



Western Illinois University  
Parents and Family Association's

# Leatherneck Family

## NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024 VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1

### IN THIS ISSUE WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE THE YEAR ENDS



### IT'S OKAY TO HAVE MIXED FEELINGS AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER

CARA CERULLO  
Director of University Counseling Center

As the semester draws to an end, some students may be feeling a sense of relief associated with the end of the academic term and excitement for the winter break spent with family and friends. Other students may be feeling trepidation associated with the upcoming winter break due to a lack of structure or purpose, return to an alternative living environment which may cause stress among other seasonal stressors. We encourage students to remember to take care of their basic needs such as getting into a good sleep routine, practicing healthy nutrition habits, getting exercise and making social connection a priority over break. Students shouldn't focus on making large changes, but pick one small change they can practice on a daily basis to support their mental well-being.

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### MEET THE NSFP TEAM



DR. MICHELLE JANISZ  
Director of New Student  
& Family Programs



TAMMIE LEIGH BROWN-EDWARDS  
Hope Chicago Program Coordinator  
Academic Success Coach



HENISSA CHARLES  
Graduate Student  
LSL Supervisor  
Special Projects



NAJM PERRY  
Graduate Student  
LSL Supervisor  
Transfer Student Programs



KAYLANN BEEKMAN  
Graduate Student  
LSL Supervisor  
First Gen Student Programs

# FINAL GRADES

WIU final grades are available on STARS at the end of each term. Report cards are not mailed to students.

To access grades:

- View your grades on the "Transcript" or "Grades" screen
- Print your grades to your local printer from the "Grades" screen
- Request a copy of your transcript from the "Transcript Request" screen

Source: [www.wiu.edu/grades.php](http://www.wiu.edu/grades.php)

## Fall 2024 Western Illinois University Fast Facts

### Degrees Offered

Bachelor's.....	61
Master's.....	40
Doctoral.....	2
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate .....	16

### Degrees Awarded (FY23)

Bachelor's.....	1,112
Master's.....	778
Doctoral.....	12
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate .....	65

### Top Majors by Enrollment

#### Undergraduate

1. Law Enforcement and Justice Administration
2. Elementary Education
3. Psychology
4. General Studies
5. Nursing

#### Graduate

1. Alternative Teacher Licensure
2. Business Administration
3. Computer Science
4. Educational Administration
5. Public Health

### Employee Counts

Faculty .....	449
Staff.....	750
Total.....	1,199

### Faculty

Classes Taught by Full-Time Faculty .....	94.0%
Student to Faculty Ratio .....	12.4:1
Number of Full-Time Tenured Faculty .....	270

Additional information is reported in the University Fact Book ([wiu.edu/IRP/factbook](http://wiu.edu/IRP/factbook))

**wiu.edu**

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## RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

- **Academic Advisors** - The academic advisors are full-time professionals who support students as they establish and realize their personal, academic, and career goals.  
[wiu.edu/academicadvising/directory/](http://wiu.edu/academicadvising/directory/)
- **Academic Success Coaches**- Academic Success Coaching is an opportunity for students to benefit from one-on-one coaching within a solution-focused model. Coaches will assist students with identifying challenges, connecting with resources, creating action plans, and providing referrals to campus services and opportunities resulting in an increase in student persistence and success at WIU.  
[wiu.edu/slc/academic\\_success\\_coaching](http://wiu.edu/slc/academic_success_coaching)
- **Tutors** - Western Illinois University offers support and academic skill development in many ways. The website, Rocky's Resources, provides access to tutoring for various subject areas.  
[wiu.edu/slc/rockysresources](http://wiu.edu/slc/rockysresources)  
(309) 298-1871.
- **Syllabus** - Instructors will provide each student with a course syllabus that outlines what is required of them in order to complete a course satisfactorily, including assignments, dates to submit and reading requirements. These are typically found on Western Online, WIU's online course portal.
- **Faculty** - Professors and teaching assistants have set aside office hours, usually indicated in the syllabus, to meet with students outside of the classroom. Students can use that time to get clarification on course material or assignments and get suggestions for supplemental resources.
- **University Counseling Center** - The UCC provides free, confidential, personal counseling services to currently enrolled students. Their mental health services promote the overall wellness and personal growth of students so that they may strive for academic excellence, personal growth, and social responsibility.  
[wiu.edu/student\\_success/ucc/](http://wiu.edu/student_success/ucc/)
- **University Writing Center** - Writing consultants are resource experts ready to help students with any writing project, academic or professional, at any stage of the process.  
[wiu.edu/uwc/](http://wiu.edu/uwc/)



## Western Illinois University

Since the beginning, Western Illinois University has made its mission to impact lives and empower students through education to build a better tomorrow.

Since 1899 our fighting Leatherneck spirit has strengthened and evolved. With fortitude, we remain devoted to our vision. Brave and loyal, we stand as Leathernecks. For our students. Our region. Our state. And beyond. For the past 125 years, this unity has taken us far beyond where our founders ever imaged.

Visit [wiu.edu/125/news/](http://wiu.edu/125/news/) to read stories about the Leatherneck Legacy.

## USE WIU'S GPA CALCULATOR TO ESTIMATE YOUR GPA

Parents & Families | Visitors | International Students | Libraries | Course Offerings | Directory | A-Z Index | myWIU | GPA CALCULATOR

**Western Illinois University**  
Your potential. Our purpose. • Macomb • Quad Cities • Online

Office of the Registrar | WIU Home > Registrar

**Registrar Home** | **GPA Calculator**

This calculator is to be used for estimating GPA only. Calculations are based on anticipated grades. For more information refer to Undergraduate Grading Policies, Grade Replacement or contact your academic advisor (also see Graduate Academic Guidelines).

**STEP 1 -- Enter Cumulative Totals**

Enter hours attempted, honor points and proceed to Step 2 to determine overall GPA. (You may skip this step and proceeding directly to Step 2 to determine GPA for one term.)

Hours Attempted (HA):  (not AHE)  
Honor Points (HP):

**STEP 2 -- Enter In-Progress Course Information**

Enter in-progress courses, credit hours and estimated grades in the In-Progress column. If you are retaking any courses eligible for grade replacement, enter hours and original grades in Previous column. Proceed to Step 3 to calculate projected results.

IN-PROGRESS				PREVIOUS (repeating a course)			
Course	Hours	Grade	(HP)	Hours	Grade	(HP)	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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**Mindrups named WIU's 13th President**

To read the full story, visit [wiu.edu](http://wiu.edu)

## EXPLORE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES BEFORE THE MARCH 1ST DEADLINE

Western Illinois University proudly supports students' academic achievements through our scholarship opportunities. These opportunities are made possible through generous financial support from our alumni, parents, friends, faculty, and staff, who believe a high-quality education should be accessible to deserving students without imposing excessive financial burden. Their commitment to education and dedication to our students enables us to award nearly \$2 million in scholarship assistance every year.

We are grateful to our scholarship donors, who make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students and enhance the quality of a WIU education. We invite all students to explore the various scholarship opportunities available. Your dreams are within reach, thanks to those who believe in you.

Visit the Scholarship Office's Page at:  
[wiu.edu/student\\_success/scholarship/](http://wiu.edu/student_success/scholarship/)

Visit the Scholarship Portal at: [wiu.academicworks.com](http://wiu.academicworks.com)



## "It's okay ..." continued from page 1

Winter break may be a time of reflection and with that, practicing gratitude can be another way to improve mental health.

Writing a daily gratitude list, or sending a note of appreciation to someone who has made a difference in their life will have benefits for both the recipient and the individual themselves.

Lastly, we want to remind students that if they are struggling with their mental health, they will always have access to Welltrack HelpNow services through calling the University Counseling Center at 309-298-2453.

This is a good resource students can use from anywhere at anytime to get immediate support. We hope students will have a restful winter break and are here to support you upon your return to campus.

Want to join the Parent & Family Association? Visit [wiu.edu/parents\\_and\\_family](http://wiu.edu/parents_and_family)

# Leatherneck Family NEWSLETTER

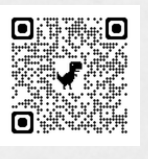





## Can't Wait to Celebrate: Family & Friends Weekend!

Ease the winter blues by visiting your student for Family & Friends Weekend on April 11-13, 2025. A variety of activities are being planned both on campus and in the community including Bingo, a Rocky Dog Scavenger Hunt, and an opportunity to meet our 13th University President, Dr. Kristi Mindrup. A full detailed list of events will be available no later than March 1 at [wiu.edu/pfa](http://wiu.edu/pfa). PFA Gold members have reservation priority in our University Union Hotel.



### Family & Student Resources at Western

			
Office of NSFP	Campus Event Calendar	Student Support Services	Leatherneck Link

**DEC. 23, 2024-JAN. 1, 2025**  
University Closed

**JAN. 13, 2025**  
FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

**JAN. 15, 2025**  
STUDENT ORGANIZATION FAIR  
3-5PM

**JAN. 20, 2025**  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY  
No Classes/University Closed

**FEB. 12, 2025**  
PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY  
No Classes/University Closed

**FEB. 25, 2025**  
Early Warning Grades  
Notices Emailed to Students

**FEB. 25, 2025**  
Education Fair  
1 to 3PM

**MAR. 5, 2025**  
Transfer Student Honor Society Induction  
5pm

**MAR. 5, 2025**  
First Generation Student Honor Society Induction  
7pm

**MAR. 10-14, 2025**  
SPRING BREAK  
No Classes

**MARCH 25, 2025**  
Spring All Major Fair  
12PM to 3:30PM

**APRIL 11-13, 2025**  
Family & Friends Weekend

**MAY 5-9, 2025**  
FINALS WEEK/END OF SEMESTER

This is a publication of New Student and Family Programs (NSFP), a department of Western Illinois University's Student Success Division

Leatherneck Family Newsletter Editor: Tammie Leigh Brown-Edwards, Hope Chicago Program Coordinator/Success Coach

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