

Wright State University

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The Guardian Student Newspaper

Student Activities

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## The Guardian, Week of Decmber 20, 2021

Wright State Student Body

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Winter Safety Tips  
Emily Mancuso  
December 20, 2021

When winter comes, so does the extreme weather. Here are some tips to stay safe during the holidays and the beginning of the spring semester.

### **Invest in a carbon monoxide detection system**

Hundreds of people die each year from carbon monoxide poisoning in the United States according to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). Symptoms include headaches, confusion, nausea and other flu-like symptoms. If you already possess a carbon monoxide detector, make sure it is working by holding down the “test” button and waiting to hear four beeps (may vary by manufacturer).

### **Check on pet health**

Cold weather may exacerbate health issues in your feline companions. No matter your pet’s health condition, regular vet visits are important during this time. As an additional precaution, regularly check under the hoods of your cars to make sure there are no animals there that are attracted to its warmth.

### **Avoid snow shoveling when possible**

Snow shoveling may cause cardiac arrest in those with preexisting conditions, of older age, and the inactive. If you must shovel snow, go slow and make sure there is someone else there to help out or check up on you regularly.

### **Pack an emergency kit for your vehicle**

Even the most cautious of individuals should be prepared for the possibility of being stranded in wintery conditions. Things that should be included in the kit can be found online, but they should definitely include a flashlight, non-perishable food and extra clothing. This kit should stay permanently in vehicles in case of emergency. When driving to campus, do not use cruise control because it can make it harder to control your car on slippery surfaces.

### **Wear proper winter clothing**

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Wear multiple layers of clothing that are loose-fitting and lightweight. Boots should be tight-laced and gripping and paired with gloves, hats and scarves. Symptoms of hypothermia are shivering, confusion, stiff muscles, sleepiness and difficulty sleeping. Don't go out alone. Please check up on loved ones and individuals that may need your help in instituting these measures as well. If you would like to know more about how to stay safe in winter and other weather conditions visit the [National Weather Service website](#).

Don't Miss the Winter Solstice: Different Celebrations

Kristina Shue

December 20, 2021

Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021, will be the shortest day and longest night of the year and the official start of winter. The winter solstice in the Northern Hemisphere occurs in December each year when the Earth's north pole is the furthest from the sun.

Ohio will have only six hours of daylight. But after the solstice, the Earth begins its slow movement back towards the sun, so the days will be getting longer little by little until the summer solstice in June.

## **Solstice celebrations**

Although the dominant winter holiday in contemporary times is Christmas, many cultures have celebrated the winter solstice for centuries. Many of these ancient holidays have complex and sometimes murky histories, especially since many have been combined and co-opted into the modern holiday of Christmas.

Many of them are still practiced in some form today either by traditionalists or by neopagan groups. Here are a few that you may have heard of.

### **Yule**

Although the word has been adopted into the Christmas tradition, Yule is an ancient pagan winter solstice holiday celebrated by people in Central Europe and Scandinavia.

festivities included feasting, drinking, singing and animal sacrifice. Today, some people use a Yule log as a part of contemporary winter holiday celebrations.

### **Sol Invictus**

In the Roman Empire, Sol Invictus was the sun god and patron god of the empire. His birth was celebrated during the winter solstice, specifically on Dec. 25. This tradition mirrors some part of Christian Christmas and is the source of the contemporary Christmas date.

## **Saturnalia**

The ancient Greeks celebrated the god Saturn during the winter solstice to mark the end of the planting season. Saturnalia included gift-giving, festivals, games and banquets. Many normal social rules were ignored during the festivities: slaves were not forced to work for their masters, gambling was permitted and a commoner was crowned king for a day.

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Men's Basketball Falls to Akron, Bounces Back Against Tennessee Tech

Noah Kindig

December 21, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) Men's Basketball returned last week to the Nutter Center to play two home games against the Akron Zips (AKR) and the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles (TTU) after seven games on the road.

The Raiders fell to the Zips 66-48 but bounced back against the Golden Eagles, winning 72-63 with three WSU players scoring double-digit points.

The Raiders, now 3-7 this season, have focused on improving their defensive play in recent games and are starting to fix their issues. As junior forward Grant Basile said after their loss to Akron, the team still has to improve.

"We're definitely turning in the right direction, but we've still got a ways to go," Basile said. "Right now, we're just getting out of a slump. We've got to pull together."

## Wide-open on the wing

In the loss against AKR, the Raiders struggled on both ends of the court, only shooting 37% from the floor and giving up some easy shots throughout the game.

The Zips dominated play at the rim, outrebounding WSU 37-26, and limiting WSU's Tanner Holden, who was leading the team with about 20 points a game at the time, to 12.

"We didn't physically come ready to play," Holden said after the game.

But where the Zips found their biggest advantage was the Raiders' perimeter defense, with AKR hitting nine from the arc with many uncontested shots and WSU only hitting three.

The Raiders would often double-team the player with the ball when it was in the paint, but this would leave a player on the far side of the court wide open and able to take an uncontested shot.

Seven three-point attempts from the Zips in the first 10 minutes versus WSU's three let AKR's guards gain confidence and they were able to nail quick shots all night.

“We let guys get going, get comfortable,” Holden said. “It’s really hard to stop guys like that, good shooters.”

## **Taking down TTU**

After losing seven of their last eight games, the Raiders needed a win to turn their season’s momentum around. They were able to find the win over TTU.

WSU looked great on both sides of the ball, especially in the second half, where they shot 52% from the floor and 92% from the free-throw line.

Holden especially had a fantastic night for the Raiders, scoring 22 points while shooting 7-9 from the floor and making 8-8 on free throws.

He had backup from Trey Calvin and Basile, with Calvin scoring 17 and Basile getting himself a double-double with 14 points and 12 rebounds.

Even some of the depth in the Raiders’ lineup started to show, with Keaton Norris and James Manns knocking down baskets from the range with confidence.

The Raiders also dominated on defense, with TTU only shooting 37% from the floor in the second half. WSU limited Clay Jr., TTU’s best shooter, to 2-8 from the floor, and TTU’s second-best shooter, Keishawn Davidson, to 2-10.

For Holden, the change needed for the team to get out of their current form and to play more games like TTU is their confidence.

“If we stay in this slump emotionally, we’ll never get out of it physically,” Holden said. “It’s a confidence thing. Shots will fall, but we’re scaring ourselves out of a lot of shots.”

Female Film Major Struggles: Sexism and Parent Approval

Sarah Patterson

December 22, 2021

Growing up, Lindsey Kibler wanted to be a cowgirl but eventually discovered her passion was filming. Her parents, on the other hand, believed she should use her talents in math and science to pursue a career in the STEM field.

In fact, she had to battle with her mom right up until orientation at Wright State University.

“[The speaker] convinced my mom that there were jobs in [the film industry],” she said. “The way he convinced her was by saying there are 9 to 5 jobs that are not studio jobs but not freelance work, but basically it’s like you show up and make a commercial.”

The conversation was a little easier with her father.

“My mom has always been the vocal one about if I’m doing something she doesn’t like she would pick a fight with me,” said the 22-year-old Kibler, who graduates in 2022. “My dad didn’t really say anything, mostly because his rule is he’ll support me no matter what, even if he disagrees with what I am doing.”

## **A passion for motion pictures**

Kibler ended up finding her passion in film and started pursuing a degree in motion pictures at Wright State University.

Halfway through her junior year at Tri-Rivers Career Center in Marian, Ohio, the school added a new class. A film class. Kibler said she always wanted to pursue a career in the art field, but after picking up photography and winning awards in a few competitions she felt “burnt out” and knew photography was not her passion.

After her passion for photography faded and trying graphic design and not enjoying that either, she decided to dive into the film class at her school. She had the opportunity to film a documentary in her class.

“It was a really crappy documentary and it’s very cringe-worthy because it’s us acting in it, but that’s like when it really solidified that this is something I want to go into,” she said.

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Kibler looked into the top film programs in Ohio and saw that the Wright State Motion Picture Program was rated in the [top half of all film programs](#) in the nation.

She thought her grades might keep her from getting into the program, but Wright State representatives came to the career center and talked about how the college is open to students with a wide range of grade point averages.

Kibler decided to apply and was ready to start a new adventure and follow her passion.

## Standing out

After being accepted and getting started, Kibler discovered she was one of only three women in the program and that, combined with a heavy workload, started to wear her down.

“I have to work harder and better than the men in my class to even feel equal to them because they can lift that 100 pound stand with ease,” she said. “I struggle a little bit more, but also I’m smaller than most of the people in my class so I have to work harder to be considered equal.”

After experiencing sexism for the first time in one of her classes, Kibler realized some of the struggles women could experience being in a male-dominated industry.

“I have more demons than the guys have to deal with, like, I’m directing this semester. I had to sit down with my team and talk about sexism, and tell them I’m not having it,” she said.

One of Kibler’s professors, Nichol Simmons, helped her navigate these new types of challenges.

“Simmons said “call me” and her and I had a really good talk,” Kibler said.

While she was a student at WSU, Simmons won the first honorable mention award at the Sundance Film Festival in 1996 for her short film [Dry Mount](#).

“What [the award] did was present me with a flood of phone calls from agents and managers and production companies,” said Simmons, who is now an adjunct professor at WSU.

“Unfortunately my program hadn’t really prepared me to deal with it.”

She kept getting asked “what’s next” but still being a student, Simmons had nothing else written or prepared.

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“I hadn’t really given much thought to anything beyond wanting to move to L.A. and that was kind of it,” she said. “No one had ever talked to me about what I might do as a career and how I might achieve that.”

Still, Simmons followed her passion and moved out to California.

“I’m not really sure what the dream was for me, only vaguely like I wanted to be a famous writer and director,” she said. “That’s why you move out because you’re going to be a pain, as a famous writer.”

Simmons directed workshops for women at the American Film Institute for over 10 years and she shared that she has heard some “horrific” stories about sexism in the industry.

“I think that the inset has shifted quite a bit where we celebrate more people’s differences via a high profile way as this gives them their voice, but that didn’t exist at the time,” she said.

Simmons teaches screenwriting at WSU and has some advice for students about the challenges they may encounter in the industry.

“be conscious of the interest of it happening and creating boundaries but the biggest advice I give is work with other people, from marginalized groups,” she said.

Three Places to go Winter Hiking in Ohio

Jamie Naylor

December 22, 2021

Ohio is home to beautiful parks, hiking trails and nature scenes that are accessible in all seasons. Here are some great places to enjoy this beauty during the winter months.

## **Local Dayton area**

### **Twin Valley Trail**

This trail system is located in southwest Ohio, not far from the downtown Dayton area. It is accessible from a few different parks including Germantown Main Park.

The trail loops to connect with other systems and spans 49 miles according to [Five Rivers MetroParks](#). Hikers of all levels can participate in short two-mile hikes or longer, more advanced hikes.

The park is open all year and is suitable for backpackers. It also features small campsites hikers can reserve to stay the night on the trail.

## **Statewide**

### **Cuyahoga Valley National Park**

Those looking for a moderate winter hiking adventure can check out the trails in Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

This park, located in Peninsula Ohio, offers trails for all levels of hikers. Those looking for an easier path can go on trails like Ledges Trail and Pine Grove Trail. Those looking for a slightly more difficult adventure can check out the Wetmore Bridle trail, all located in the Park.

The park is open 24/7 all year round, excluding national holidays, and holds no entrance fee.

Those interested in learning more about the park can do so [here](#).

### **Mohican State Park**

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Those looking for a more challenging course can try the Hemlock Gorge Loop in [Mohican State Park](#).

Hikers have highly reviewed this 11.9-mile hike through the northern Ohio Forrest. The trail is geared towards moderately to highly experienced hikers, especially during the winter months.

Mohican State Park is open year-round and has accommodations for campers and those wishing to stay overnight in the park.

Following Parents' Professional Footsteps vs. Personal Dreams

Lainey Stephenson

December 23, 2021

Cierra Welch wants to be a personal trainer but may end up selling garage doors instead.

## **Family business pressure**

Welch, 20, dreams of studying exercise science and becoming a strength coach for college athletes. But, her father has a successful business and she says he would like her to take it over.

"For as long as I can remember, my dad would say, 'When you take over the business you'll understand.' I remember feeling like I would disappoint him if my career path wasn't in business," she said.

The last thing Welch wants to do is disappoint her dad.

Welch plays for Valparaiso University in Indiana on the women's soccer team and recalls soccer being her inspiration for wanting to become a college strength coach. Her dad has supported her throughout her soccer career; Welch only hopes he does the same off the field.

Welch double majors in business and entrepreneurship at Valparaiso. Her dad founded a business that replaces and repairs garage doors and openers.

Welch plans on taking over her family business and knows the sacrifices her dad made to make the business successful. He struggled with obtaining a startup small business grant. This grant is funding from the government to help small companies grow their business. She fears the company could fail once she takes over.

The fear of failure has pushed Welch towards double majoring. Welch felt if she was educated on how a company is run she will be better prepared when the time comes to take over the business.

Welch is not putting her dreams of being a strength and conditioning coach on hold. Once she completes her undergraduate degree, she wants to get a certificate in sports training allowing her to train people of all ages.

Ideally, Welch wants to follow in her father's footsteps of entrepreneurship and, instead of working as a college coach, open a gym and become a personal trainer. Welch knows her dream of opening her own gym is far off.

"I don't have any siblings that could possibly take over the family business. It's just me," she said. "I am my dad's only option for the family business to continue on and that is where the pressure is applied."

While Welch dreams of opening a gym and longs for her father's support, Norb Wessels struggles to step out of his father's shadow and make a name for himself.

## **Parental Pressures**

Wessels, 25, graduated from the University of Dayton in 2016, with a degree in criminal justice studies. After graduation, he attended the University of Cincinnati College of Law where he got his law degree.

Wessels felt pressure from his father to follow in his footsteps to become an estate planning lawyer instead of his passion for becoming a criminal lawyer.

Statistics show becoming a lawyer is among the top professions that children follow in their parents' footsteps, according to an [article in the New York Times](#). Sons are 2.7 times more likely to follow in their father's profession. Lawyer, doctor, legislator, and steelworker and the most passed down profession.

Wessels's father graduated high school at the age of 15, then attended Thomas More College for undergrad. He continued his educational path by completing his degree at Chase Law School and attained a graduate degree in taxation from New York University.

Wessels's father practices business and tax law, business contracts, mergers and acquisitions, construction law, contracts, wills, trusts, and estate, and business formation/ dissolutions, [according to his website](#).

His father's 25 years of law practice inspired Norb to become a lawyer. In the beginning, Norb was unsure of what specific law title he wanted. As he got further into law school, Norb realized his passion was criminal law, whereas his father is estate planning.

After he graduated from law school, Norb's father offered him a job. Norb explained the pressure he felt from his father's job offer.

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“My father is very well-off and the money aspect was tempting enough to accept the position,” explained Wessels.

However, wondering if he could be successful on his own guided his final decision to decline the job offer.

“I decided I wanted to make it sort of my own and I know I would have lived my life wondering whether I could seriously make it on my own merit or if I was just given these opportunities because of my father,” Wessels said.

Wessels is doing just that. He works for the Hamilton County Prosecutor’s Office in Ohio in the municipal division. Wessels doesn’t have a 100 percent plan but knows his passion is in criminal legal prosecution and he will remain there for the rest of his life.

Wessels said his father has supported him ever since he declined the job position, while Welch’s father supports her on the soccer field and she hopes he will do the same for her career.

Six Spotify Playlists to Match Your Mood

Alexis Wisler

December 23, 2021

Music is a great way to express emotions and Spotify has numerous playlists for any emotion. Below are six Spotify playlists to enjoy over winter break to fit any mood.

## **Relaxed**

A good, relaxing playlist can set the right mood for the day. The playlist “Acoustic Chill” has music from Phoebe Bridgers, Hozier, dodie and more, making it perfect for a relaxing day over break.

Play this playlist while reading a book, doing a craft or even taking a bath for ultimate relaxation.

## **Emotional**

For days when emotions are high, there’s nothing like belting out a sad song in the shower to fix everything.

The playlist “Piano Ballads” has music from Adele, Lorde, Dan + Shay, Sam Smith and more.

Imagine playing this playlist while solemnly looking out the car window on a long road trip while pretending to be the main character in a movie.

## **Annoyed**

With the holiday stress, it is normal to feel annoyed or upset over break.

The playlist “teen angst” is the perfect playlist to angry scream/sing along to. With songs from artists such as Paramore, blink-182, Mother Mother and Ashnikko, this playlist is perfect for letting off some steam.

## **Determined**

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Although winter break is a great time to relax, it is also a time to get things done and catch up on all the projects that got pushed to the side during the semester.

The playlist “Get Chores Done” is perfect to play while working around the house on various projects, or when simply getting chores done. This playlist includes both throwbacks and modern music from artists such as Britney Spears, Lizzo, Rihanna, Olivia Rodrigo and Hot Chelle Rae.

## **Confident**

Music has the power to change emotions and enhance the ones already felt.

The playlist “Gameday” includes songs that will instill confidence in anyone who listens. Maybe listen to this while getting ready or on the way to work to give a confidence boost. This playlist includes songs from Drake, Kayne West, Lil Nas X, Cardi B and more.

## **Nostalgic**

Even though it is winter break, some may still be holding on to the autumn that Ohio never really seemed to get.

The playlist “pumpkin spice” is perfect for creating an atmosphere of fall vibes. Listen to this playlist while curled up in a blanket with a fall-scented candle and, of course, a pumpkin spice latte for the ultimate fall nostalgia. This playlist includes music from Bon Iver, Taylor Swift, The Lumineers and girl in red.

Student Org Responds to Bias Hate Crime in WSU Dorms

Jamie Naylor

December 23, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) students experienced racially motivated hate incidents, causing a student organization to create a call-to-action response to address racism on campus.

## **The incident**

WSU saw its first reported incident of racially motivated criminal activity of the academic year in November 2021.

The incident labeled as a bias hate criminal offense, occurred on Nov, 29 in Hawthorn residential hall and included property damage, according to the daily crime log,

Deshawn Mumford, president of the Black Student Union (BSU), stated that the incident involved two African American students' dorm-room doors being vandalized with racial slurs and comments.

According to Mumford, WSU Housing and Department of Public Safety (WSUPD) addressed and assisted the students within 72 hours of the incident.

This incident, while the first officially reported hate incident of the semester, is not the only occurrence of bias against minorities on campus. According to Mumford, slurs and bias language have been shouted from car windows towards African American and minority students on campus.

## **BSU student response**

Following this incident, Mumford and BSU released a statement denouncing all incidents of racism, bias, hate language and microaggressions against the African American and minority students on campus.

"More action is required to ensure the safety and success of every student on our campus. We need to truly make Wright State a home for all students," the statement reads.

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The statement also introduced BSU's #MakeWrightStateHome campaign. Mumford is hoping that this campaign will bring to light all incidents of racism and bias against minority students as well as encourage more students to speak up about racism on campus.

"It doesn't matter if you [are] Black, white, whatever minority you are, if you [are] complacent and you [are] just quiet, [you are] contributing to the problem," Mumford said.

The campaign will feature open forums, hosted by BSU, to discuss Black history and Black struggles with WSU students, staff and faculty. The campaign will also feature social media outreach and information posts from BSU.

#MakeWrightStateHome will begin in the 2022 spring semester.

## WSU's response

BSU and Mumford will be working with the university administration to discuss racism and bias incidents on campus as well as come up with solutions.

Like students, Mumford wants WSU administration to not only be swift in responding to incidents but also acknowledge that they happen on campus.

"It (hate incidents) is dealt with but it [is] not brought to light ... it just adds to the problem," Mumford said. "I would like to see the university speak out more about these racist incidents."

Announced in the [Dec. 6 faculty senate meeting](#), WSU plans to create a racial equity task force and a no-hate campaign to address minority issues. The campaign will be headed by Vice President for Inclusive Excellence Matthew Chaney.

*The Wright State Guardian* reached out to Lt. David Cox, of WSUPD, requesting the Nov. 29 incident report. Cox stated that the investigation into the hate incident is still ongoing and that a report would be available after the investigation has concluded.

It is not known when this conclusion will occur.

International Students: Conflicting Pressures and Pursuing Passions

Katie Jones

December 24, 2021

Two Indian international students found themselves in the U.S. under similar circumstances, but the passion and pressure that drove them there are completely different.

Tisha Sharma and Kanchan Vissamsetty each came to Wright State University as international students. While they chose the same college, the pressures they faced in pursuit of their passions were different.

Sharma struggled to separate her own interests from her family's, while Vissamsetty tried to balance her dual passions of music and academics.

## **Destined for America**

Sharma's parents decided that she would come to study in the U.S. before she was born, and put her in an international school to learn English along with Hindi.

"It was predetermined that I study in the U.S.," said Sharma, a psychology major. "My parents put me in an international school and I learned English. I didn't really have a choice in going to the U.S."

Sharma came to the U.S. from Gurugram, India. However, most of her family already resides in the U.S. Her dad's side of the family lives in California as citizens.

Sharma's family wanted the same for her, so they decided she would study abroad in the U.S. in hopes she could settle there later.

Her mom moved to India from the Philippines, where nursing was a popular career choice, to marry Sharma's dad. Influenced by her mother's culture and the rest of her family's careers in medicine, Sharma first chose to major in biology. This also allowed her to do what she cares about: helping others.

Moving continents for college meant Sharma was the furthest she'd ever been from her family. It takes over half a day for a plane to fly the 7, 521 miles from India to the U.S.

Even with her dad's family in California, Sharma is still a four-and-a-half-hour flight away from anyone she knows.

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Although far from her family, Sharma chose Wright State because it was an affordable, research-based college. At 18, Sharma arrived in the U.S. in 2018 as one of [202, 104 Indian students who came to the country in 2018](#).

Her brother arrived with her, helping her move in before returning home.

Eventually, Sharma switched to majoring in psychology to pursue more of her own interests. This was a change from her family, who predominantly work in the medical field.

Without family nearby for the first time, Sharma struggled at times connecting on campus.

Sharma eventually joined International Friendship Inc., an on-campus organization for international students. She also joined the fencing club, something she'd always been interested in, and became its president in 2020.

After joining both organizations, Sharma more easily made friends and adjusted to her independence.

She also joined a psychology lab, where she works with other students testing guinea pigs.

Both are interests for Sharma, but her greatest interest is still helping others. Now, instead of a doctor, Sharma is considering going into disaster or emergency management.

This career field could combine medicine and psychology, allowing Sharma to retain her own interest while not straying too far from what she originally planned.

However, Kanchan Vissamsetty from Andhra Pradesh in southeast India had a different experience. Andhra Pradesh is a little over two hours away from Gurugram.

## **Pursuing a passion for music**

She came to the U.S. to pursue her dream of a master's degree in electrical engineering, but the coursework didn't allow her to pursue her other passion, music.

Vissamsetty originally only came to the U.S. for her master's, wanting to study abroad after completing her electrical engineering undergraduate degree in India.

For her, choosing to come to the U.S. was an easy decision. Her sister studied abroad in Texas, and Vissamsetty wanted to have the same experience.

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“My sister, she used to say that she used to go to one day or two days for classes and I used to feel like okay I wanna go there. I need more holidays,” said Vissamsetty.

After applying to several different universities, she chose to complete her master’s in electrical engineering at Wright State.

“I feel like in India. We used to have only like two options like after 11th or 12th grade, like after schooling 10th grade. Either they think like that they need to go to engineering or medicine,” said Vissamsetty.

Despite feeling she had only two choices between majors, she found she enjoyed her classes enough to continue her Ph.D.

An electrical engineering graduate student, Vissamsetty also enjoys classical Indian music. She grew up listening to music daily as a child and even completed a diploma in Indian classical music in India.

However, her class load and goals don’t allow her to pursue it as much as she would like to at Wright State.

Working on her Ph.D. means Vissamsetty is taking three courses each semester, along with her research. This is a change from when she worked on her master’s, which only required two classes per semester.

The additional class has been difficult for Vissamsetty, who strives to put 100 percent effort in all she does but feels like there’s not enough time for her to work on her degree and pursue music.

Vissamsetty enjoys both but puts her academics first. She spends most of her time studying for classes and hasn’t joined any music clubs or organizations. However, she hopes to in the future.

“Sometimes I feel like, okay, let me wait. Maybe once I complete the minimum requirements of my Ph.D. course I can take something,” said Vissamsetty.

Easy Holiday Desserts

Erika Jones

December 24, 2021

Holiday treats should be fun, easy and something the whole family can enjoy. Find five easy and delicious holiday recipes below.

### **English toffee from Paula Deen**

English toffee is one of many treats that takes little time to make and fit the season just right with a few ingredients. This dish takes less than half an hour on the stovetop and, with a big enough freezer, can be cooled faster than the recipe states.

This [YouTube video](#) will show you how to make them step-by-step.

### **Fantasy fudge**

Fudge is another easy treat to make that can be a great gift or a dessert at a holiday dinner. Making several batches is easy and adding walnuts gives the fudge an amazing crunch.

This recipe from Jiffy can be found [here](#) or on any jar of Jiffy marshmallow fluff.

### **Cranberry orange pecan crisp**

This [recipe](#) is a great addition as either a dessert or a side to a holiday meal. Add blueberries with the cranberries to give it additional flavor.

When adding the blueberries, you can either substitute half the cranberries or use the same amount of blueberries as cranberries without doubling the rest of the recipe.

### **No-Bake cookies**

No-bakes are some of the easiest treats to make. There are only a few ingredients and it takes less than half an hour to cook, scoop and cool.

Walnuts are a wonderful addition to this [quick-made cookie](#).

### **Puppy Chow**

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[This treat](#) is always fun to make with loved ones. It is easy and there are many ways to make it festive for any holiday throughout the year.

The most festive ways to make puppy chow is holiday-themed M&Ms and sprinkles. Reese's Pieces may not be the perfect holiday theme, but they are also a great addition.