

Non-Traditional Students

10 tips for SUCCESS

As a working adult student, you face more challenges than students who go straight from high school to full-time college study. You may already be meeting the demands of a job and family responsibilities while staying active in your faith. Adding school work that fits around that already-full schedule may seem nearly impossible!

At LeTourneau University, we believe that **YOU CAN SUCCEED** and we're ready to partner with you to help you meet your goals.

Here are some ideas to help you achieve the degree you've been dreaming of.



1 Be realistic.

It's tempting to jump in and try to finish as many courses as you can as quickly as possible. Start slowly, so you can get a better sense of the classwork and time requirements that the courses carry with them.

2 Enlist your family's support.

Your schedule (and theirs) will probably change when you return to school. Work with them so they can take on more responsibilities. Recruit them as "study buddies" who help you by quizzing you from notecards you've prepared, or give you the space and quiet time you need to complete homework.



3 Use your time to your advantage.

Now, more than ever, you're going to have to show self-discipline. Schedule a time for your classwork – whether it's in the early morning, at lunch, while the kids are at school or after their bedtime – and stick with it.

Be prepared to take advantage of time if it suddenly opens up: Bring reading material or review work with you to study if, for example, you have to wait for a doctor's appointment, are on hold with the phone company or arrive early to pick up the kids from basketball practice.




4

Develop your tech skills.

Just as you would seek out more training so you have the skills needed for your job, you will want to be sure you have the skills necessary to succeed in school. Refresh your abilities in word processing and using electronic media and Web-based resources. See “More Resources” at the end of this report for useful resources.

5

Take a professional approach.



Your school work is as important as any job. Treat the time you schedule to study and complete assignments as seriously as you take your employment.

6

Connect with others.

Many other students are in the same situation as you. Get to know them to discuss classwork, whether in person or online, and share solutions to problems you have in common. If you’re attending classes on campus, consider who you might team up with to carpool, or even swap child care.


7

Care for yourself.

You’re going to need to be healthy to succeed, so eat well, drink lots of water, and get enough sleep. Exercise is the best stress reliever of all. If you can, ride a stationary bike while reading, or discuss classwork with a classmate while you take a walk together. And don’t neglect your spiritual life; your faith will guide and sustain you.

8 Get a handle on resources.

Take advantage of tutoring support, study guides and other resources that are just a mouse click away. LeTourneau University offers support - from online study resources to a virtual prayer room - all intended to help you succeed in your academic endeavors.

Information about these resources can be found on the Front Porch web site at www.FrontPorchLetu.com.



DON'T GIVE UP

9 Keep your eyes on the prize.

Don't let short-term frustrations and difficulties get in the way of the big picture. When discouraged, prayerfully imagine yourself in the role your degree will allow you to play. Or find a picture that represents who you will be when you finish your degree, and post it on your refrigerator or by your computer. Ask for help when you need it, and stay motivated.

10 Follow your faith.

If your Christian faith has guided you back to school, it is important to attend a college that integrates faith with learning and life. This combination will provide you with opportunities for academic and professional development, as well as encouraging your spiritual and emotional growth.



More resources

Here are some valuable resources to help you:

Blackboard ([Click here to open](#))

Tutoring, Career Services, Media: www.LETUFrontPorch.com

MyLETU ([Click here to open](#))

Center for Faith and Work: www.CenterForFaithAndWork.com

Tips on Writing Research Papers, Study Skills and more: www.LETUMyDegree.com

Master's Touch Student Chaplain ([Click here to open](#))