

Pirate Pearls

THE GRADUATE STUDENT
NEWSLETTER



VOL 5, NO 12

Returning to Pirate Nation and COVID Precautions

Everything you need to know - and where
to check for updates!

ECU is planning in a variety of ways to provide all of us with a smooth return to campus life for Fall 2021! We know many of us are excited to return to campus, visit with friends, share lunch with co-workers, and witness the energy and enthusiasm we love seeing in our graduate students! Please pay attention to these websites over the summer so you are fully aware of the requirements and expectations for returning to campus for the fall term.

A June 3rd announcement by Chancellor Rogers explained what the university is doing over the summer to prepare. Please review all of the information that ECU is making available so you fully understand the policies, processes, and expectations.

[Coronavirus Updates](#)

[COVID Campus Testing](#)

[ECU Vaccine Info](#)

[Be Responsible](#)

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Looking for More Activities?

[Pirate 411 Newsletter](#)

Thesis Or Dissertation Upload Deadline

This date is always in the Academic Calendar. Click on the [Blue Link](#) on the top of any academic calendar and you will be taken to the Application and Processing Calendar.

Summer 2021 - July 16

Fall 2021 - December 1

Spring 2022 - April 21

[Thesis/Dissertation Help](#)





How To Start Your Research Workshop

Join this session from the Office for Faculty Excellence to learn more about how to get started on your thesis or dissertation!

June 23 on Wednesday, 10-11 AM

Webex link

<https://ecu.webex.com/meet/bianh>

Getting started on research: How to plan a meaningful and realistic thesis or dissertation.

[Registration Required - CLICK HERE](#)

Summer Research & Statistics Workshops Announced!

Each summer the Office for Faculty Excellence offers a series of research & statistics workshops that are open to everyone - including graduate students! Take advantage of these free workshops. Starting May 18th, there are workshops on SPSS, Matlab, R, SAS, and Python just to name a few! There are also a variety of statistics workshops including Measurement & Descriptive Statistics, T tests and ANOVA, Multilevel Modeling, Correlation and Linear Regression and more! This year, there are also special topics courses such as Photovoice, Digital Story Telling, and the use of Photography: Theoretical Foundation, Best Practices and Ethical Considerations in Reserach. You can find all the workshops offered and WebEx links on the Office for Faculty Excellence Website.

<https://ofe.ecu.edu/office-for-faculty-excellence/research-and-statistics/summer-research-workshop-series/>



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

JUNE

8

Last day to withdraw from Summer 1 courses.

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

JULY

5

State Holiday - No Classes

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

JUNE

21

Last day for incompletes to be changed to a grade for Summer 1 courses from Summer 2020.

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

JULY

16

Deadline to upload thesis or dissertation for a Summer graduation

[Thesis/Dissertation Website](#)

JUNE

21

Last day of classes for Summer 1

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

JULY

29

Last day for removal of incompletes given during the second summer session and 11-week summer session 2020

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

JUNE

22

Final Exams Summer 1

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

JULY

30

Final Exams 11-week and 2nd Summer Session

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

JUNE

24

Summer Session 2 classes begin.

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

AUG

17

New Graduate Student Orientation

<https://gradschool.ecu.edu/orientation/>

JUNE

25

Last Day to make Changes to SS2 schedules

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

AUG

23

First day of classes for Fall 2021 semesters

[Fall Academic Calendar](#)

JUNE

30

Last day to withdraw from 11-week Summer courses without grades.

[Summer Academic Calendar](#)

AUG

27

Last day to make changes to Fall 2021 schedules (drops after today are withdrawals & show a W on the transcript) [Fall Academic Calendar](#)

This page is not the official academic calendar and errors on this page will not be justification for missing deadlines. Students should always refer to the official academic calendars. Students should make sure to review the calendar for the appropriate term: 8w1 (Block 1), 8w2 (Block 2) or 15-week (full semester).

All official academic calendars are always posted [here](#).



EXTRA OPPORTUNITIES

New Graduate Teaching Assistant Orientation - August 12, 2021

Check out the flyer [here!](#)

The Graduate School is hosting an online Graduate Teaching Assistant Orientation for graduate students who are new to being a TA and would like support. Whether you have already been serving as a TA or will be in an upcoming semester, please join us for a day of information & networking with other graduate students across campus. Once you register, you will be added to a Microsoft Team so you can participate in the online sessions throughout the day on August 12. Approx 9 AM - 3:00 PM) [Register Today!](#)

Orientation Options for New Grad Students

All are welcome!

The Graduate School is hosting a campus orientation event on August 17th as well as four online events in July and August. Both the campus event and the online events are designed to help new graduate students acclimate to ECU and graduate education. Registration is required for all events, but they are all FREE! Students who sign up for the online events will receive a Teams meeting link prior to the day of the event. Students who register for the campus event will be emailed details in early August. All opportunities are on the [New Student Orientation website!](#)



CAREER FAIRS

Career Services Plans Virtual Events for Fall 2021

It's never too early to learn about the opportunities that Career Services provides to graduate students. Even if you are not yet looking for employment following graduation, attending a career fair now can help you learn what it is that employers are looking for in their new hires. You can have the chance to speak with potential employers to learn about their onboarding processes and to ask if they have preferences regarding your education. For example, if you are in the MBA program, would a company prefer you also complete the Marketing certificate or the Project Management certificate? If you complete a certificate in Biostatistics as a part of your master's or doctoral degree, could that assist you in obtaining employment in a specific discipline such as the pharmaceutical industry? Make sure to spend time reading about these career fairs and attend one or all!

On Campus Job Fair

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
August 26, 2021 - Virtual Event

Health Careers Job Fair

2:00 - 5:00 PM
September 14, 2021 - Virtual Event

Engineering & Technology Fair

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
September 29, 2021 - Virtual

Job & Internship Fair

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
October 6, 2021 - Virtual

For more information on upcoming career fairs, log in to [Handshake](#) or contact Career Services at career@ecu.edu



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Graduate School Website FAQ answers your questions!

Did you know that the Graduate School has the answers to some of the most **F**requently **A**sksed **Q**uestions on their [website](#)?

If you navigate to the main website at gradschool.ecu.edu, click on the About menu on the far right side of the page. Then, in the drop-down menu, choose [FAQ](#). Once you go to the [FAQ](#) page, you will see headings for various topics including Adding, Dropping & Withdrawing, Funding, Employment & Tuition Remissions, Adding a Certificate or Changing your Degree Program, just to name a few! Make sure to bookmark the main Graduate School website so when you have a question you can get right to the pages that probably have the answers! If you can't find your answer, please feel free to email the Graduate School at gradschool@ecu.edu. Your question will be forwarded to the staff member that can best answer your question and assist you.

Remember, it is a student's responsibility to review academic and campus policies, deadlines, and procedures. Frequently consulting the Graduate School website and reaching out to our staff members can help decrease your frustration and get you the information you need.

If I withdraw from a course do I have to pay back financial aid?

Sometimes!

If a student accepts financial aid of any type - loan, grant, assistantship, scholarship, tuition remission, etc., and then does not maintain the required course enrollment for that type of funding, it is possible that the student will be required to re-pay the funding. This repayment may be required immediately. If a student starts out as full-time and then either drops courses or withdraws from courses and the result is part-time enrollment, it is likely that monies will have to be returned. Students should speak with the Office of Financial Aid prior to any drop or withdraw that will change the status from full-time (9 credits) to part-time (fewer than 9 credits).

Students should research all consequences of dropping or withdrawing from courses at any point in the term by contacting Financial Aid and their advisor. Review their [contact page](#) to find the counselor assigned to you.