At SUNY Empire State College, we pride ourselves on seeing our students as individuals. We recognize that everyone's needs and goals are different, and we respect those differences.
Working with our expert faculty mentors, you will develop your own personal degree plan. Whether you’re bringing in transfer credits from previous colleges or starting from the beginning, you’ll be able to combine our onsite and online classes to study where, when and how you want.

As an added value, Empire State College awards credit for college-level learning gained through work or life experience.
SUNY Empire State College has a clear and very focused mission.

Despite the obstacles you may have faced in the past, Empire State College will give you the opportunity to finally finish your degree.
We have been fulfilling our mission since 1971, and have grown into the largest arts and sciences college in the State University of New York.

Our college is fully accredited and awards the widely recognized and highly respected State University of New York degree.

Our students truly enjoy their academic experience. As a matter of fact, we’ve been consistently ranked no.1 in SUNY for overall student satisfaction, academic advising and more.
At SUNY Empire State College, we make studying convenient for you. Whether you’re interested in studying completely online, onsite or a blend of both, we enable you to study where, when and how you want.

We have more than 35 locations across New York state, with our seven major regional centers based in:

- Buffalo
- Rochester
- Syracuse
- Latham
- Hartsdale
- New York City
- Long Island
At Empire State College, it’s about you.

Since our students are busy adults, with different needs and interests than traditional students, we help you build a degree that fits your life.

With our online and onsite choices, you decide where, when and how to study.

Here, we take a personal approach. You are never just another number in a lecture hall.
At SUNY Empire State College, you will decide which of our flexible study options works best for you. Including:

Guided, independent study — where you will work one-to-one with a mentor in a course designed just for you at times that fit into your schedule.

Study groups — which meet in a small seminar-style setting, usually once every two weeks at convenient times.

And online courses — You can choose from a selection of more than 500 online courses accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In fact, Empire State College offers more online courses than any other college in the State University of New York.
During our residency-based studies, students get together for an in-depth exploration of various topics including:

Business, Management and Economics
women’s issues
the environment
the Civil War and many other subjects.

To round out your studies, you also may work with your mentor to take courses at other colleges or set up internships in your community.
One question many people ask is, “What can I major in?”

The answer to this is limited only by your imagination and desire. Empire State College offers comprehensive degree programs in 12 major areas of study.

These areas of study include:

The Arts
Business, Management and Economics
Community and Human Services
Cultural Studies

Community and Human Services
- Counseling Studies
- Criminal Justice
- Forensic Services
- Health Care Administration
- Human Services
- Mental Health Services
- Safety Management
- Substance Abuse
- Studies in Health Education

Cultural Studies
- Communications and Media
- Cultural Studies
- English and Literature
- Philosophy
- Religious Studies
- Writing
Undergraduate Concentration Examples

**Educational Studies**
- Arts for Children
- Adult Education
- Community College Teaching
- Criminal Justice Instruction
- Early Childhood Studies
- Educational Technology
- Educational Studies

**Historical Studies**
- American History/Studies
- Asian Cultures
- Historical Studies
- History
- History of the Western Tradition
- Latin American Studies

**Human Development**
- Aging and Gerontology
- Childhood Development
- Family Studies
- Human Development
- Psychology
- Society and Self

**Interdisciplinary Studies**
- American Studies
- General Studies
- Environmental Studies
- Liberal Arts
- Photography and Journalism
- Science and Writing
- Tourism and Marketing
## Undergraduate Concentration Examples

### Labor Studies
- Employee Relations
- History of Labor
- Labor Relations

### Public Affairs
- Emergency Management
- Environmental/Health Policy
- Fire Services Administration
- Homeland Security
- Public Administration
- Public Communications
- Public Health
- Public Policy

### Science, Math and Technology
- Biology
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Science
- Information Management
- Mathematics
- Technology in Education

### Social Science
- Cross-cultural Studies
- International Affairs
- Political Science
- Social Studies
- Sociology

### Nursing
- RN to BSN
  (Courses online only through the School of Nursing
  with onsite clinicals in your local community)

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Labor Studies  
Public Affairs  
Science, Math and Technology  
Social Science

And our Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree
During your studies at Empire State College, you will be guided by one of our faculty mentors.

The term “mentor” recognizes the personal attention and intensive academic advising that you will receive as a student. Your mentor will work with you from orientation to graduation to:

Help you design your degree

Review the possibility for credit by evaluation of college-level learning you may have gained through work or life experience

Review your transcripts from other colleges and help you determine how those credits may fit into the degree program you design

Empire State College’s flexible study options are taught by fully qualified professors within the State University of New York — more than 90% hold a Ph.D. or other highest degree in their discipline.
Your mentor is an expert at degree planning and will help you craft a plan that includes all the requirements you need to get a degree from the State University of New York.

These requirements include:

General Education Studies completed in seven out of ten knowledge and skill areas.
This will give you a clearer picture.

Of the 64 credits needed for an associate degree, 30 have to fulfill general education requirements.

Of the 124 credits needed for a bachelor’s degree, 30 will be devoted to general education studies.

Additionally, you will have to complete course requirements in the liberal arts and sciences. These requirements vary depending upon the degree you’re seeking.

Bachelor’s degree programs will require at least 45 advanced-level credits, including the studies needed for your concentration.
At SUNY Empire State College, we recognize that not all learning happens in a college setting. That’s why we award credit for college-level learning that you may have gained through work or life experience.

At Empire State College prior learning can consist of:

Previous coursework at other regionally accredited colleges

Licenses and training programs that have already been evaluated for college credit
Credit for Your Prior College-level Learning

**Standardized tests**
- CLEP
- DSST (DANTES)
- Excelsior College
- Thomas Edison State College
- Advanced Placement (AP)

**College-level learning** gained through work and life experience
- Noncredit courses
- Seminars
- In-service trainings
- Volunteer work and hobbies

Standardized tests in a wide variety of academic subjects

Or college-level learning gained through work or life experience

By enabling you to maximize your previous experience, we help you earn your degree faster and could possibly help you save thousands of dollars in college tuition.
The amount of prior-learning credit you can bring into your degree depends on the degree program you design.

If you’re studying toward an associate degree, Empire State College will accept up to 40 credits out of the 64 credits required to complete your degree.

If you are studying toward your bachelor’s degree, we’ll take up to 93 credits out of the 124 credits required.

The credits you bring in must fit into the degree program you design and meet the guidelines previously mentioned for general education, liberal studies, and advanced level coursework.
For students who already have an associate degree, we offer the Pathways Transfer Program in association with many community colleges.

This program enables students at our Pathways Partner colleges to continue taking coursework at their local community college that will transfer towards a bachelor’s degree. Up to 80 credits may be transferred.

For more information about our Pathways Transfer Program, or to find out if your community college participates, visit www.esc.edu/pathways.
Not only are we a transfer friendly college, we’re military friendly as well. As a matter of fact, Empire State College was recently voted one of America’s Top Military Friendly Colleges.

Our Office of Veteran and Military Education is available to assist military students as they transition to Empire State College.
Our flexibility extends beyond our curriculum to our school calendar. The college offers studies during fall, spring and summer. For convenience we offer:

Two start dates in the fall. Students may choose to start in September or November.

There also are two start dates in the spring, either January or March. All of these terms are 15 weeks long.

During our summer term, starting in May, you have your choice of a 15-week, or a compressed 8-week term.

This academic calendar has one goal in mind: to help you achieve academic success and earn your degree.
Another distinctive benefit enjoyed by students is our extensive online library and vast assortment of learning resources. You’ll have unlimited access to tens of thousands of e-books and journals along with personal guidance from our reference librarians.

As a SUNY student, you also will be able to use any library in the entire SUNY system.

For students who need extra help, online tutoring is offered around the clock in most subject areas. Our regional centers also provide in-person academic support in math and writing and other subjects.

In addition, all of our students are welcome to take advantage of our online career resources.
From registration through graduation, Empire State College helps you stay connected and motivated to complete your degree.

Whether you are onsite or online, our dedicated professionals and staff offer many opportunities for you to get the most out of your time here, including:

- our annual Student Academic Conference
- student and alumni networking events
- student workshops
- and, of course, to celebrate your accomplishments — we hold graduation ceremonies across the state

The college also offers disability services for those students needing extra assistance.
You also can take a few studies at Empire State College without earning a degree.

Our nonmatriculated study opportunities may work for you if:

you want to try a study or two before applying, to see if the college is right for you, or

you want to take a few specific studies for work or personal interest.

Nonmatriculated students are not eligible for federal or NYS financial aid. To apply for nonmatriculated courses, fill out our easy, online application at www.esc.edu/nmapply.
In addition to our extensive selection of undergraduate degrees, Empire State College also offers a wide variety of graduate studies. Our master’s degree programs enable learners to become experts in their fields of interest, refine their research skills, and advance professionally. Courses are offered online, with some programs requiring attendance at regional meetings or occasional weekend residencies.
A growing number of advanced certificate programs also are available through our School for Graduate Studies. These online certificate programs are designed to provide focused study to support a particular career interest.

For the most up-to-date information on all of our current graduate programs, visit the graduate studies website at [www.esc.edu/grad](http://www.esc.edu/grad)
Another advantage at Empire State College, is our ability to offer an outstanding education with affordable, State University of New York tuition. The majority of our undergraduate studies are 4 credits each.

In addition to very reasonable tuition rates, our fees are the lowest of any four-year SUNY institution. Rates are subject to change, so for the most up-to-date information, please visit our website at esc.edu/tuition.
Empire State College students may be eligible for federal and state financial aid programs including:

- Federal and state grants such as Pell, TAP and Aid for Part-time Study
- Scholarships from the Empire State College Foundation
- Employer or third-party tuition assistance programs
- Loans and work study

**Federal Aid (including student loans)**
- Submit Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- Empire State College federal code: 010286
- Students who would like a loan must complete the Entrance Loan Counseling Form and Master Promissory Note at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov)

**New York State Aid**
- Full time: complete the Express TAP application online at [www.hesc.org](http://www.hesc.org)
- Empire State College TAP code: 0913
- Part-time: complete the Aid for Part-time Studies application at [www.esc.edu/financialaid](http://www.esc.edu/financialaid)

To be eligible for financial aid, you must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, commonly known as FAFSA.

For more information on financial aid programs, frequently asked questions, and application instructions, please visit our website at [www.esc.edu/financialaid](http://www.esc.edu/financialaid)
Ready to apply? It’s simple.

Complete and submit our easy, online admissions application, which includes a 300-word essay.

In addition, you must:

Request that official transcripts be sent from all previous colleges you have attended.

Submit proof of high school completion. This can be a copy of your high school transcript, high school diploma or GED.

Pay a $50 orientation fee ... and that’s it!

Once your application and all supporting documents have been received, you can expect a decision in two to three weeks.
Start Your Application Today

Apply Now

Questions? Call our Student Information Center: 800-847-3000

www.esc.edu/admissions

Your future starts now. Start your application today and become a student at SUNY Empire State College