

Who Takes Veterans Studies Courses?

- Anyone! All programming - inside and outside the classroom - is available 100% in-person and online.
- Veterans studies is for **both** non-veterans and veterans. The two groups learn from one another.
- There are 18 million veterans in the U.S. Many students go on to work in careers helping them - for non-profits, community organizations, or government entities like the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Cultural competency gained in our programs helps graduates stand out in interviews, aid transitioning service members, and contribute to inclusive work environments.
- The majority of our students have a close friend or family member who served.

Did you know? Veterans Studies students have collected more than 450 unique interviews with veterans? eku.edu/kcvs/outreach.html



Kentucky Center for **VETERANS STUDIES**
@ Eastern Kentucky University

The Kentucky Center for Veterans Studies was the first academic program of its kind in the nation. Earn a Minor or University-level Certificate 100% in-person or online. Join a vibrant community of student-scholars. Get professional mentoring. Participate in internships and service learning opportunities to advance your career. Make a difference in veterans' lives while learning the skills employers are looking for on the job market.

Email kcvs@eku.edu to express interest.

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Opportunities

Inside the Classroom

- The **University-level Certificate** is 24 credit-hours and does not have to be completed in conjunction with a degree program. The credential is issued at the University-level.
- The **Minor** is 18 credit-hours and can be completed in conjunction with any major program of study. The credential is issued at the Departmental-level.
- **Internships** with the Kentucky Center for Veterans Studies are available for students in **any program** who want to apply their disciplinary skills to veterans' issues or serve the community.
- VTS **Capstone** students are invited to publish their projects in the EKV Library's Encompass repository.

"I have yet to be interviewed by an employer who did not ask me specifically about my VTS Minor. It is usually the first question asked."

- VTS Graduate Christopher Stanfield



What is Veterans Studies?

Veterans Studies (VTS) is a new and growing academic discipline that examines the lives of military veterans. Veterans are shaped by the shared experiences of military training and indoctrination, peacetime and wartime service, and the reintegration into civilian life. They share languages, traditions, social hierarchies, histories, belief systems, psychological conditions, social problems and strengths that are worthy of academic study.

In VTS classes you might find a Psychology major debating an English major about a war memoir. You might hear a Nursing and History major discuss the difference between returning to civilian life after WW2 and the Iraq War. There are many reasons to take Veterans Studies courses. Our students conduct research and launch outreach initiatives.

Our students learn by doing, and we're proud to say, "Veterans Studies students are making a difference!"



"I remember I had to write about 'what I wanted to do when I grow up'. Now I am living that dream. I have a B.S. in Psychology and a Minor in Veterans Studies. I am getting ready to start my MSW with plans of working with veterans."

-VTS Graduate Desi Dean



"I was able to show them that some wounds aren't physical—that some veterans silently carry the burdens of tough choices made in the line of duty into their classes. Veterans Studies should be in every college around the nation."

- USMC Veteran Benjamin Congleton

Opportunities

Outside the Classroom

- More than a dozen **awards** and scholarships.
- **Mentoring Program** with the Lexington, KY VA Hospital.
- **Service-learning** opportunities with the Kentucky National Guard.
- Join an active **student organization**, The Veterans Studies Alliance
- Guest **lectures** from military, non-profit, and community leaders.
- Graduates may wear the Veterans Studies **regalia** at graduation.