ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Consistent with its mission to provide resources for excellent education and public service, the University of Nebraska at Kearney provides several resources that aid students and faculty in achieving educational success and that promote educational outreach into the local community.

Online Offerings

UNK has been meeting the educational needs of place-bound, nontraditional adults for more than three decades by offering high-quality, affordable online programs. UNK students who complete online degree programs and courses are offered the same valuable instruction as those who complete degree programs and courses on-campus. Online courses are taught by credentialed faculty with real-world experience. UNK provides a wide range of resources to the campus community to support and develop online and blended courses. These include training for online faculty, course consultations, test proctoring, student-centered resources, and video-related resources. UNK supports online learning spaces designed to encourage interaction and engagement among students and provide faculty with flexible video-capable options for class lectures and tutorials.

UNK closely monitors and evaluates the latest trends and resource developments to advance UNK’s online and blended course offerings to stay competitive in the marketplace. To view UNK’s online programs, courses, and resources, go to ecampus.unk.edu (http://ecampus.unk.edu/).

G.W. Frank Museum of History and Culture

As UNK's history museum, the G.W. Frank Museum of History and Culture (https://www.unk.edu/offices/frankhouse/) is dedicated to exploring the culture and history of Kearney through collecting, preserving, and sharing the stories of the many individuals associated with its past. Located in one of Kearney’s most historic properties, a Richardsonian Romanesque mansion built in 1889 by former Kearney residents George W. and Phoebe Frank and now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the museum provides educational opportunities through guided tours, exhibits, special programming, artifact collection, and continuous research. It functions as a hands-on learning lab for UNK students and faculty interested in history, museum work, the arts, culture, architecture, engineering, and related disciplines. The Frank Museum serves as a community center by regularly hosting academic presentations, readings, concerts, theatre performances, and workshops, among other cultural programming. The Frank Museum is available to hold UNK classes for a day or a full semester, and larger group tours can be arranged with at least two weeks advance notice.

The museum is open to the public from 1-5 pm, Tuesday-Friday, and noon-5 pm on Saturday. Admission is free and parking is readily available.

Information Technology Services

Information Technology Services provides administrative and academic technology-based services to the campus in addition to infrastructure, security, client services, and enterprise services. Available services include technical assistance and desktop support for faculty and staff; training for faculty, staff and students using a wide variety of computing resources; wired and wireless internet access; hardware and software purchasing assistance; server support; web development, instructional design; and administrative application development.

A variety of platforms support administrative, instructional and research functions for faculty, staff and students. All students have UNK email accounts and Microsoft 365 collaboration and storage environments. The Canvas learning management system is used for online teaching and learning with integrations to Zoom, VidGrid, Zoom, and Turnitin.

Email and printing workstations are maintained in each residence hall. All of the residence halls offer wired and wireless network access to students in each room and across campus including some outdoor wireless connectivity. Three general-purpose computer labs are located in the Calvin T. Ryan Library. General-purpose labs provide access to a standard suite of software with information available here (https://guides.library.unk.edu/c.php?g=750585&p=6926166). There are student computer labs, some with Macintosh computers and some with Windows-based computers, located in each of the academic buildings, maintained by individual departments.

Students with disabilities and special needs should contact the Office of Academic Success for information regarding accommodations.

The Help Desk, located in Warner Hall 2137, is available to answer questions, resolve problems and provide information about computer use and network services at UNK. Training sessions and hands-on assistance are offered for faculty, staff, and students wishing to learn more about many aspects of technology. The Help Desk is staffed from 8 am to 5 pm on Monday through Friday, and authentication assistance is available 24x7. (See the Helpdesk link at its.unk.edu (http://its.unk.edu/)).

Two sets of guidelines, the University of Nebraska Policy for Responsible Use of University Computers and Information Systems (https://nebraska.edu/offices-policies/policies/no-16-policy-for-responsible-use-of-university-computers-and-information-systems/) and Guidelines for the Use of Information Technology Resources at the University of Nebraska at Kearney (https://www.unk.edu/offices/its/its_main_page_tabs-files/Policies/guidelines-for-the-use-of-information-technology-resources.pdf), apply to faculty, staff and students at UNK.

Institutional Review Board

The role of the University of Nebraska at Kearney Institutional Review Board (IRB) is to protect human subjects who participate in research and to ensure that research conducted by UNK students, faculty, and staff complies with federal regulations. The IRB is an independent committee comprised of faculty from a variety of academic divisions, individuals with medical expertise, and community members.

The three general ethical principles that underlie the regulations concerning human subject research are: respect for persons, beneficence, and justice. These principles guide IRB review of research conducted at UNK:

Respect for Persons - Prospective participants in research must be given enough information about the nature of the research, what is required of them, and the potential benefits and risks of participating to allow them to make an informed decision about whether or not to participate.

Beneficence - Research involving human subjects must maintain a favorable balance between benefits and risks. Many types of risk must be considered, including physical harm, psychological harm, harm to one’s reputation or employment status, and financial harm. In any risk-potential situation, the benefits should outweigh the potential risk. Subjects
must be aware of potential risks before consenting to participate in the research.

Justice - Researchers should fairly select subjects for research participation. Fairness refers to the subjects as individuals as well as to subjects as members of any social, racial, sexual, or ethnic group.

At the individual level, subjects cannot be selected only because they are favored by the researcher or disliked by the researcher (for example, only those failing a class are invited to participate). Additionally, certain groups should not be more burdened than others with being research subjects. On the other hand, groups should not be excluded from research because of prior beliefs or because they are difficult to reach as research subjects.

Depending on the research method and subjects, IRB review is conducted at three levels: exempt, expedited, and full board. Researchers should submit their protocols to the IRB prior to data collection. Researchers also must complete a training program. The link to the training, submission guidelines, and forms for IRB review are available from the IRB website: www.unk.edu/irb (http://www.unk.edu/irb/).

Library

The Calvin T. Ryan Library (http://library.unk.edu/) staff, in partnership with the classroom faculty, Learning Commons staff and other members of the UNK community, provide students with opportunities to develop skills that support their current educational pursuits, further their career opportunities, enrich their personal lives, and, ultimately, prepare them for lifelong learning.

The library provides access to a wide range of computer-based information resources, including the library’s catalog, an electronic reserves system, 248 online databases, over 230,000 electronic books, and more than 100,000 full-text periodicals. The online portion of the library never closes, and these electronic resources are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to UNK students anywhere in the world who have a computer and Internet access. Reference service is available in person and by chat, text, email and telephone during scheduled hours. The library’s homepage, library.unk.edu (http://library.unk.edu/), provides general information about the library, specific information on services for distance students, as well as serving as a portal to all available print and digital resources.

The library’s physical collections consist of over 505,000 print volumes and 94,000 non-print items encompassing a wide range of materials. It is an official Federal Government Depository, and offers access to thousands of government documents in print and electronic form, in addition to documents from State of Nebraska agencies.

Special Collections include titles on Nebraska history and the history of the American West. The library also houses the University Archives, comprised of print, non-print and online materials concerning the history of UNK and related information about its faculty, staff, administration, and students. The Library’s Digital Repository, https://openspaces.unk.edu/, provides world-wide access to the research, scholarship, and creative works of faculty, students and staff.

The Curriculum Collections include an extensive pre-K through 12th grade textbook collection; lesson planning, curriculum development, classroom management and other practical teaching resources; games; kits; DVDs; and the Nebraska Archive of Children’s Literature, an outstanding research collection of contemporary and historical literature for the young. The Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Department of the Library supports the research and instructional needs of the UNK community by providing access to materials not owned by the Library. This service, also known as Loper Loan, https://unk.illiad.oclc.org/illiad/, is provided free of charge to UNK students, faculty, and staff.

The library building was originally constructed in 1963, with an addition in 1983. It provides seating and services for more than 890 students, including group study rooms, lounge seating, individual study carrels, three computer labs, one with specialized software, a student lounge, and a “One Button Studio” for students to use to record speeches and other presentations. The first Learning Commons at a state college or university in Nebraska houses the UNK Writing Center (p. 3), Subject Tutoring, Success Coaching, additional group study rooms, and other services and activities focused on student academic success. Numerous computers, printers and scanners are available throughout the library. Wireless computers can be used almost anywhere in the building, and resources also include two high-quality microform digitizers. Students may check out laptop computers at the circulation desk.

Eight library faculty, seven managerial professionals, and eight support staff are dedicated to making the library an integral part of students’ careers at UNK. Along with acquiring and organizing information resources in a variety of formats, the focus is on working with campus partners to ensure outstanding academic support for every student, graduate or undergraduate, no matter where they are located.

Miriam Drake Theatre

The Miriam Drake Theatre (http://www.unk.edu/academics/theatre/current-season.php) is a 334-seat proscenium house with a complete functional fly system and modern sound and lighting systems. The stage house has traps, orchestra pit and all the necessary equipment for full value stage productions. The theatre is located in the Fine Arts Building and is home to theatrical and dance productions throughout the year. This space is a laboratory and performance venue for undergraduate students in theatre, musical theatre and dance. The university productions are open to students, faculty, and the community at large.

Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA)

The Museum of Nebraska Art (http://monet.unk.edu/mona/) is unique among art museums, dedicated exclusively to telling the story of Nebraska through the art of Nebraska. MONA exhibits the work of a distinguished and diverse collection of artists including pieces by Nebraska artists as well as artwork featuring Nebraska subjects by artists from all over the world. A Kearney landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places, MONA provides a fitting home for its collection of over 5,000 works. Located in downtown Kearney, MONA is a regional center for cultural activities where students enjoy opportunities to broaden their academic experiences through their association with the Museum and its collection. Visitors enjoy MONA by attending exhibitions, special educational workshops, lectures, and musical performances. Web and distance education programming provide connections to the Museum beyond central Nebraska as well. With no admission fee and convenient parking, MONA is an artistic treasure readily available to all. For more information, visit MONA’s website: mona.unk.edu (http://mona.unk.edu).

Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic

The Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic is the academic center for the M.S.Ed. degree program in Speech/Language Pathology in the Department of Communication Disorders (http://catalog.unk.edu/
graduate/departments/communication-disorders/). It offers a site for the integration of professional coursework with extensive practical experience under direct faculty supervision.

The Speech, Language, Hearing and Ritecare Clinic offers clinical services in consultation, evaluation, and treatment for students, faculty, and the general public. Services are available for both children and adults with communication disorders related to stroke, laryngectomy, cleft palate, brain injury, cerebral palsy, voice, motor speech, cognition, dementia, premature birth, stuttering, hearing loss, articulation, language delay, swallowing, developmental delay, social aspects, autism, second language acquisition, language/literacy/learning disorders, and augmentative and alternative communication needs. The clinics are located at the west end of the College of Education Building. Clients may park in the lot directly off Hwy. 30 by the main doors to the clinic. For more information, please contact the Clinic Coordinator at 308-865-8507 or the Department of Communication Disorders at 308-865-8300.

Testing Center

The Testing Center, located in the College of Education Building, provides Computer Based Testing and Paper/Pencil Testing for a wide array of areas. Our Computer Based Testing system delivers both linear exams (all items are presented in order) and adaptive tests (the computer uses the candidate’s response to each item to deliver subsequent items) and ends when the computer is able to make a pass/fail determination or email results at a later date.

Computer Based testing is offered year round, Monday through Friday, by appointment only. Paper/Pencil testing is conducted on specific published dates with pre-registration required. Study materials are available for certain programs.

The Testing Center services are available to all University of Nebraska students as well as students from surrounding Colleges and the general public.

The following are among the Computer Based Tests currently available through the Testing Center:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Test Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLEP</td>
<td>College-Level Examination Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPA</td>
<td>Certified Public Accountant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANTES</td>
<td>Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE</td>
<td>Graduate Records Examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINRA</td>
<td>Regular Qualification Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEINS</td>
<td>Nebraska Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAXIS Core</td>
<td>Professional Assessments for Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAXIS Subject Assessment</td>
<td>Professional Assessments for Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iBT - TOEFL</td>
<td>Test of English as a Foreign Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many other Prometric Tests</td>
<td>To view a full list of Prometric tests given at our site go to <a href="http://www.prometric.com">www.prometric.com</a> (<a href="http://www.prometric.com">http://www.prometric.com</a>).</td>
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</table>

The following paper/pencil tests are currently available through the Testing Center:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Test Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRE Subject Tests</td>
<td>Graduate Records Examination</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The following tests are available via Digital Tablet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Test Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LSAT</td>
<td>Law School Admissions Test</td>
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</table>

Walker Art Gallery

The Walker Art Gallery is dedicated to serving the students and faculty of the Department of Art and Design, as well as the UNK campus community and the Kearney region, by presenting exhibitions of accomplished visual expression. Two such exhibitions each academic year are drawn from regional as well as national sources. Each of these exhibitions is selected for its educational and inspirational value, and artistic merit. As a rule, exhibiting artists and designers lecture on their work, or offer gallery talks. In addition, selected works by adjunct and full-time art faculty are exhibited on a rotating annual basis.

The Walker Art Gallery devotes over half of its exhibition schedule each fall and spring semester to the UNK art students. There is an annual exhibition of student work deemed exceptional by the art faculty. The last six weeks of each semester is devoted to senior project exhibitions, for which the exhibiting seniors are given primary responsibility for installation and deinstallation.

The Walker art gallery is housed in the Department of Art and Design in the Fine Arts Building on the UNK campus.

Writing Center

The Writing Center is located in UNK’s Learning Commons on the second floor of C.T. Ryan Library. The Center provides one-on-one writing assistance at no charge to all UNK students, faculty, and staff. Consultations can take place face-to-face or via Zoom, with consultations lasting 30 minutes (for 1-3 pages) to one hour (for 4-7 pages). Visitors can bring any piece of writing at any stage in the writing process for help with pre-writing and drafting, generating a thesis, supporting ideas, organizing paragraphs, writing clearly and concisely, citing outside sources, editing for grammar and punctuation errors, and more. UNK students, faculty, and staff can submit work electronically for eTutoring via the Learning Commons’ website: Go to www.unk.edu/lc (http://www.unk.edu/lc/) and click the Writing Center link. Writers receive feedback on one paper at a time, and submitted papers are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. When reviewing a paper, the tutor uses margin comments to provide in-text feedback and suggestions, tailored to the writer’s listed concerns. The reviewed draft is then sent to the writer by return e-mail within two to four days of a submission, not counting weekends.

All kinds of writers use the Writing Center, including highly successful writers who know that every writer needs a reader, less confident writers who want to improve their skills and learn new techniques, and writers learning English in conjunction with college-level writing. In keeping with our goal to help all writers improve their own skills, writing consultants will not correct, edit, proofread, or write any part of the paper; instead, they will help writers identify patterns of error and consider other options and strategies. Visit www.unk.edu/lc (http://www.unk.edu/lc/) for exact hours and to make an appointment.