

Instructional Continuity Planning

Inclement Weather & Other Emergencies

Executive Summary

Middle Tennessee State University

Overview

With guidance from the President and Provost, the [Academic Continuity Committee](#) recently completed this [plan](#) to ensure that MTSU maintains instructional continuity during disruptions caused by inclement weather or other emergencies. MTSU's Academic Continuity Committee is responsible for evaluating needs and providing guidance to ensure continuity across instruction, research, and service. Its membership includes representatives from the Provost's Office, Deans, Council of Chairs, Faculty Senate, Student Affairs, Student Health Services, Disability and Access Center, University Police Department, Campus Planning, Facilities Services, Information Technology Division, Institutional Equity and Compliance, and University Counsel.

Instructional Continuity

- In-Person Classes: Move to online (synchronous/asynchronous) delivery.
- Online Classes: Continue without interruption.
- Hybrid Classes: Shift to fully online temporarily.
- Internships, Practicums, Performances: Coordinate with partners or venues.

What this means for you as a faculty member:

- Faculty should plan ahead in advance of potential disruptions, and should remain adaptable when continuity plans are activated.
- Faculty and staff should utilize existing MTSU resources (e.g., ITD, MTSU Online, DAC, LT&ITC) to ensure flexibility if/when on-campus instruction is disrupted.
- Faculty should introduce classroom continuity guidelines in their syllabi, and should clearly communicate with students via email and D2L if/when campus continuity plans are activated.

Communication Planning:

- Faculty are encouraged to use/modify this [sample syllabus statement](#), effective Spring 2025, so students understand expectations and how communication will be managed once the instructional continuity plan has been activated.
- Faculty should report student concerns and pertinent challenges to their chair or director.

Conclusion

MTSU is committed to maintaining high-quality education despite disruptions. This requires ongoing planning, adaptability, and review of the continuity plan. Regular evaluation after each disruption will ensure enhanced preparedness for future events.