



 UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION

VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to assist CSUN students as they transition from military service to academic success. The Veterans Resource Center of the University Student Union promotes the academic, personal and professional development of Student Veterans, reservists, members of the National Guard and their dependents through supportive services, resources and community building events.

"Student Veterans" includes active duty service members, reservists, members of the National Guard and Veterans.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR FACULTY

- Joining Forces Veteran Ally Training
- Referral Information to On- & Off-Campus Partners
- Student Veteran Support

VRC SERVICES

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- Women in Military History Appreciation
- Joining Forces Veteran Ally Training

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Student Veteran Welcome
- After Hours Study Jam
- Veterans Graduation Reception

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- The Blend Discussion Group
- Family & Friends Fun Day
- Benefits Workshop

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Veteran and Veteran Affiliates Conferences
- Employment Opportunities

Programs are subject to change depending on the need of students



FALL 2020 UPDATE

The University Student Union (USU) at CSUN welcomes all students and the campus community to the Fall 2020 semester. You are invited to experience the wide range of exciting virtual events, programs and services we are currently offering. Everything the USU provides for you is intended to optimize your sense of belonging at CSUN through student engagement, connection and community building.

Check our website and social media often for more information about our virtual opportunities for you at the University Student Union... Where Matadors Belong!



WELCOME TO YOUR UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION AT CSUN • WHERE MATADORS BELONG

INFORMATION FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

MAKING YOUR CLASSROOM INCLUSIVE FOR STUDENT VETERANS

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

- Recognize your own cultural lens and biases and become knowledgeable of Student Veterans' backgrounds.
- Societal & Institutional consideration:
- Be mindful of your worldviews: including political ideologies and the impact it can have on student learning.
- Student Veterans should not be considered as the spokespeople for the Veteran community.
- Have the ability and willingness to use culturally appropriate management strategies.

TIPS ON MAKING SYLLABI VETERAN FRIENDLY

Creating a syllabus that reflects awareness of Student Veterans can communicate your interest and respect for their service and success in school.

Example: Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g. upcoming deployments and drill requirements) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these in advance, if possible, to the instructor. For additional support contact the CSUN Veterans Resource Center.

FACULTY SUPPORT

- Encourage Veteran participation in campus groups and activities. Veterans bring tremendous life experience, diversity and skill (e.g., leadership and teamwork) with them to the campus.
- Encourage students to approach you and reinforce that it is normal for Student Veterans to seek support after class and during breaks, or to use office hours and email. The relationship with a faculty member or advisor could be the single item that helps the Veteran remain in school. For instance, this relationship may help the Veteran feel more connected to the campus, may help the Veteran navigate a new system (many Veterans leave higher education because they grow frustrated with the process and inability to obtain benefits), or feel support from an authority figure.
- Recognize that a Veteran is a non-traditional student who may hold multiple roles (parent, spouse, employee, Reservist/Guardsman). Encourage communication and exhibit flexibility related to these many demands.
- Enhance feelings of comfort in the classroom and in test settings (e.g., quiet, less crowded). In the case where a medical or mental health disorder is present, the Student Veteran may qualify for academic accommodations or special arrangements, which can be made through the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES).
- Some Student Veterans are sensitive to people being behind them or in very close physical proximity. It may make them more comfortable to let them choose where to sit. Recognize that some individuals will be most comfortable in the back of a classroom near an exit door. Do not perceive this as disinterest. In fact, this position may enable them to better attend to and integrate new information.
- Veterans often have medical appointments scheduled months in advance, which may impact course attendance. If their instructor will not work with them, they may get discouraged, possibly fail the class and/or drop out of school. The Student Veteran may be required to repay the money paid for that class as a result.
- Student Veterans may have special needs but are often disinclined to seek assistance due to stigma and/or fear of appearing weak. Encourage them to contact the DRES.

Information adopted from:

Brainlinemilitary.org (www.brainlinemilitary.org/content/2013/04/from-comback-to-classroom_pageall.html)
VA Campus Toolkit Handout (www.mentalhealth.va.gov/studentveteran/docs/ed_tipsForSupport.html)

OTHER RESOURCES

CSUN VETERAN AFFAIRS OFFICE

Bayramian Hall 150

PHONE (818) 677-5928

csun.edu/admissions-records/veterans-affairs

DISABILITY RESOURCES AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Bayramian Hall 110

PHONE (818) 677-2684

EMAIL dres@csun.edu

csun.edu/dres

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES

Bayramian Hall 520

PHONE (818) 677-2366

EMAIL coun@csun.edu

csun.edu/counseling

CONTACT

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