

Department of Appalachian Studies

Undergraduate Degree Programs

- [Bluegrass, Old-Time, and Country Music Studies, B.A.](#)
- [Appalachian Studies Minor](#)
- [Bluegrass, Old-Time, and Country Music Studies Minor](#)
- [Environmental Studies Minor](#)
- [Heritage Interpretation and Museum Studies Minor](#)
- [Old-Time Music Minor](#)
- [Scottish and Irish Traditional Music Minor](#)

Graduate Degree Programs

- [Appalachian Studies, M.A.](#)
- [Appalachian Studies Graduate Certificate](#)
- [Archival Studies Graduate Certificate](#)
- [Heritage Interpretation and Museum Studies Graduate Certificate](#)

Careers in Appalachian Studies

The B.A. in Bluegrass, Old-Time, and Country Music Studies is designed to prepare students for personal creativity, professional careers, or graduate study in a wide array of fields related to traditional Appalachian and American roots music. Possible career opportunities include: performing artist, studio musician, sound engineer, songwriter, writer for trade publications, manager or promoter, museum or heritage center administrator, college or university instructor, and private music instructor.

The Graduate Certificate and M.A. in Appalachian studies are designed to prepare students for professional careers or for further graduate work in a diverse range of fields related to Appalachian and regional studies. The programs are also designed to provide specialized knowledge about the region for people already in the workforce. Possible career areas include: community development, nonprofit administration, heritage tourism and preservation, economic development, museum or heritage center administration, local and regional government, regional journalism, and college or university teaching. For more career information associated with this program, visit the Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) at [bls.gov/ooh/](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/).

Program Highlights

- Program alumni have achieved great success as professional musicians, including Kenny Chesney, Adam Steffey, Barry Bales, Tim Stafford, Becky Buller, Hunter Berry, and Sally Berry.
- The Appalachian, Scottish, and Irish Studies Program includes study in Celtic music as well as study abroad opportunities.
- The Department includes the Center of Excellence for Appalachian Studies and Services, with access to unique learning resources such as the Archives of Appalachia and the Reece Museum.
- A state-of-the-art recording studio and audio production computer lab used for recording technology courses as well as student and faculty recording projects.
- ETSU is a short drive from such resources as the Appalachian Trail, Roan Mountain, the Gray Fossil Site, the Birthplace of Country Music Museum, the Carter Fold and the International Storytelling Center.

Points of Interest

- The department offers the world's largest and most renowned program in Bluegrass, Old-Time, and Country Music Studies.
- ETSU is one of only three universities in the world to offer a master's degree in Appalachian Studies.

Contact: Nathaniel Olson, Assistant Professor, Assistant Director - olsonn@etsu.edu or (423) 439-7072