



**Chicksa District**  
**Natchez Trace Council BSA**  
**Merit Badge College**  
**at**  
**The University of Mississippi**

Saturday, February 25, 2023

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Camping available at Camp Yocona on Friday and/or Saturday  
night, February 24 and 25

REGISTER @ [NatchezTraceCouncil.org](https://NatchezTraceCouncil.org)  
Registration Deadline: February 20, 2023



## Location, Dates and Times

The 2023 Merit Badge College is held on the campus of The University of Mississippi (Bishop Hall, 501 Fraternity Row, University, MS) on February 25, 2023. Please join us at this year's Merit Badge College, where Scouts can take the opportunity to learn from industry experts.

**Special Note:** Camp Yocona will be available for troops who wish to camp the night before or the night after the MBC. Note however, that apart from a night sky observation session on Sat, Feb 25, no programming or food is provided at Camp Yocona. Please go to [NatchezTraceCouncil.org](http://NatchezTraceCouncil.org) or contact the Scout office (662.842.2871) to reserve your spot.

### Saturday, February 25

8:00am	Check-in begins at Bishop Hall (501 Fraternity Row, University, MS)
8:30am	Opening Gathering and Welcome
8:45am-noon	Morning Badge Class
Noon-1:00pm	Lunch (Rebel Market Dining Hall, included in MBC registration fee)
1:15-4:30pm	Afternoon Badge Class

## Registration and Assistance

All registrations should be placed at [NatchezTraceCouncil.org](http://NatchezTraceCouncil.org). Registration may be made by individual or by unit. Merit badge selections can be made through online registration.

On-line registration deadline is February 20, 2023. On-site registration will be available with a \$10 late fee, but we expect many merit badges to be full by that point. On-site fees may be paid with exact change, check, or credit card.

For registration assistance please contact the Natchez Trace Council office (662.842.2871).

For general event questions please contact MBC Coordinators Ben Pharr ([bnp@movl.net](mailto:bnp@movl.net) or 662.832.0038) or Jason Bouldin ([jbouldin@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbouldin@bellsouth.net) or 662.816.8166).

## Participation Fees

Registration for the Merit Badge College is \$22.00 per Scout. This fee includes lunch and course materials. Adult registration (parents and Scout Leaders) is free and adult participation is encouraged. If registered adults would like lunch, the cost is \$12.00 per individual. The first 200 registrants (youth and adults) will receive a custom event patch.

## Merit Badges Offered

Merit Badge	AM	PM	Requirements not completed at MBC*
Cooking	√	---	4c, 4d, 4e, 6d, 6e, 6f
Nuclear Science	√	√	Complete at MBC
Digital Technology	√	√	1 (bring thumb drive to save work)
Welding	√	√	Complete at MBC
Astronomy	---	√	4, 5d, 6a, 6b, 8 (weather permitting, a night sky observation will be offered at Camp Yocona on 2/25 to fulfill 4, 5d & 8b)
Bird Study	√	---	9
Electronics	√	√	Complete at MBC
Architecture	√	√	Complete at MBC
Entrepreneurship	√	---	5, 6
Salesmanship	√	√	5
Citizenship in the Nation	√	√	3, 6, and 8
Citizenship in the World	√	√	7c
Personal Management	√	√	1, 2, 8c, 8d (scout should know how to compute percentages)

All classes are subject to size limits, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. The “requirements not completed” listed above are to the best of our knowledge. Some of these requirements may be completed if there is time; however, scouts would be wise to do these requirements in advance and bring them to the MBC. Requirements not finished at MBC are to be done at home with a local counselor.

An Astronomy MB observation session will be held on Sat, Feb 25, at Camp Yocona from 6-9pm (weather permitting). Astronomy merit badge requirements 4, 5d, and 8 will be completed here.

## Merit Badge Instruction

Merit badge instruction will follow the requirements listed by the BSA for each class. Scouts are expected to fulfill the requirements as written. For instance, Citizenship in the Nation requirement 4 is to discuss the five founding documents with the counselor. Scouts should be able to do that. If they can't, they should do some reading in advance so they can.

This implies that scouts should familiarize themselves with the requirements for the badges for which they are registered. They should prepare themselves as much as possible to complete these requirements. Ultimately, it is up to the counselor to decide when a scout has completed a requirement.

Please refer to the matrix above for a list of pre-requisites or requirements that cannot be completed at the MBC. While every effort will be made to help Scouts complete as much of each badge as possible, some requirements simply cannot be completed in a single day.

We would love for parents and Scout Leaders to help us provide additional supervision during the MBC classes. All instructors are volunteering their time to provide great programming for our Scouts. We would greatly appreciate your extra support to help the MBC run smoothly.

We are working to offer several learning and training opportunities for parents and Leaders. We shall list these as we are able.

## **MBC Requirements and Preparation**

### **Scouts must:**

- Arrive on time for merit badge classes for which they have registered.
- Engage fully with the classes during the time allotted. Attendance alone will not guarantee a merit badge. Preparation and participation are essential.
- Bring a notebook and writing instruments to the MBC.
- Come dressed in BSA Class A uniform.
- Abide by the Scout Oath and Law during the MBC.

Any participant whose conduct does not meet the above standards may be asked to leave a merit badge class (without receiving credit) and/or the event.

Scouts should remember that, while at the MBC, we are representing Scouting in a public setting as guests of the University of Mississippi. You may be someone's first impression of Scouting...let's make it a good one!

## **Merit Badge Completion and Progress Reports**

Merit badge requirements completion information will be logged and provided to unit leaders after the MBC. If you need assistance accessing these records, please contact Joe Connole, Senior Chicksa District Executive at 214.417.9361 or [Joseph.Connole@scouting.org](mailto:Joseph.Connole@scouting.org). Unit leaders are responsible for following up with Scouts on merit badge completions and award presentations.