

Western Kentucky University

Folk Studies Program

2017-2018 incoming graduate student information packet



A basic, no-frills starter kit for life in Bowling Green and at WKU

www.wku.edu/folkstudies

**Please note that the department website is currently being redesigned. Contact the faculty with questions that you can't find on the current website.*

NEW STUDENT INFORMATION KIT

Hello! Welcome to the Folk Studies graduate program at Western Kentucky University! We're looking forward to meeting you (if we haven't already) and to the upcoming semester!

Enclosed is an informal informational packet that we hope will help with your transition. This information was put together by students, for students, and covers things like where to get groceries, registration for classes, how to get a decent apartment/house, utility hookup procedures and basically how to make your move to Bowling Green and WKU a little less stressful.

Again, welcome to Bowling Green, Western Kentucky University, and Folk Studies! We hope you find this information helpful.

External links are underlined throughout the document.

Table of Contents

Click on the page number of an entry to jump to that page

Part 1: Kentucky and Bowling Green	5
Introduction to Kentucky	5
Introduction to Bowling Green	6
Getting Around	6
General Info	6
Public Transit	7
Other Transportation	7
Airports	8
Hotels and Motels	8
Banks	9
Food Shopping	9
Grocery Stores	9
Farmer's Markets, Orchards, & Farms	11
Beer, Wine, and Spirits	12
Housing	12
Miscellaneous settling-in information	15
Keys	15
Mailboxes	15
Vehicle Registration	16

Utility Information	16
Mechanics and Car Repair	17
Gasoline	17
Laundry Service/Laundromats	17
Shopping	18
Beauty	19
Community Medical/Health Services	20
Dentists	20
Chiropractor	20
Optometrists	20
Pets	21
Physical Activities	22
Martial Arts, etc.	23
Yoga/Pilates	23
Hiking/Walking Trails	24
Disc Golf	25
Cycling	25
Buying Bicycles	25
Radio	26
Library	26
Local Attractions	26
Restaurants	29
Bakeries and sweet shops	29
American	30
Asian	30
Latin	31
European	32
Cafés	32
BBQ	32
Pubs, Taverns, Clubs, and Watering Holes	33
Part 2: Introduction to Western Kentucky University	34
Important Phone Numbers on Campus	35
Getting Started	35

Grades	35
Parking on Campus	36
WKU Libraries	36
Technological Information	37
Buying Books	38
WKU Health Insurance	39
Medical Care	39
LGBTQIA+ Students	39
WKU Child Care	39
Athletic Facilities	40
Part 3: Folk Studies Program	41
Faculty	41
Departmental Spaces	43
Important Forms	44
Registering for Classes	44
Classes	45
Internships	45
WKU Folk Studies M.A. Portfolio Guidelines	45
Master's Thesis Guidelines	45
Fieldwork Equipment	46
E-Mail Discussion Lists	46
AFS	47
Graduate Student Research & Travel Grants	48
Yeager Scholarships	48

Part 1: Kentucky and Bowling Green

Introduction to Kentucky

An introduction to Kentucky courtesy of Kentucky Tourism: “From the rolling bluegrass-covered hills of legendary Horse Country and the grandstands of America’s most storied thoroughbred racing tracks to the Kentucky Bourbon Trail and world-renowned outdoor adventure, visit Kentucky and experience... a state enriched with deep traditions, important history and authentic heritage.”

Quick Kentucky Facts: (mostly from Kentucky Tourism)

- State capitol: Frankfort.
- State song: “My Old Kentucky Home” by Stephen Foster
- State motto: “United We Stand, Divided We Fall” adopted 1942.
- Famous Kentuckians (born, raised, or both) include Daniel Boone, Muhammad Ali, Jennifer Lawrence, George Clooney, The Judds, Abraham Lincoln. Plus, Duncan Hines was born in Bowling Green!
- Kentuckians use counties as much as towns to describe places, so it is good to know them. Bowling Green is in Warren County.

Top Attractions:

National Quilt Museum, Paducah, KY

International Blue Grass Music Museum, Owensboro, KY

Cherokee Trail of Tears, Hopkinsville, Princeton & Marion, KY

Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY

My Old Kentucky Home, Bardstown, KY

Newport Aquarium, Newport, KY

Churchill Downs & Kentucky Derby Museum, Louisville, KY

Abraham Lincoln’s Birthplace National Historic Park, Hodgenville, KY

Butcher Hollow (Loretta Lynn’s Birthplace) Paintsville, KY

National Corvette Museum, Bowling Green, KY

Kentucky Museum, Bowling Green, KY

Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Renfro Valley, KY

Museum Row, Louisville, KY:

- Louisville Slugger Museum
- Kentucky Science Center
- Frazier History Museum
- Muhammad Ali Center

Introduction to Bowling Green

- Located in south central Kentucky, Bowling Green is the county seat of Warren County.
- The third most populated city in Kentucky: in 2011, the population was estimated at around 58,800.
- There is a small downtown around Fountain Square Park and the Capitol Arts Center with residential neighborhoods and outlying commercial areas that includes many restaurants and hotels, the mall, and two movie theaters.
- The city was founded in 1798 and served as the provisional capital of the Confederate government of Kentucky.
- Bowling Green is on Central Time along with Nashville, TN, though it's good to remember that Louisville, KY and Lexington, KY are on Eastern Time.
- Bowling Green is an incredibly diverse city given its size, and is home to a large population of immigrants and refugees. The International Center of Kentucky, based in Bowling Green, has helped resettle over 10,000 immigrants and refugees from various countries, including Bosnia, Somalia, Burma, Vietnam, Iraq, Bhutan, Ethiopia, and Latin America. An International Festival is celebrated each September in honor of Bowling Green's diverse citizenry.

The Bowling Green Area Convention & Visitors Bureau <http://visitbgky.com/>
(270) 782-0800 or 800-326-7465 352 Three Springs Road in Bowling Green

This is a good place to start your visit to Bowling Green. The people there are very friendly and willing to spend time with you, especially if you tell them you are a new student.

Getting Around

General Info

- Lexington is two and a half hours away, Louisville is two hours away, and Nashville is one hour away.
- Two tips about the roads around Bowling Green:
 - The roads change names along the way, so be careful. For example, Nashville Road, Louisville Road, the Bypass, and 31W are all the same road. Another road is Scottsville Road, Broadway, and 12th Street.
 - Most of the roads are named for where they lead (Louisville Road goes to Louisville, Russellville Road to Russellville).

- The most important roads to know in Bowling Green: 31-W By-Pass, Scottsville Road, Campbell Lane, and Fairview Road/Cemetery Lane. Those four roads will bring you close to most facilities in Bowling Green.
- Community directions are often given (by locals) by mentioning a facility “that used to be there.” For example, you may be told that one movie theater is “in the shopping mall where K-mart used to be.” Translation: It is at the north end of the By-Pass (31-W), where it meets Cemetery Road. Other references that were offered were the “old Kroger on Scottsville Road,” now Southern Lanes Bowling Alley; the “old K-mart on Nashville Road” is across the street from the Campbell Lane Kroger shopping center; the “old hospital” is at the top of Park and 8th Streets. It’s probably safer just to get non-vernacular directions.
- Streets in the area around downtown Fountain Square are one-way, even if they aren’t in other parts of the town. Study a map before venturing into the area.

Public Transit

Topper Transit: <http://www.wku.edu/transportation/transit/>

WKU's very own free (with ID) transit service provides transportation between main campus and south campus, around campus, and to shopping destinations.

- There are 6 bus lines total 3 on-campus with day service: White, Red and Blue; 3 off-campus with Evening Service: Green, Yellow and Purple.
- Route information, map and schedules

GO BG Transit: <http://www.casoky.org/transportation>

Bowling Green's public transit system stops on campus.

- Bus passes are available for purchase at WKU Parking and Transportation Services, \$10 for the semester (or \$50 through the city).
- Buses run from 7am to 6pm.
- There are five bus routes that include stops at Greenwood Mall, WKU, grocery and discount stores, Greenview Hospital, the Medical Center, the Convention Center, and Fountain Square. Route map and schedules

Other Transportation

Yellow Cab

(800) 599-8616 or (270) 843-3232, 1586 Old Louisville Rd.

Komfort Kabs <http://komfortkabs.com/>

(270) 782- 9410 325 Emmett Ave. #T

Greyhound <http://www.greyhound.com/>

(800) 231-2222 555 Parker Ave. (off I-65 at Exit 28)

*Uber and Lyft employ drivers in Bowling Green, and may be a cheaper alternative. On your smart phone, download the Uber or Lyft app on the Apple Store/Google Play.

Airports

Closest airports:

Nashville International Airport (BNA) 1 hour south <http://www.flynashville.com/>
Louisville International Airport (SDF) 2 hours north <http://www.flylouisville.com/>

Bowling Green Shuttle Service www.bgshuttle.com

(270) 781-4321, 2530 Scottsville Rd #10, Bowling Green

Trips can be quite expensive. WKU has partnered with Bowling Green Shuttle to provide transportation to and from Nashville International Airport. Sometimes, shuttles are offered to WKU students at a discounted rate. Use [this link](#) to sign in with your WKU Net ID and password to take advantage of potential discounts.

If you choose to drive to Nashville International Airport and leave your car during travel, the best options include Economy and Long Term B (\$9/day). More info can be found on [Nashville Airport website](#).

Hotels and Motels

There are lots of hotel and motels in the area. For exploring Bowling Green and WKU, the best selection of motels can be found on Scottsville Road (Exit 22 off I-65). All the ones listed below are, to the best of our knowledge, clean, safe, and close to lots of restaurants (mostly chain restaurants or fast food). Click on the hotel name to visit their website.

<u>Candlewood Suites</u>	<i>(270) 843-5505</i>	<i>540 Wall Street</i>
<u>Comfort Inn</u>	<i>(270) 843-1163</i>	<i>4646 Scottsville Road</i>
<u>Country Hearth Inn</u>	<i>(270) 783-4443</i>	<i>395 Corvette Drive</i>
<u>Courtyard BG Convention Center by Marriott</u>		
	<i>(270) 783-8569</i>	<i>1010 Wilkinson Trace</i>
<u>Days Inn</u>	<i>(270) 781-6470</i>	<i>4617 Scottsville Rd.</i>
<u>Drury Inn</u>	<i>(270) 842-7100</i>	<i>3250 Scottsville Road</i>
<u>Fairfield Inn by Marriott</u>	<i>(270) 782-6933</i>	<i>1940 Mel Browning Street</i>
<u>Hampton Inn</u>	<i>(270) 842-4100</i>	<i>233 Three Springs Road</i>
<u>Holiday Inn Express</u>	<i>(270) 843-3200</i>	<i>165 Three Springs Rd</i>
<u>Holiday Inn University Plaza</u>	<i>(270) 745-0088</i>	<i>1021 Wilkinson Trace</i>
<u>Hyatt Place Bowling Green</u>	<i>(270) 467-0001</i>	<i>1347 Center Street</i>
<u>Motel 6</u>	<i>(270) 843-0140</i>	<i>3139 Scottsville Road</i>
<u>Ramada</u>	<i>(270) 781-3000</i>	<i>4767 Scottsville Road</i>

The Hyatt Place of Bowling Green is considered the official hotel of WKU and located directly adjacent to the Alumni Center at WKU.

* For those traveling on a budget, there are a handful of [Airbnb options](#) that are often less expensive than hotel rooms.

Banks

There are several national banks in town, as well as some locally owned ones in Bowling Green. The majority of them have branch facilities throughout Bowling Green, but only Service One Credit Union has a branch on campus. Click on bank name to visit their website, click “locations” to open website listing of Bowling Green locations.

<u>American Bank & Trust</u>	(270) 796-8444	<u>Locations</u>
<u>Bank of America</u>		<u>Locations</u>
The closest Bank of America is in Nashville.		
<u>Branch Banking & Trust</u>	(270) 782-4284	<u>Locations</u>
<u>Chase</u>		<u>Locations</u>
<u>Citizens First Bank</u>	(270) 393-0700	<u>Locations</u>
<u>PNC</u>	(270) 781-6111	<u>Locations</u>
Multiple branches around town and an ATM in Potter Hall on campus		
<u>Service One Credit Union</u>	(800) 759-8500	<u>Locations</u>
The only bank with a branch office on campus (also 3 ATMs on campus).		
<u>South Central Bank</u>	(270) 782-9696	<u>Locations</u>
<u>US Bank</u>	(270) 745-7600	<u>Locations</u>

Food Shopping

Grocery Stores

Kroger A good general grocery store with three locations. They also have a small but respectable health food section. There are 3 locations:

- 350 US 31W
- 711 Campbell Lane, at the corner of Nashville and Campbell.
- 2945 Scottsville Road.

Wal-Mart Supercenters Both locations have large produce sections, strong Hispanic sections, and odd assortment of hard to find goods. Open 24 hours.

- 150 Walton Avenue, off Campbell Lane, behind the mall.
- 1201 Morgantown Road, on the corner of Veteran’s Highway.

Meijer A regional chain grocery store. The Bowling Green location is fairly new, and has a decent health/organic food section and a wide variety of produce.

- 1676 Westpark Drive (near Panera, Michael's, Home Depot, etc.)

Houchens

3170 Louisville Rd, Northgate Shopping Center

ALDI

1455 Campbell Lane

Very cheap, good for staples, limited produce section.

Save-A-Lot There are two locations:

- 2706 Russellville Road
- 600 US 31W Bypass #1

The Nutrition Center

(270) 846-1882

715 31-W By-Pass

It has some food and lots of vitamins. All organic, gluten free, and vegan friendly.

International Food Market

(270) 745-7113

1249 Hwy 31

They have Asian, Middle Eastern, and European foods. Not a great produce section but if you are looking for European candy, Asian sauces, Spanish cheese, or bulgur this is the place.

International Supermarket

(270) 393-0003

847 Broadway Avenue

Has mostly Asian and Middle Eastern food. They have many fruits, vegetables, and herbs (fresh and preserved) from Asia, rice noodle, rice flour, Asian spices, sauces, chopsticks, etc.

Jasmine International Grocery

(270) 320-1438

2484 Russellville Road

Iraqi-owned restaurant serving a wide range of Middle Eastern and European foods, including fresh baked bread and baklava. Jasmine also has a large selection of Bosnian food. To learn more, you can watch an ethnographic film made by WKU Folk Studies student Nicole Musgrave on [YouTube](#)

Mediterranean Food Store and Restaurant

(270) 393-0380

103 Creekwood Ave.

They have a wide range of European groceries including Polish cookies, Nutella, and sausages.

Asian Market and Restaurant

(270) 393-0003

847 Broadway Ave.

The owner is very happy to talk about Bangladeshi food if you ask him. They have a wide variety of Chinese, Southeast Asian, and Indian groceries.

Bangkok Grocery

(270) 796-9190

1527 US-31 BYP

Asian grocery store with large produce section.

Mercadito Hispano
Market and restaurant.

(270) 783-0854

204 Woodford Ave.

Whole Foods and Trader Joe's in Nashville are good places to find a wide selection of organic and health food.

Farmer's Markets, Orchards, & Farms

Community Farmer's Market <http://www.communityfarmersmarketbg.com/>
2319 Nashville Road

This is the only market that also has a winter market, check the website for future location.
Open Sat. 8am-1pm and Tues. 2pm-6pm

SoKY Marketplace (Farmer's Market)

7th Avenue and Center Street (behind SKYPAC)

Open on Sat. (April through Oct.) & Tues. (April through Aug.) from 8am-1pm.

Bowling Green Farmer's Market <http://www.bgfarmersmarket.com/>
1751 Scottsville Road

Located in the Ashley Circle parking lot on Scottsville Road near Ford's Furniture and Hobby Lobby. The market is open from April to October on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 6:00am until sell-out (around 2:00pm). For the best selection, get there early, before 10am. Vendors have a wide variety of fresh produce, nursery plants, and food products. While this is the oldest market in town, unlike the other two markets, it is not "producer only" (vendors are not required to produce the goods they sell at this market).

Mennonite produce stands

Present at the Scottsville Road farmer's market. Several Mennonite communities in Allen County sell produce on the weekends. Fresh picked corn directly from the farmers in the summer, sorghum in the fall. They also sell delicious baked goods. Worth a drive if you want a study break. See Michael Ann or Erika for directions.

Jackson's Orchard <http://www.jacksonsorchar.com/>
(270) 781-53\03 1280 Slim Island Road

They have a wide variety of produce and products. Bedding plants in the spring, strawberries in early summer, peaches in late summer, and lots of apples in the fall as well as pumpkins and a corn maze. They have numerous festivals throughout the year. It's a nice windy country road up the hill to the orchard.

Au Naturel Farm <http://aunaturelfarm.homestead.com>

(270) 749-4600 3298 Fairview Church Road, Smiths Grove, KY 42171

They take orders through email and deliver to Bowling Green weekly, as well as sell at the SKY Farmer's Market. They also sometimes have eggs and chickens.

Beer, Wine, and Spirits

***Alcohol Note**

Warren County is a "moist" county meaning that it is "dry" everywhere except in the city of Bowling Green and at designated wineries. You can buy some beer and ciders, but not wine, at the grocery stores in Bowling Green. For those new to Kentucky, many counties remain dry, meaning that alcoholic beverages cannot be sold.

Chuck's Wine and Spirits (270) 781-5923 386 Three Springs Road

One of the best wine and beer selection in town. Chuck's has 3 other locations in Bowling Green (although the selection is not as strong).

Corsair Artisan Distillery (270) 904-2021 400 East Main Street #110

A small craft spirits company, Corsair Artisan makes very small batches of spirits, just a few cases at a time, in their pot stills. They are open Fridays and Saturdays and give tours then as well.

Fair View Liquors (270) 599-0037 958 Fairview Ave, Bowling Green, KY 42101

Open until 10pm on Sundays.

Liquor Barn (270) 799-0740 2425 Scottsville Rd.

Large selection of beer, wine and spirits (particularly large Bourbon section).

Shenanigans Wines and Spirits (270) 780-9420 955 Fields Dr.

Strong selection of craft beer and liquor, competitive prices. The store has a welcoming environment, and the staff is generally helpful and friendly.

I-65 Liquors (270)-782-1165 101 Cherry Farm Ln.

Close to WKU. Convenient for a quick pick up.

Housing

When: If you want to start renting in August, the latest you should be looking is mid-July. It gets harder as the weeks go by. A lot of students leave in May or June, and though you may have to negotiate starting dates for a lease, you might find you'll get a much better place if

you come early and are flexible about when you'll take over (maybe July 15th, instead of August 1st, for example).

Location: The best areas of town to live are close to campus, such as State or Chestnut Streets. Other streets within walking distance that are good include: Cabell, High, Hogle, Kenton, Ogden, Park, 10th, 11th, 12th (aka Broadway), 13th and 14th avenues. It all depends on how far you considerable "walkable." On the whole, avoid going beyond the railroad tracks, past Fairview Ave., or past Kentucky St. (Just not the greatest of neighborhoods in terms of decent housing and crime.)

Acceptable Prices:

One bedroom \$500-650 Two bedroom \$600 and up

Utilities: Most places do NOT include your utilities, so factor those costs into your rent. In most places, you will pay at least electric. If you choose to live in a house or duplex, plan on paying water, sewer, trash, electric, and/or gas. Often this is not unreasonable for the size of the place. For example: in a two bedroom, one level house the highest paid for all utilities in one month was \$250. If possible, talk with other tenants to find out the average monthly utility bill or contact the utility company directly and ask for the utility cost for the months of January and July as those will likely be the highest. You will need the exact address of the apartment or house and should act as you already live in Bowling Green and are just moving into new housing.

Pets: It is harder than you might think to find a place that will accept pets. Factor in an additional pet deposit (as much as one month's rent and usually non-refundable) or find ways to make the landlord realize that your pet is not a risk. Some landlords are more flexible than others, and many will work with you if you are flexible as well.

Renting laws: As a renter, there are almost no protection laws in Bowling Green so be careful! Renter's insurance is a good idea and very reasonable. Read your lease or contract *carefully* before signing. Ask about privacy (does the landlord have unrestricted entry to your place?) Ask tenants about the landlord's track record on making repairs.

Places to start looking:

Michael Ann Williams:

- Email or call her if you are stuck, students often tell her about housing issues so she may be able to help.
- She also has a list of apartments that may be available in the College Hill neighborhood. Generally these are folks who prefer to rent to graduate students or faculty.

Facebook groups: They sometimes have housing and roommate wanted or vacancy posts.

- WKU Folk Studies

- WKU Folk Studies Students (Called “Folkies” - contact Nicole Musgrave (nicole.p.musgrave@gmail.com) or Chloe Brown (chloe.brown257@topper.wku.edu) to be added to this group)

Current and former graduate students: The program maintains a tradition of passing on apartments to students. They can help you with long distance searches, or let you know who is leaving and what places are available.

WKU Housing and Residence Life <http://www.wku.edu/housing/> (270) 745-4359

- There is no separate graduate student housing on campus however several of the Residence Halls are open to graduate students including WKU Apartments on Kentucky Street (new in Fall 2014).
- There are several meal programs available. Make sure that you read up on the conditions/stipulations of the various meal plan options. Ex. Unused meal plan swipes expire at the end of each week.
- WKU has a file of local landlords and property owners, although the file is outdated and it isn't much help unless you go there in person since they do not like to give out information over the phone.

Classifieds: Check out the classifieds online at the following: www.bgdailynews.com/ or subscribe to the local newspaper, the Bowling Green Daily News. The Sunday paper usually contains the most housing ads. This is also important to know about since many locals use their classifieds in general instead of Craigslist. They also have good up-to-date restaurant reviews.

Good Landlords:

Some landlords prefer to rent to graduate students over undergraduate students, so tell them who you are up front! This is simply a brief inventory of what we're familiar with in the area: students have rented from or know each of these landlords and consistently had good experiences with them.

College Suites <http://www.collegesuites.net/contact/>

(270) 781-7033 2426 Thoroughbred Dr. (off Campbell Ln)

Shuttle service to campus; washer/dryer in unit and many amenities onsite.

Chandler Property Management <http://www.chandlerpropertymanagement.com/>

(270) 782-8282 908 Broadway

Pets under 20 lbs allowed with \$100 non-refundable deposit and \$15/month. 1-3 bedroom units available. Utilities provided vary on the unit.

Hamilton

(270) 793-0062 935 College St

Pet friendly (with additional deposit); utilities included in some units

Rentals for Pet Owners (over 25 Pounds):

Many apartments have weight limits of under 25 pounds for pets. These are two places that allow pets over 25 pounds:

The Enclave <http://www.myenclaveapthome.com/>

(270) 282-7873 1132 Fairview Avenue

Allow pets up to 100 pounds, with breed restrictions. On Fairview, not too far from school, but a bit pricey.

Willow Creek Apartments

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Willow-Creek-Apartments/147811415236840>

(270) 781-1032 1029 Shive Lane

Several of our students live in this apartment complex. There are no weight restrictions on pets and they are very student-friendly. Pool. Close to a dog park, Kroger, Walgreens, and the mall.

Miscellaneous settling-in information

A note on local area codes

This region of Kentucky was recently given an area code overlay which means that there are two area codes for this area (270 and 364). Area code 270 was the original area code and so most phone numbers use this one. However now, even if making local phone calls, the area code must always be dialed. If you are given a phone number by a local resident or business without the area code and it is likely an older number, you can probably assume the area code is 270.

Keys

Once here, if you are in need of new keys try:

Howard's Locksmith Service <http://www.howardslocksmith.com/>

(270) 782-7878 604 Park St. (in the Bicycle Shop)

Cheap, fast, super nice. Keys made while you wait!

Mailboxes

If you move into a unit with a multiple mailbox, you will need to go to the Post Office (311 E. 11th St.) and fill out a form. It will take approximately one week to get your keys. You can sign-

up to rent a Post Office Box online:

Driver's License

General Information and requirements: Kentucky Transportation Department

There is no real need to change over if you are a student and plan to leave Bowling Green after the program, but if you want or need to, contact the **Driver's license Office** at (270) 746-7417 for testing hours and location.

To get your license you need your valid out-of-state license, proof of residence (a lease is best and possibly a utility bill with your name and address will work), your non-laminated social security card, and another form of photo ID.

Vehicle Registration

If you are moving to Warren County, Kentucky and want to change your vehicle registration you have to go to the **County Clerk's office** at 429 E. 10th St. (270) 842-1535. If you are coming from out of state call (270) 843-5311. You will need your KY driver's license, proof of insurance, your car title, and your car (so it can be inspected by a deputy for matching VIN numbers.)

Utility Information

The full list of utility companies serving the area can be found on here:

<http://www.bgky.org/utilities.php>

Atmos Energy

www.atmosenergy.com

(888) 286-6700

Natural Gas. \$100 refundable deposit for service. They no longer have a local office.

Requires an appointment and they call 30 minutes before arriving to make sure you're there.

Bowling Green Municipal Utilities (BGMU)

<http://www.bgmu.com>

(270) 782-1200 801 Center St.

Electric, water, sewer, garbage. Requires a photo ID to establish service, either in-person or you can fax it. Connection fees for electric and water; both non-refundable. Sewer, trash, and recycling charges are included in monthly bill.

AT&T (Bell South),

www.bellsouth.com

Customer Service: 1(888)757-6500. Repair: 1(877)737-2478

Phone and internet, digital TV. Basic service requires money one month in advance. Some service will require a \$75 deposit depending on credit report. Small hook up fee. No local office.

Spectrum

<https://www.spectrum.com>

(270) 782-0903 515 Double Springs Rd
Digital TV, Internet, and home phone

Mechanics and Car Repair

These are the people that students have liked in the past.

Ty's Autocare (270) 792-8111 212 Hadley Loop Road
About 7 miles or so from town. Ty does great work, can fit you in quickly. Has a really good towing service (\$60 for a tow). Really inexpensive.

J+K Used Cars (270) 842-1854 670 US 31 W
Ask for Keith!

Tech Tune Inc. (270) 781-5566 1486 Campbell Lane
Walk in oil changes, rebates available for customer loyalty.

Gasoline

Students from previous years have left the rumor that the cheapest gas in town is on the north side of 31-W (near the Corvette Museum). There's also Swifty (they will pump the gas for you for \$.02 a gallon more), Speedway, Marathon, and others. Kroger gas stations give you a discount for being a Kroger customer.

Laundry Service/Laundromats

Very few rentals have on-site laundry facilities, so you will have to pack it up and head to one of the local laundromats. The most popular places are listed below. All three places have a drop-off service which allows you to leave your dirty clothes and pick them up later, all clean, dry, and folded. The Laundry Basket weighs your clothes and you pay by the pound, which hikes the price if you have any heavy material (thick towels, jeans, etc.). At the Wishy Washy, you pay by the load, which in the end seems to be the most cost-efficient.

Bryce's Bypass Laundromat	(270) 783-0159	909 US 31-W Bypass
The Laundry Basket	(270) 842-9022	420 Morgantown Rd.
The Plaza Wishy Washy	(270) 842-9994	1561 US 31-W Bypass

Shopping

Bowling Green has a number of chain clothing stores as well as lots of boutiques/second hand/consignment stores. Nashville Road (31W) has about half a dozen alternative clothing stores between University Blvd and Scottsville Road. There are also lots of yard sales for cheap furniture.

Greenwood Mall <http://www.greenwoodmall.com/>

(270) 782-9047 2625 Scottsville Rd

They have Gap, Old Navy, Ulta, Victoria's Secret, Dillard's, Sears, JC Penny, Payless, etc.

Shoppes at Gary Farms

2300 Gary Farm Blvd

DICK'S Sporting Goods

Bed Bath & Beyond

Pet Smart

Lane Bryant

Kirkland's

Walmart Supercenter

(270) 780-9996 1201 Morgantown Rd

(270) 781-7903 150 Walton Ave

Half Price Books Outlet

(270) 781-0089

1785 Campbell Ln

Meijer

(270) 495-6700

1676 Westpark Dr.

Target

(270) 842-0013

160 American Ave

T.J. Maxx

(270) 783-9120

1680 Campbell Ln

Staples

(270) 746-0711

1680 Campbell Ln

Big Lots

(270) 843-1008

2445 Nashville Road

Tuesday Morning

(270) 846-0776

1751 Scottsville Rd, Suite 3

Plato's Closet

(270) 780-0095

1680 Campbell Lane

Beverly Hills Bargain Boutique (270) 843-3756

1608 US 31W Bypass

Elite Repeats

(270) 843-1594

1508 US 31W Bypass

Lulu's

(270) 781-5550

1116 Broadway Ave.

They have an awesome selection of furniture, weekly sales, and great prices. They also sell little handmade gifts like jewelry.

Grandma's Attic

(270) 782-5248

862 Broadway Ave

They sell a wide variety of consignment item items. They also buy on certain days.

Goodwill, there are three:

(270) 843-1532 808 Campbell Lane

(270) 781-0018 1806 Us 31W Bypass

(270) 781-5464 740 Us 31W Bypass

Community Medical/Health Services

WKU has its own [health services](#) but here are the off-campus options:

Columbia Greenview Regional Medical Center

(270) 793-1000 1801 Ashley Ct., off of Scottsville Rd.

Graves-Gilbert Clinic

(270) 781-5111

201 Park St.

The Medical Center at Bowling Green,

(270) 745-1000

250 Park Street

Urgentcare

(270) 781-3910 1110 Wilkinson Trace, off of Scottsville Rd.

Very short wait, most of the time. Dr. Mark Weiss is a favorite. And the nurse that takes blood gets it right the first time!

Dentists

WKU Dental Hygiene Clinic

(270) 745-2426

221 Academic Complex

\$15 for a dental screening, x-rays, and cleaning. 45 minutes for a screening (free) then at a later date 3 to 4 hours for a cleaning. They don't do procedures.

Blue Grass Oral Health Center

(270) 781-616

546 Park Street #400

Exam without x-rays and cleaning about \$145. Very friendly, easy to get appointments, each patient has a semi-private area with their own TV, and you can get a free paraffin hand treatment while they work. If you don't have dental insurance they will tell you how much each thing costs before they do it.

Western Dental Group

(270) 781-1706

1602 Westen St.

Exam, x-ray, and cleaning for a first-time patient are about \$240. Professional and friendly.

Chiropractor

Downtown Chiropractic: Dr. John Erskine

(270) 843-2255

720 State Street

Very friendly place! Dr. John is also willing to work with chiropractors you may have had in the past. Try to get an appointment on the days when they have parties!

Optometrists

Vision Source

(270) 842-0383

335 New Towne Dr.

Formerly "Breiwa & Jeskie Eye Care Center" Walk-ins welcome.

Dr. Lowell C. Ware Eye Care

(270) 781-2220

952 Fairview Ave.

Dr. Ware is a favorite of many prior folk students.

*All graduate students holding full-time assistantships can purchase insurance through WKU. The information is available here:

https://www.wku.edu/graduate/aid/ga/health_insurance.php

Pets

Veterinarians

There are several veterinary clinics in town. These are our favorites:

Greystone Pet Hospital <http://greystonepethospital.com/>

(270) 843-1558 1650 Campbell Lane

Michael Ann and Erika's recommendation, especially if you have a seriously ill pet. Dr. Betty Stephenson takes the time to explain things carefully. The staff is friendly.

All Creatures Animal Hospital <http://www.allcreaturesanimalhosp.com/>

(270) 843-9776 942 Lover's Lane

Alpine Pet Care Center

(270) 781-7818 2357 Nashville Road

Great rates for boarding if you are taking trips. Very friendly staff.

Dog Park

Bark Park *Cave Mill Road*

Take Nashville Road toward Lost River Cave and take the left right before Lost River Cave onto Cave Mill Road. The Bark Park will be on the left. Very popular on Friday evenings after work hours.

Adopting

Bowling Green/Warren County Humane Society

270-783-9404 1924 Old Louisville Road

<http://www.bgwchs.org/>

Has adopting, fostering, and volunteer programs.

Grooming

Alpine Pet Care Center (270) 781-7818 2357 Nashville Road

They're really good with dogs and can usually get you an appointment for grooming in a week.

Best Friend's Pooch Parlor (270) 782-3647 5966 Scottsville Road

Highly recommended

Wags N' Whiskers (270) 793-9981 1044 State Street.

Will groom both cats and dogs. Very reasonable pricing, especially for long-haired cats. Also very understanding about reluctant pets.

Boarding

Alpine Pet Care Center

(270) 781-7818 2357 Nashville Road

Great rates for boarding if you are taking trips. Very friendly staff.

Dog's Day Out <http://www.dogsdayoutky.com/>

(270) 796-4199 4800 Sunnyside Gott Road

Daycare, overnight, and grooming services. There is an application process.

Mama's Babies Pet Sitting (270) 793-0153 195 Rondal Drive

Teresa and Gary come to your home to take care of pets while you are away.

Dog Training

Alan Cumberland K9 Academy <http://www.cumberlandk9academy.com/>

(270) 782-7081 Three Springs Road

Offers group classes in basic obedience, advanced obedience, and agility at very reasonable prices. Alan's obedience classes are a wonderful way to train and socialize your dog, while also meeting people with common interests and letting off some grad school steam.

Physical Activities

Preston Center <http://www.wku.edu/imrec/facilities/> (270) 745-6530

The Preston Center is the university owned and operated health and activities center. Summer gym passes are available for \$35. [See Part 2: WKU](#)

Bowling Green Parks and Rec Fitness Center <http://www.bgky.org/bgpr/fitness/>

(270) 393-3232 225 East Third Ave

Fitness Center including machines and classes. Also check the [Aquatic Center](#).

BAC: Bowling Green Athletic Club <http://www.bgathleticclub.com/>

(270) 282-0749 1640 Scottsville Road

Large selection of fitness classes.

CrossFit Old School <http://www.crossfitoldschool.com/>

(270) 904-1657 512 College Street

Kettleballs and other strength training.

Workout Anytime <http://workoutanytime.com/locations/bowling-green/>
(270) 745-7227 600n US 31W Bypass Suite 6
Low monthly rate but machines only.

Martial Arts, etc.

East West Kung-Fu <http://www.ewkf.net/>
Kung Fu, Wing-Chun, women's kickboxing and yoga. Recent Folk Studies grad, Becca Wilson teaches women's kickboxing and yoga!!

Jeremy Black's TaeKwonDo Academy <http://www.ibtkd.com/>
(270) 793-9090 1107 Shive Lane

Marty Eubanks World Champion Karate Academy
<http://eubanksworldchampionkarate.com/>
(270) 202-7637 1333 Magnolia St

High Intensity Combat Sports <http://www.hintensity.com/>
(270) 996-1092 847 Lain Ave.
Brazilian JuJitsu, Judo, and MMA

Boxing Science Academy <http://boxingscienceacademy.com>
(270) 421-2717 738 Old Morgantown Rd.

Yoga/Pilates

4yoga <http://4yoga.me/>
428 East Main Street, 2nd floor of The Pots Place
Community yoga classes for \$5/class

The Spot <http://www.thespotbg.com/>
(270) 904-4019 326 E. Main Avenue
Wide variety of yoga, TRX, spin, and Pilates classes available, and they often have special events so check their website for updates.

Harmony Therapeutic Yoga <https://www.harmonytherayoga.com>
(270) 792-0010 830 Fairview Avenue

Hot Yoga Bowling Green www.hotyogabowlinggreen.com
(270) 793-0011 730 Fairview Avenue, Suite C-2

Strawberry Fields Yoga <http://www.strawberryfieldsyoga.com/schedule.html>
(270) 303-1599 1242 College Street
Special pricing for students

East West Kung-Fu (See info above)

Absolutely Pilates <http://www.absolutelypilatesbg.com>
(270) 793-2728 1051 Fairview Avenue

Be Happy Yoga & Salt Cave <http://behappybg.com/>
270-799-8070 2710 Nashville Hwy. Suite 104

Hiking/Walking Trails

Lost River Cave and Valley <http://www.lostrivercave.com/>
(270) 393-0077 2818 Nashville Road, Bowling Green

The only place in BG that feels like you're not walking in BG. At the bottom of the stairs go up the valley away from the cave.

Low Hollow Trail at Weldon Peete Park <http://kymba.org/bowlinggreen/kentucky-trails/cave-city-sal-hollow>

(270) 842-5302 1708 Old Louisville Road

2.8 mile singletrack mountain bike trail, open to runners and hikers, too. Make sure to check the Daily Direction Traffic sign before getting on the trail. Designed and built by Southwest Kentucky Mountain Bike Association.

Mammoth Cave National Park <http://www.nps.gov/mac/index.htm>
(800) 967-2283 Mammoth Cave Pkwy, Mammoth Cave, KY

About 45 minutes away. Many of the hiking paths are not heavily used and it's a good way to get away. The Maple Springs Trailhead leads to the Big Hollow North and South loops which are great for trail running and mountain biking.

Kereiakes Park 1220 Fairview Avenue

A nice 1.25 mile walking/running path, with disc golf and tennis courts. Check the website for details and directions.

Crestmoor Woods 2033 Nashville Rd. behind the Unitarian Universalist Church
Short intersecting walking paths with some benches and picnic tables. 4 entrances.

Phil Moore Park 7101 Scottsville Rd.

Also includes a fitness track so you can run from one fitness obstacle (stairs or pull-up bar, for example) and plenty of routes for longer or shorter runs)

Shanty Hollow Lake *1200 Shanty Hollow Road*

30 minute drive; the lake is a popular fishing spot and the trail starts to the right of the parking area; beautiful 2-mile trail with lots of rock formations and a tall (but narrow) waterfall. See this [website](#) for details and driving directions.

Disc Golf

Bowling Green has over eight disc golf courses (including the small one on-campus) and a very healthy disc golf association.

<http://www.bgky.org/bgpr/athletics/discgolf.php> or <http://www.bgdgclub.com/>

Cycling

- Mammoth Cave is the best place nearby for trail and off road riding. The trails are a mix of beginner and enthusiast level off road.
- **Low Hollow Trail at Weldon Peete Park** <http://kymba.org/bowlinggreen/kentucky-trails/cave-city-sal-hollow>
(270) 842-5302 1708 Old Louisville Road
2.8 mile singletrack mountain bike trail, open to runners and hikers, too. Make sure to check the Daily Direction Traffic sign before getting on the trail.
Designed and built by Southwest Kentucky Mountain Bike Association. Beginner to intermediate
- For road biking, the local group is a great resource. The website is <http://www.bglob.com/> and they are pretty welcoming to anyone regardless of level or experience.
- There is a decent brochure for cycling in Bowling Green. They have copies at the Kentucky Museum and other places around town.
- <http://www.bgky.org/bike/map.php> has the official bike routes, color-code by levels.

Buying Bicycles

Breck's Bicycle Shop <http://www.brecksbikeshop.com/>
(270) 904-1818 1440 Campbell Ln

Howard's Cyclery
(270) 782-7877 604 Park Street Bowling Green
They have good entry level bikes at decent prices.

Nat's Outdoor Sports
(270) 842-6211 1121 Wilkinson Trace
They have a wider selection than Howard's, but their prices are a bit high.

Gran Fondo Cycles <http://www.granfondocycles.com>

(615) 354-1090, 5205 Harding Pike, Nashville, TN 37205.

If you want super high-end European stuff that costs more than a Honda this is the place.

Radio

- NPR is available through WKYU 88.9. (Barren River Breakdown on Saturday and Sunday at noon with Dr. Erika Brady bi-weekly).
 - WKU 91.7 Revolution has a variety of alternative music. They have themed nights like ska, folk, bluegrass, etc.
 - Alternative pop/rock at FM 107.9 and 107.1FM
 - Classic Rock at 93.3 and 103.7 FM
 - Oldies at 96.7 FM
 - Classic Country at 650 AM (WSM out of Nashville)
 - There is plenty of contemporary country music at FM 96.7, 100.3
-

Library

Warren County Public Library <http://www.warrenpl.org>

(270) 781-4882 1225 State St.

It's free, but you need proof of residency to get a library card, a letter with your local address works fine. It is a great place to rent movies and DVDs for free! There are five locations: the Main Library, the Bob Kirby Branch Library, the Graham Drive Community Library, the Smiths Grove Branch Library, and the Mobile Branch.

Local Attractions

WKU Farm <http://www.wku.edu/farm/>

(270) 745-3276 Nashville Road

They may let you milk a cow! Click here for [directions](#).

Lost River Cave & Valley <http://www.lostrivercave.com/>

(270) 393-0077 2818 Nashville Road, Bowling Green

Bowling Green's cave with an underground boat tour. The tours are \$15 for adults but only \$5 for student with WKU ID. There are also almost 2 miles trails that you can use (for free) in the valley.

Mammoth Cave National Park <http://www.nps.gov/maca/index.htm>

(800) 967-2283 Mammoth Cave Pkwy, Mammoth Cave, KY

It takes about 40-45 minutes to drive to, but well worth it! Cave tours range in difficulty and length and are \$5-\$48 for adults depending on which tour you choose. We recommend the New Entrance tour for first time visitors! There are a variety of other activities at including hiking, camping, backpacking, and canoe rentals in the area. Check the Brochures Page for background information and the Ranger-Led Activity Schedule. There is a free concert in the cave in first Sunday of every December, highly recommended.

Mammoth Cave Adventure <http://www.mammothcave-adventures.com>

(270) 773-6087 1994 Roy Hunter Road, Cave City, KY

They have zip lines (\$55), horseback riding (\$25), Super Swing, and Drop Tower.

Diamond Caverns <http://www.diamondcaverns.com>

(270) 749-2233 1900 Mammoth Cave Parkway, Park City, KY

It's on the way to Mammoth Cave and is a wet cave with pretty stalactites and stalagmites. \$16 for adults.

National Corvette Museum <http://www.corvettemuseum.com/>

(270) 781-7973 350 Corvette Drive, Bowling Green, Kentucky

Off exit \$10 for adults

Riverview at Hobson Grove <http://www.bgky.org/riverview/>

(270) 843-5565 1100 West Main Avenue

\$7 for adults. Italianate home of Atwood and Juliet "Julia" van Meter Hobson.

Shaker Museum at South Union <http://www.shakermuseum.com/>

1(800) 811-8379 850 Shaker Museum Road, Auburn, KY

\$8. Western-most Shaker community; building and grounds and small visitor center, tours available. A good place for internships.

Kentucky Library and Museum <https://www.wku.edu/kentuckymuseum/>

(270) 745-2592 Kentucky Building on campus

Mon-Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 1-4pm. Free to WKU students, \$10 adults

Ingen Art Gallery & Studio <https://www.facebook.com/IngenArt>

(270) 904-1278 432 East Main St.

Art gallery and studio space in downtown BG. Folk Studies alumni, Jack LeSieur has artwork for sale here!

Drake Vintage Music (270) 843-9376 7487 Plano Rd. (Rt. 622)

Mon.-Fri. 8:00-4:00, Saturday 9:00-12:00, 78s, vinyl, cassettes, and select CDs.

About a half-hour drive from Bowling Green, this record-store curio-shop/post-office is well worth a visit, especially if proprietor Freeman Kitchens is in: he is an institution among collectors of country music, both for his varied stock and his encyclopedic knowledge, especially of all matters pertaining to the Carter Family.

Beech Bend Park <http://www.beechbend.com/>

(270) 781-7634 798 Beech Bend Road

Amusement park, dragstrip, oval track, and campground.

Corsair Artisan Distillery <http://www.corsairartisan.com/about/distillery/>

(270) 904-2021 400 East Main Street #110.

A small craft spirits company, Corsair Artisan makes very small batches of spirits, just a few cases at a time, in their pot stills. They have tours and tastings on Fridays and Saturdays.

Bowling

Southern Lanes (270) 843-8741 1776 Campbell Lane

Movies

Great Escape 12 (270) 782-3112 323 Great Escape Ct. (off Industrial)

The newer theatre with 12 screens; often gets 3D movies; stadium seating with reclining seats; free refill on large popcorn and drink.

Great Escape (270) 782-3112 2625 Scottsville Rd, next to the mall

Franklin Drive-In (270) 586-1905 6250 Nashville Rd.

About 30 minutes south of Bowling Green on Nashville Road. Usually shows one film per evening.

Playhouses and Theatres

Bowling Green only has a few, but they are in abundance in Nashville or Louisville.

SKyPAC <http://www.theskypac.com/>

(270) 904-1880 601 College St.

A lot of big names come through to SKyPAC; two galleries feature exhibits in the beautiful SKyPAC facilities. SKyPAC also runs Capitol Arts Center.

Capitol Arts Center<http://www.capitolarts.com/index.html>

(270) 782-2787 416 E. Main Street

Performances all year round plus an art gallery.

Phoenix Theater<http://www.ptkbg.org/>

(270) 781-6233 545 Morris Alley, off Chestnut St.

Public Theatre of Kentucky. Less than \$10-15 for student ticket. An intimate setting that shows five plays per season. The shows range from modern classics (Steel Magnolias, Crimes of the Heart) to Shakespeare and cutting-edge theatre.

WKU Department of Theatre and Dance<https://wku.showare.com/>

\$9 with WKU student ID. They have productions of shows like *Macbeth* and *The Wizard of Oz*. They have the Next Stage Series where "WKU dance students take over the stage with their own exciting and innovative dance creations." Student Studio Series occurs every spring semester and features short works for the theatre produced and directed by advanced Department of Theatre & Dance majors.

Restaurants

Bowling Green has a large number of chain restaurants and fast food restaurants, most of which aren't listed here. However, there are also ethnic restaurants, good southern cooking, establishments of fine dining, and some just plain fun places. Note: some restaurants downtown close at 4 pm and reopen at 5 pm. Many restaurants in the downtown area aren't open on Sundays. Check out Bowling Green Daily News online http://www.bgdailynews.com/restaurant_reviews/ because it has good up-to-date restaurant reviews.

Bakeries and sweet shops

Great American Donut Shop

(270) 842-7155

901 US 31W Bypass

Where else can you get good donuts 24 hours a day?

Riley's Bakery

(270) 842-7636

819 31-W By-pass

Their cakes are a Bowling Green institution, been around for over half a century. They also have good pies, tarts, tea cookies, and many other delectables.

Chaney's Dairy Barn

(270) 843-5567

9191 Nashville Road (Hwy 31W)

Local homemade ice cream and Kentucky-made products.

Krispy Kreme

(270) 782-3280

798 Campbell Lane

Mary Jane's Chocolate <https://www.maryjaneschocolates.com>
(270) 904-2408 825 College Street

Pop Works <https://www.thepopworks.com>
(270) 904-1516 1640 Scottsville Road

Sweet Temptations (270) 904-4210 600 US 31W Bypass
Bakery, café and catering. Cakes and breakfast/brunch/lunch cafe.

Stackz Frozen Yogurt (270) 282-2410 1945 Scottsville Rd.

American

440 Main <http://www.440main.com/page.php?20>
(270) 793-0450 440 Main (it's not just a catchy name) Fountain Park Square.
A good, but pricey, upscale restaurant. They serve Louisiana influenced food. They also have a bar side called Micki's on Main which has good bar food (such as a very good version of the Kentucky specialty a "hot brown") at cheaper prices.

Home Café and Market Place <http://www.homecafebg.com/>
(270) 846-1272 2440 Nashville Rd.
Another favorite, lots of interesting daily specials, uses a lot of local ingredients.

Gerard's 1907 Tavern (270) 904-8133 935 College Street

Lost River Pizza <http://lostriverpizza.com/>
(270) 746-0255 2440 Nashville Rd Sites 106 & 107

Judy's Castle (270) 842-8736 1302 31-W Bypass
A restaurant that serves traditional Southern favorites. Good pies with friendly staff.

Novo Dolce (270) 904-3300 651 31-W Bypass
Pizza, pasta, seafood, sandwiches. Has daily drink and food specials. Excellent choice of specialty espresso drinks and gelato.

White Squirrel

Asian

Taj Palace <http://www.bgkytajpalace.com/taj.html>
(270) 843-2233 2800 Scottsville Road (Tower Place)

Indian Cuisine at reasonable prices. Buffet lunch and small staff is very friendly. Not open for lunch on Mondays. The evening menu has some Nepalese specialties.

Thai Thai (270) 782-7899 712 Chestnut Street.
Good Thai restaurant. Most entrees are under \$10.

Babylon (270) 320-6573 2464 Russellville Road
Halal and Middle Eastern cuisine

India Oven <https://www.indiaovenbg.com>
(270) 843 9939 1755 Scottsville Rd., Ste 2
Great lunch buffet.

Pho BC (270) 904-1857 1640 Scottsville Road #600
Vietnamese restaurant

Thai Express (270) 796-3614 511 U.S. 31-W By-Pass
Limited menu, but inexpensive. They offer tofu options for vegetarians.

Yuki Japanese Restaurant (270) 393-8477 151 Iron Skillet Ct. Scottsville Rd.
Excellent, but not cheap, Japanese food. It gets crowded on the weekends, but they take reservations.

Ichiban (270) 783-4110 1423 U.S. 31W By-Pass
An inexpensive Japanese place.

Yingji Bistro (270) 790-7861 430 U.S. 31W By-Pass
Chinese restaurant with excellent dim sum. \$2 dim sum plates on Sundays from 11:30am-2:30pm.

Latin

Puerto Vallarta (270) 782-6264 2800 Scottsville Rd.
Standard American Mexican fare. Occasionally there are Mariachi bands.

La Placita Antojitos (270) 904-6948 803 Old Morgantown Road
Serving more traditional Mexican and Central American favorites like pupusas and garnachas.

El Mazatlan (270) 393-2070 600 31 W bypass (Fairview Plaza)
Much like Puerto Vallarta. Try their salsa verde!

El Rincon Mexican Grill (270) 935-5328 729 Chestnut Street

Taqiera Los Primos (270) 796-6736 306 Old Morgantown Rd
Quick, good bar food.

Garcia's Grill (270) 842-6100 1689 Campbell Lane
A bit more Cal-Mex than the others, with more emphasis on seafood.

European

Taste of Europe (270) 846-1195 1006 State St.
Small café near downtown square with amazing gyros, falafel, souvlaki, and other Greek food. Homemade pita bread. Best French fries in town.

Behar Café (270) 599-1194 728 Old Morgantown Road
Bosnian restaurant and grocery with tasty cevapi and great coffee! The staff is very friendly, too!

The Bistro (270) 781-9646 1129 College St.
Upscale restaurant serving Italian & American food. Excellent place to eat out if your parents are picking up the check.

Cafés

Spencer's Coffeehouse (270) 393-7060 915 College St. (on the square)
Locally owned coffeehouse (where you can also get milkshakes), with good muffins at breakfast, and soups and sandwiches for lunch. Free wi-fi.

Buckhead Café (270) 846-0110 760 Campbell Lane
Daily smoothie specials and veggie wraps.

Cambridge Market & Café (270) 782-9366 803 Fairview Ave.
Good sandwiches, plus dishes like savory tortes, hot chicken salad, and cookie dough pie.

Roam Sandwich Company (270) 904-3489 422 ½ East Main Avenue
Traveled themed café located in a little alleyway off Main Street.

BBQ

There are three types of BBQ in Kentucky. For those of you who wish to sample the variety of Kentucky BBQ, try a trip to Owensboro for their specialty mutton barbeque or take a trip to Monroe County (vinegar based) for their variety of pork BBQ.

Smoky Pig Bar-B-Que (270) 781-1712 2520 Louisville Road
One of the few BBQ joints that sells beer. Their menu includes Monroe County style, which means vinegar based.

Split Tree Barbecue <http://www.splittreebbq.com/>
(270) 742-2268 115 Wilson Rd, Alvaton
About eight miles south of Bowling Green on Scottsville Road. A local favorite, their corncakes are fabulous.

Jimmy D's (270) 781-2234 5449 Scottsville Road
There is no dine-in, so you just pick it up. People say it's the best barbecue in town!

Roy's Pit BBQ (270) 726-8057 101 Sarah Lane, Russellville Rd.
A bit of a jaunt from BG, but they have some of the best western Kentucky style barbecue. Farm-raised catfish, too!

Third's BBQ (270) 303-5917 200 College Street
Another local favorite. Dine-in, takeout, or drive-thru.

Pubs, Taverns, Clubs, and Watering Holes

Bowling Green's nightlife changes fairly frequently, but there are a few standards you can rely on, many of which are off the square.

Tidball's (270) 793-9955 522 Morris Alley, off Chestnut Street
Best dive bar in town. Features live music on most nights and open mic night on Mondays.

Entourage Tapas Bar and Lounge <http://www.entouragelounge.com/>
(270) 781-8366 935 College Street
A restaurant during the day and then the DJ turns it into a dance place from 11pm-2am, generally top 40 music.

Buffalo Wild Wings <http://www.buffalowildwings.com/>
(270) 842-9496 1760 Scottsville Rd.
Your standard wings, beer, and electronic trivia. Great place to watch the game.

Mariah's <http://www.mariahs.com/>
(270) 842-6878 360 E. Eighth Avenue
Some students speak highly of the happy hour at the bar. They also have great food!

Micki's on Main <http://www.440main.com/page.php?20>

(270) 793-0450 440 Main, on Fountain Park Square
The bar portion of the 440 Main restaurant. Keep an eye out for special events, they have great "\$5 martini nights" and "\$5 wine nights."

Rocky's Bar 332 E Main Ave

Dublin's Irish Pub 904 State St (270) 784-1292

Pub by Novo <http://www.pubbynovo.com>
(270) 715-6686 2524 Scottsville Rd #127
Sports bar with elegant bar food, craft beers, and specialty cocktails. Nice atmosphere.

White Squirrel <http://www.whitesquirrelbrewery.com>
(270) 904-1573 871 Broadway Avenue
Bowling Green's very own microbrewery and pub grub! Great beer cheese!

643 Sports Bar and Grill <http://www.643sportsbarandgrill.com/>
(270) 846-0020 360 E. Eighth Avenue
They have tasty food and a beer wall! They also have live band karaoke.

Cue Time (270) 782-3740 532 Three Springs Rd
This is a pool hall/bar.

Hilligan's Sports Bar (270) 282-2227 1265 College St.
Sports bar located close to campus. Very popular with college crowd. Serves pizza, wings, and other fare, but is mainly known for drink specials.

Part 2: Introduction to Western Kentucky University

- WKU is the third largest Kentucky public university.
- Its athletic teams are called the Hilltoppers and the mascot is Big Red.
- Often just called Western locally.
- Bowling Green is quite welcoming to Western students. Many places offer discounts for students and/or accept Big Red dollars, which is money you can put on you WKU ID.

Important Phone Numbers on Campus

Financial Aid (270) 745-2755/6 317 Potter Hall
<https://www.wku.edu/financialaid/>

Registration (Records and Transcripts) (270) 745-335
<https://www.wku.edu/registrar/>

The Graduate School (270) 745-2446
<http://www.wku.edu/graduate/>

Counseling Center (270) 745-3159
<https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/>

WKU Police (270) 745-2548
<http://www.wku.edu/police/>

Getting Started

[This website](#) may be helpful in figuring out your various accounts and login info.

ID numbers/NetID:

- As soon as possible you need to use the 800 ID number that was mailed to you to create your NetID and passwords.
- You will need your NetID for using WKU email, logging onto campus computers (and therefore for printing), and for Black Board.

Student ID:

- Also as soon as possible, go to and get your ID
 - Your card comes with \$150 for black and white printing. If you want to print in color you need to add money to your ID.
-

Grades

A note about grades. WKU does not have an incremental grading system. That means that an 89 is a B, not a B+.

Parking on Campus

Parking & Transportation Office

<http://www.wku.edu/transportation/>

(270) 745-2361 1716 Park St

- Monday-Friday 7am to 4:30pm you need a pass to park on campus. In the evening, a current WKU permit is required to park in the Mimosa, Gated Regents and Gated Hilltop parking lots. You can park almost anywhere on campus in the evenings. If you get there between 4:30-5pm there is a window of opportunity to find a really good parking place.
- Most students find it easier to walk to campus or park off campus on the adjoining streets. Good places to park are on the side streets like Chestnut, College St., some of the side streets off College, or if you're really desperate, the public library.
- You can park in the visitor's parking at the Kentucky Museum for free if you go in and get a parking pass for that day from the front desk.
- A commuter parking permit allows you to park in designated areas, however you are not guaranteed a spot. The full year pass can be purchased at the Parking & Transportation Office.
- You can alternatively purchase a Campbell Lane Permit. That allows you to park in The Campbell Lane parking lot and in Mimosa, Gated Regents and Gated Hilltop parking lots weekdays after 4:30 and in All-Permit zone after 2pm. There is free transportation provided from the Campbell Lane lot.

WKU Libraries

Helm-Cravens Library

<http://www.wku.edu/library/>

Next to the Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center (home of Folk Studies and Anthropology Dept.)

- This is where you will spend a good deal of your time. Enter on the fourth floor of Cravens (ground level with the first floor of FAC and first floor of Helm) and you will find the on-line catalog, TOPCAT, the circulation desk and reserved books and articles. For many of your classes you will have reserve readings that can be retrieved from the circulation desk. You will need the call number or professor's name, the name and author of the article, and some patience.
- The first floor of Cravens is the area known as The Commons where you will find computers, booths with large monitors for group or individual work, and all new tables and chairs.
- The reference section and non-circulation are on the first floor of Helm (same as 4th floor of Cravens). The Folklore reference books are in the GR call numbers section.
- The library does not bill you for fines until they reach \$5.00. The fines are not waived; you just don't realize you even have fines until you get the bill.
- **The Interlibrary Loan (ILL)** office is on the first floor of Helm in the far corner of the reference section. When requesting something from ILL, make sure that the item is

not already in the WKU Library collection, provide as much publication information as possible, but most importantly, don't forget the OCC number. Please order your publications as early as possible as it can take anywhere from one week to two months to get them. Hardcopy forms are located outside the ILL office, but there is also an [online form on the website](#).

Kentucky Library, Library Special Collections <http://www.wku.edu/library/dlsc/>
(270) 745-5083 2nd floor of the Kentucky Building on campus
Houses the Manuscripts and Folklife Archive, including the Kentucky Folklife Program Archive.

Technological Information

WKU Email

To access your WKU email account, go to <http://webmail.wku.edu/> and follow the instructions. This is a Microsoft Outlook web-based email account, so it can be accessed from any computer with internet access. If you plan to keep using your non-WKU email you need to login and get your email forwarded because professors use that account.

Computer Labs

<http://www.wku.edu/it/labs/>

There are several computer labs on campus, [click here for hours and locations](#).

- The most convenient and most popular lab is the Student Technology Lab on the 2nd floor of Helm Library (same floor as periodicals). This computer lab has Apples that have Adobe Creative Suite.
- There are two Apples and one PC computer in the Morgan Reading Room (Room 248 where 90% of your classes will be held) that you are free to use though the room isn't always open.
- There is a computer lab reserved for graduate students. The lab is located in the Environmental Science and Technology building (EST room 345) across from Hardin Planetarium. You must apply for a magnetic key card from the Computer Science and Geography/Geology Departments.
- The labs in Mass Media are usually opened 24/7.

Scanning: All student technology labs have at least one scanner to use at no charge.

Printing

Each graduate student is given \$150 for black and white printing per year in the University printing lab. The allotment is put on your student ID card at the beginning of the academic year (August). If you need color printing money or if you run out of free printing in the course of the year, you can put money on your card using Big Red Dollars.

Photocopying

On-campus:

There are copy machines in a number of locations throughout Helms-Craven library. Copies are \$0.10. A change machine is available on the 4th floor of Cravens. The copiers take dollar bills and Big Red Dollars.

Off-campus:

FedEx Office (270) 782-3590 1689 Campbell Lane

Staples (270) 746-0711 1680 Campbell Lane

Buying Books

- Some of the books will be available for check-out in the Morgan Room or the library if you want to try to do your reading that way. Some professors also put books on reserve at the library.
- Be warned: not all the books that are listed on the bookstore site are actually required, it can be good to wait until your first class to buy books.
- If you want to buy your books (and many of the books are good for folklorists to own), there are several places in town besides the WKU bookstore that stock the books required for your classes. There will usually be price differences with each store, so shop around before you buy. However, buying them online through Barnes and Noble College Bookstore, if you have a membership, or Amazon is usually the cheapest route. Used books from Half.com is cheap and effective, as long as you can find a seller with a reliable rating.

The WKU Store

<https://www.wkustore.com>

(800) 444-5155 *Downing Student Union (DSU), on campus*

All kinds of collegiate items, from sweatshirts to key rings; they also sell used textbooks and discounted computer programs. If you order from the online store they will ship books to your home. They will also pull the books for all your classes off the shelves and box them up for you so you just go in and pick them up! Be wary of this option, though, if you have preferences for writing or highlighting in your used books.

Textbook Depot

(270) 904-2227 111 Old Morgantown Road

University Textbook and Supply

(270) 783-0687 102 Bookstore Way *(just over the railroad tracks)*

Discount/used book store close to campus with lots of parking.

WKU Health Insurance

Student Health Insurance

Forms and information can be found on the . Payment is due in full with application and is about \$1500 for the year. It is a treatment only insurance, meaning it only covers injury and illness, not preventative (including dental). Doctor's appointments at WKU Health Services based on these criteria are 100% covered and it is expensive to go elsewhere.

Graduate Student Health Insurance

Full-time graduate assistants are eligible for GA Health Insurance. Check the website for details: http://www.wku.edu/graduate/aid/ga/health_insurance.php

Medical Care

WKU Health Services

<http://www.wku.edu/healthservices/>

(270) 745-5641 1906 College Heights Blvd. #8400

- 7:30am-4:45pm Mon/Tues/Thurs, 8:30am-3:45pm Wed, 7:30-12:15pm Fri. No weekend appointments.
- Has its own parking lot.
- Bring your student ID, driver's license, insurance card, and method of payment.
- It is better to make an appointment so that you don't have to wait long.
- Flu shots are available; free AIDs testing monthly; physicals, etc.
- There is no longer a pharmacy on campus. However, they have a "dispensary" that offers ibuprofen, Tylenol, cold medicine, etc. for a relatively modest price.

LGBTQIA+ Students

WKU is a liberal enclave in an otherwise conservative town. Many residents are currently working to make BG a more equal and welcoming community via the BG Fairness Campaign. There are many resources for members of WKU's LGBTQIA+ community:

- [WKU PRIDE Center](#) Garrett Conference Center RM #121 pridecenter@wku.edu
The mission of the WKU PRIDE Center is to support all LGBTQIA+ and questioning students at Western Kentucky University and improve the campus climate for LGBTQIA+ students. The PRIDE Center collaborates with other campus programs and groups to support students as they complete their educational goals. The WKU PRIDE Center can be used for holding meetings, studying, and hanging out.
- [Queer Student Union \(QSU\)](#): Student organization for the LGBTQIA+ community. WKU's Queer Student Union strives to provide a safe environment for LGBTQ people on WKU's campus. The QSU seeks to cultivate a sense of community, a support network, and

strong representation for LGBTQ interests at WKU. The QSU is made up of mostly freshmen and sophomores, but is led by graduate students.

- WKU Transgender/Non-Binary Support Group qsu.tnb@gmail.com
A support group for trans/non-binary students. The group's meeting location/hours are unlisted to protect members of the group. If you wish to join the group, you must send the group an email.
- [Weekly support group for LGBTQIA+ Students](#): Facilitated by the WKU Counseling & Testing Center. Mondays at 3 p.m., in Potter Hall 408.
- [Resources for Transgender Students](#): This webpage contains information on [counseling services for transgender students](#), [information about how Title IX protects trans students on campus](#), [a directory of all gender bathrooms on campus](#), [a template for informing faculty of names and pronouns](#), and [a guide to changing your name on rosters/email/student ID](#).

WKU Child Care

(270) 745-4042 <http://www.wku.edu/cc/>

For ages between 6 weeks and 12 years. Call for more information.

Athletic Facilities

Preston Center <http://www.wku.edu/imrec/facilities/>

Located at the far end of campus from the FAC building, past the parking structure, fields and stadium, and DUC, is a nice facility available for students and faculty.

- The center opens at 6am (most days) and closes at 11pm. They open later on the weekends, and the hours vary during breaks and the summer semester.
- You need your student ID for admission.
- Your full-time student status entitles you to free use of the weight machines, free weights, stairmasters, treadmills, bikes, Nordic track, indoor track, basketball and racquetball courts, and the swimming pool. Obtain a swim schedule from the desk at Preston center to have a list of the times the pool will be available. The swim team uses it regularly for practice and meets.
- Additionally, there are aerobic and group classes of all types (yoga, kickboxing, zumba, pilates, cycling, abs) available at no additional charge (the cost is included in your tuition.)
- The Preston Center offers massages at a discount price for student, typically \$20-25 for a half hour, \$30-40 for an hour.

- They also offer a variety of fitness evaluations. We recommend the “total fitness package” which includes a beginning and ending fitness assessments and three personal training sessions.
 - Daily use locker and locker rentals available.
 - The Preston Center offers student summer memberships for \$35.
-

Part 3: Folk Studies Program

Faculty and Staff

For full Faculty and staff bios and information visit <http://www.wku.edu/fsa/staff/index.php>



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(270) 745-5898

Departmental Spaces

Room 237 FAC

- The Folk Studies and Anthropology Department offices are in the Fine Arts Center.
- There is a fridge, coffee pot, and microwave in the mailroom, which you are welcome to use. *Please clean up after yourself.*
- If you are a graduate assistant, you will also have a mailbox there.
- Office associate Donna Shulte is happy to help you with your questions, (270) 745-5295. If you have an assistantship, Donna is also the one you give your timesheets to and who distributes your paycheck (if it's not direct deposited).

Room 248 FAC, AKA the John Morgan Reading Room.

- Most of your classes will be conducted here. The room is furnished with tables, chairs, a few armchairs, and two computers available for graduate student use.
- Books and journals are available for in-room use.
- FYI: the room is named for John Morgan, a previous graduate of the program, who passed away several years ago and donated a good portion of his video equipment and books to the department.

Pioneer Log Cabin

The Pioneer Log Cabin is now the offices of the [Kentucky Folklife Program](#). This space is also used for the [Cabin Concert Series](#) and other departmental special events/meetings. The cabin is located behind the Kentucky Museum, click here for [map](#) and [directions](#).

Important Forms

Check the website for details:

http://www.wku.edu/folkstudies/important_forms_guidelines.php

Form C

This needs to be filled out in your first few weeks at WKU. You need to sit down with Dr. Ferrell and decide your track and pick out all of your classes. You can change these later on, but then you need to fill out a new form.

Form D

This needs to be filled out at the beginning of the semester before the one you plan to graduate in (i.e. 3rd semester if you are graduating after your fourth). It is your application for graduating.

Assistantships

<http://wku.edu/graduate/aid/ga/>

You get paid at the end of each month from September through April. You can get your paychecks directly deposited if you like, fill out this [form](#) and turn it in along with a voided check to the Payroll office (Weatherby Admin building, ground floor office G10). Otherwise you pick them up from Donna in FAC 237.

Registering for Classes

You will be taking three classes a semester and probably doing an internship in the summer. Remember that each of the three tracks (thesis, public, and preservation) has their own required classes and these may only be offered every other year. Fieldwork, Genres, and Theory must be taken your first year. Before registering for classes feel free to contact current students who can give you tips about what classes to take, they will be more than happy to help you. Within the Folk Studies graduate program you don't have to worry about getting shut out of classes, but try to register sooner rather than later.

Before registering for classes, you may need to speak with Dr. Ferrell. After you're cleared, you will use [TopNet](#) to register for your classes. Select the student services option and then follow the instructions. Once in TopNet, you can register, add, and drop classes with ease. You can also track your financial aid, tuition bill, and grades.

After you have registered you can view your class syllabi (once posted by professors) via TopNet by going to *Student Services* menu, and selecting *Student Summary Schedule*.

Classes

Not all classes are offered every year. This is a rough schedule so that you can decide what to take your first semester. Remember that Fieldwork, Genres, and Theory must be taken your first year.

Every fall: Genres, Fieldwork, Public, Folk Art

Every spring: Theory, Narrative

Even year fall: Vernacular Architecture, Women's Folklife

Odd year spring: Museums, Folklore & Education

Odd year fall: Cultural Conservation, Foodways

Even year spring: Belief

Recommended Classes

Video Ethnographies and Visual Anthropology are anthropology classes, but they are recommended for learning about video ethnographies.

Internships

No matter which track you are taking it is recommended that you do an internship. It is a great way to learn new skills, practice those you learned in class, make connections in the field, and improve your resume. Visit the website to read about recent Folk Studies grad internship experiences: http://www.wku.edu/folkstudies/internship_stories.php

WKU Folk Studies M.A. Portfolio Guidelines

The portfolio is required for all Public Folklore and Historic Preservation track students. The portfolio must be submitted before you take your comprehensive exams. See the very helpful http://www.wku.edu/folkstudies/grad_port_guidelines.php page for full requirements and description.

Master's Thesis Guidelines

All students in the thesis track must complete a thesis to graduate. See <http://www.wku.edu/graduate/students/thesis/for> full guidelines and description. Note that you are allowed one committee member from outside of WKU if you desire.

Fieldwork Equipment

What we have in the department, how you can access it and where you can purchase your own, (if you're interested), will all be explained to you in the Fieldwork Class, held in your first semester. Purchase of your own compact flash card (2 GB plus) is required for the Fieldwork Class. You can also see a list of available equipment on the department website: http://www.wku.edu/folkstudies/available_equipment.php

E-Mail Discussion Lists

There are several email discussion lists you can join that can be useful in folk studies research as well as internship and employment hunting. These are the lists that are most relevant to the program, but in no way is the list complete.

Current Folk

CURRENT-FOLK@LISTS.WKU.EDU

The department faculty and current student discussion board. See Dr. Ferrell to be added to this list upon arrival at WKU.

Publore

<http://list.unm.edu/archives/publore.html>

Listserve for Public Folklore discussions and job openings. There is a link to join on the homepage.

Folklore Discussion List

FOLKLORE@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU

Good discussion of all aspects of folk studies. Everything from contemporary legends to internship announcements.

Museum-L

<http://home.ease.lsoft.com/scripts/wa.exe?A0=museum-l>

This list discusses all things related to all museum types. Frequently posts internships and employment opportunities, as well as those bizarre questions only visitors ask!

Museum-Ed

MUSEUM-ED@FREEDOM.MTN.ORG

A list for museum educators, again from all sorts of museums. Announcements are often cross-posted to the Museum-L list, but not always.

Artifact

ARTIFACT-REQUEST@UMDD.UMD.EDU

A list for the discussion of material culture.

Preservation-L

PRESERVATION-L@NETCOM.COM

A list related to historic preservation. Has a tendency to focus more on architecture, but occasionally there are gems of information relevant to folk studies posted.

American Folklore Society:

“The American Folklore Society is an association of folklorists: people who study and communicate knowledge about folklore throughout the world.” (AFS website). It is recommended that you review the website before school starts to get a feel for the organization. I would also recommend becoming a student member. The student membership costs \$40 for a year and if you want to join any of the sections those too cost another, but smaller, fee. When you become a member, you receive the quarterly publication put out by AFS, *Journal of American Folklore*. You also get a discount at AFS’s annual conference.

The annual AFS meeting:

AFS sponsors a conference each fall that most everyone in the Folk Studies department will attend. Attendance is strongly encouraged and gives students a chance to meet “real folklorists” working in our field and other folklore students. These people will become your colleagues and some may become your employers. The conference also allows you to learn about topics of interest and explore new areas of the field. If you plan on presenting a paper during your time at WKU (and it is encouraged) this is also a great opportunity to see what makes a good presentation. The department helps with part of the travel expenses and you can also volunteer to get your registration fee waived. Check the [Annual Meetings](#) page for dates and details.

Tips for AFS annual meeting:

- Check out the [“How to Make the AFS Meeting Work For You”](#) page on the AFS website.
- Make sure to check the list of events and resources specifically for graduate students.
- Lots of the folklorist you talk to will ask you what you are studying or what you are interested in. Dr. Brady suggested a good response that will work whether you know your focus or not: “I’m narrowing it down. If you were a first-year student what would you study?”
- Business cards are a good idea. You will be doing lots of networking, either purposefully or more casually and these will come in handy.
- Layers! You may be in the hotel for 15 hours at a time without any way to warm up.
- If you are interested in a particular section pay their AFS section fee, explore their part of the AFS website, and go to their section meeting (usually at lunchtime). Many groups have ways for you to get involved if you are a member such as becoming a junior convener or joining a committee. There is a [Graduate Students Section](#).
- The Public Section’s auction is usually a very entertaining event, even if it means staying up later than you planned.

Graduate Student Research & Travel Grants

http://www.wku.edu/graduate/aid/travel_grant.php

The Graduate Council manages a student research grant program. Grants for up to \$750.00 are available for graduate students for expenses related to research: tapes, batteries, film, developing, copying, travel expenses, etc. You cannot apply grant funds to equipment unless you plan to donate it to the university. Likewise, the grants will not fund books or periodicals. The majority of funds are usually distributed early spring, so determine your project and prepare your proposal early. Receiving a grant will look good on your resume. Travel grants are also available to attend conferences.

Yeager Scholarships

The Russell M. and Mary Z. Yeager Scholarship supports graduate student research (e.g., thesis, class project, or independent study), or internships. In either case, the student must submit an application showing use of the resources of the Kentucky Museum and/or Kentucky Library. Generally, awards range between \$500 and \$1000. See Dr. Brady about deadlines and application guidelines.
