(L-R) John P. Townsend, Greg Stout

Congratulations to John P. Townsend, Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) participant, and ETSU sophomore, for winning the 2020 Tennessee Association of Special Programs (TN TRIO) Scholarship in the amount of \$400. With this win, John has won all the scholarships offered by VUB at the state, regional, and national levels.

John entered the Navy in 1991, where he honorably served, progressed in rank, and received several military awards including the National Defense Service Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with the Bronze Star, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon. He was honorably discharged on May 3, 1995.

John heard about VUB from the Disabled American Veterans Program

and joined in April 2017, for assistance in preparing for and applying to college. He was administered academic assessments, tutoring, financial aid information, and college entrance assistance. He was very receptive to the information and followed through with all the requirements and suggestions provided.

John quickly became college-ready and entered ETSU in spring 2018. He is working on a BS in Geosciences with an emphasis in Paleontology and hopes to start a Master of Science in Geosciences in the future if he can find the financial support. He is balancing taking care of his father and keeping his small business running, which has made it difficult for him to continue his education.

John began college with determination, a positive attitude, and success. The VUB staff agree that he is one of the most capable, intelligent, determined, and cooperative participants within VUB. We have been impressed by his professional demeanor, positive attitude, motivation to be successful, and maintaining a high GPA. Additionally, he has been active in school and community services, such as volunteering for ETSU's Geology Department Outreach Programs and assisting geology professors who are helping graduate students with their projects. John is an energetic, enthusiastic, and goal-oriented individual who is an inspiration. John is commended for his contributions to VUB and for winning the TN TRIO Scholarship.

## 2018-2019 Polly Archer Award Winner



Congratulations to Sharon Smith for being selected as the 2018 – 2019 Academic Year Winner of the ETSU VUB Polly Archer Award. This award is presented to an outstanding college veteran who has demonstrated a high proficiency in his or her academic year studies

and has continually contributed time and energy in the support of VUB. She recruited her son, Chris Brown, who graduated August 14, 2020, from ETSU.

After retiring from the Navy with 20 years of service, Sharon joined VUB and after going through intensive tutoring, she enrolled at ETSU spring 2015. This past academic year, she attended two semesters, completing 29 hours with a GPA of 3.866 and made the Dean’s List both semesters. She graduated May 9, 2020, with a bachelor’s degree in Public Health Administration.

Sharon’s name will be placed on the Polly Archer Award plaque displayed in the VUB Office, and she will receive \$250. Again, we congratulate Sharon on a job well done.

## VUB’s Fall 2020 Postsecondary Enrollment

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>East Tennessee State University</u></b></p> <p>Patrick Johnson                      Marine Corps          Alusine Kamara                      Naval Reserve          James Matthias                      Army          Michael Nicholson                      Coast Guard</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Full Sail University</u></b></p> <p>Eric Inskip                              Army</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Tennessee College of Applied Technology</u></b></p> <p>Jeffrey Proffitt                      Army</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Northeast State Community College</u></b></p> <p>Joshua Borrowski                      Army          Christopher Browning                      Air Force          Warren Hunter                      Army          Isaac Miller                      Navy</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Walters State Community College</u></b></p> <p>Shatria Carr                      Army</p> <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>
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## VUB’s Spring/Summer 2020 Postsecondary Graduates

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>East Tennessee State University Baccalaureate Degree</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Christopher Brown          Jerrod Daniels          Cory Moore <i>cum laude</i>          Sarah Royse          Sharon Smith</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>South College Baccalaureate Degree</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Justin Hixenbaugh</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Northeast State Community College Certificate and Associate Degree</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shannon Harris    A.S. in General Education          Charles Jarnagin    Certificate in Construction Electricity / A.A.S. in Electromechanical          Nathaniel Leonard    Certificate in Combination Welding / A.A.S. in Welding &amp; Metal Fabrication          Sean Tennant    Certificate in Heating, Ventilation, AC (TCP) / A.A.S. in Industrial Technology</p>
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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 2020 FALL SEMESTER : SEPTEMBER 8 - NOVEMBER 13**  
**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES/TUTORING (ETSU Main Campus / VA 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 Seth Proffitt for access. [proffittb@etsu.edu](mailto:proffittb@etsu.edu) | 423-439-5004

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>CLASSES</u></b></p> <p><b><u>COMPUTER SKILLS</u></b>  <i>Consists of Windows 2010, MS Word, Internet &amp; E-mail</i>  Monday/Wednesday ~ 9:00-10:30 / 2:30-4:00</p> <p><b><u>INTRO TO THE ACTIVE PRACTICE OF STATISTICS</u></b>  Tuesday ~ 1:30-3:30</p> <p><b><u>LITERATURE/STUDY SKILLS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>FOREIGN LANGUAGE</u></b>  Thursday ~ 9:00-12:00</p>	<p><b><u>SCIENCE</u></b> <i>Includes physics, chemistry, earth science</i>  Wednesday ~ 1:30-3:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TUTORING</u></b></p> <p><b><u>MATHEMATICS THRU PRECALCULUS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>ENGLISH</u></b></p> <p><b><u>COMPUTER SKILLS</u></b>  Monday through Friday ~ Flexible Time  <i>Call the VUB office to arrange date &amp; time.</i></p>
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**OFF ETSU JOHNSON CITY / VA CAMPUS CLASSES** *(Dates/times may be adjusted to meet student needs)*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>ETSU KINGSPORT-ALLANDALE</u></b></p> <p><b>COMPUTER SKILLS I</b>  Tuesday ~ 9:00 - 10:30</p> <p><b>COMPUTER SKILLS II</b>  Tuesday ~ 10:30 - 12:00</p> <p><b>ENGLISH/MATH TUTORING</b>  Tuesday ~ TBD</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>BRISTOL PUBLIC LIBRARY</u></b></p> <p><b>COMPUTER SKILLS/ENGLISH/MATH</b>  Tuesday ~ TBD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>ETSU NAVE CENTER ELIZABETHTON</u></b></p> <p><b>COMPUTER SKILLS</b>  <b>ENGLISH</b>  <b>MATH</b>  Monday/Wednesday ~ 5:30 - 9:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>JOHNSON COUNTY EXTENDED SERVICE CENTER</u></b></p> <p><b>COMPUTER SKILLS</b>  <b>ENGLISH/MATH</b>  Wednesday ~ 4:30 - 7:30</p>
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*Consult a VUB staff member at (423) 439-2281 to register for classes/tutoring or if you have any questions.*

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**VUB Fall 2020 Semester ~ September 8 - November 13**

**Veterans Day ~ November 11 (Offices Open)**

**November 23 - November 27 (Offices Closed)**

**VUB Spring 2021 Semester ~ January 25 – April 2**

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## 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/financial-education.pdf#>. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

### VA Resources for Financial Education

Whether you're newly transitioning from military service or have been out for years, civilian life requires financial smarts. VA offers a wide variety of resources to help Veterans, Service members and families get smart about their financial lives at every stage of the military life-cycle. A good understanding of the resources available to you—along with the development of healthy financial habits—can add up to a lifetime of economic well-being for you and your family.

#### Mortgage Delinquency Assistance

If you are encountering problems making timely mortgage payments, contact your loan servicer as soon as possible. Servicers want to help—and depending on a Veteran's specific situation, they can offer several options to avoid foreclosure. For assistance with your mortgage delinquency, view this fact sheet at [https://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/documents/docs/foreclosure\\_avoidance\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](https://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/documents/docs/foreclosure_avoidance_fact_sheet.pdf).

For Veterans in serious financial trouble, VA Regional Loan Centers have technicians available to conduct financial counseling. This counseling is designed to help you avoid foreclosure. If you want this assistance, call 1-877-827-3702 to reach a Loan Service Representative who can assist you.

#### Beneficiary Financial Counseling Service and Online Will Preparation for SGLI, TSGLI, FSGLI and VGLI Beneficiaries

Have you received a claim payment from the SGLI (Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance), TSGLI (SGLI Traumatic Injury Protection Program), FSGLI (Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance), or VGLI (Veterans' Group Life Insurance) program? You may qualify for free financial counseling and online will preparation services. For more information go to: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/bfcs.asp>. You can also view, download, and print a PDF brochure about the service here: [https://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/forms/BFCS\\_BrochureSGLI\\_VGLI.pdf](https://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/forms/BFCS_BrochureSGLI_VGLI.pdf).

#### Fiduciary Services

VA's Fiduciary Program was established to protect Veterans and other beneficiaries who, due to injury, disease, or age, are unable to manage their financial affairs. A fiduciary is a trusted person vetted and appointed by VA who oversees financial management of VA benefit payments on behalf of the beneficiary. To learn more, visit <https://www.benefits.va.gov/fiduciary/>.

#### Services for Homeless Veterans

Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness—and their family members, friends and supporters—can make the call to or chat online with the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans, where trained counselors are ready to talk confidentially 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Make the Call to 1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838). For more information on VA services for homeless Veterans, visit: [https://www.va.gov/homeless/for\\_homeless\\_veterans.asp](https://www.va.gov/homeless/for_homeless_veterans.asp).

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Veterans Upward Bound is a unique program designed to assist eligible veterans to prepare for entering and succeeding in a program of post-secondary education. VUB has operated successfully at ETSU since 1980 helping hundreds of veterans achieve their educational goals. Through academic counseling, advising, encouraging, motivating, and providing basic skill and short-term remedial and refresher courses, 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](http://www.etsu.edu/vub)

