



# Pirate Pearls

Vol 7 No 11 • May 2023

## SPRING 2023 University Commencement

Friday, May 5, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.  
Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium

ADA Accommodation: 252.737.1018 • ada-coordinator@ecu.edu

# Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to all Pirates  
graduating this May! We look forward  
to seeing what you accomplish next.  
The future is bright!

Before you leave ECU, please complete the [Graduate Student Exit Survey](#). This is an opportunity to provide feedback about your experiences with faculty, advising, libraries, research, and other offices on campus. The results of this survey are used for accreditation purposes and to continuously improve the educational experience. Your responses will be kept confidential. The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Check your ECU email for this survey!

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### Thesis Or Dissertation Upload Deadline

Summer 2023 – July 14

Fall 2023 – November 29

Spring 2024 – April 18

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. The Thesis & Dissertation deadline is always listed there!

[View newsletter archive here.](#)



# IMPORTANT GRADUATION CEREMONY DETAILS

*We want to recognize and celebrate your achievements at ECU's commencement ceremony and at college or department recognition ceremonies! These ceremonies provide opportunity for fellow students, faculty, staff, family, friends, etc. to honor and applaud your accomplishments, but there are some important details to which you must attend even as you complete your program of study. Make note of deadlines, dates and times of ceremonies, locations, etc. in the following text so that you and your support team do not miss anything.*



[Click here for ECU'S Graduation Guide 2023](#)

“Graduates should arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. to be able to participate in the processional,” according to the email. “You will receive detailed information about when and where specifically to report about one week before the ceremony (around April 29th).”

The commencement ceremony is the only graduation event with speeches from Chancellor Philip Rogers and Student Body President Javier Limon, according to the email. Spring commencement will last 75 minutes, according to the email, and the college and department ceremonies will be around an hour and a half. Student’s individual names will only be read at the college and department ceremonies, according to the email.

“For the University Commencement Ceremony, all ECU parking lots around Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium will be open and free of charge for graduate and guest parking,” the university wrote. “Carpooling for guests and graduates is strongly encouraged.”

Caps, gowns and other graduation attire are available at Dowdy Student Stores, according to the email, and the location at the Main Campus Student Center will be open throughout graduation week.

The university ceremony will be livestreamed, and the link to the stream will be made available the day of commencement, May 5, according to the email. “There will not be a live stream or recording for the individual college recognition ceremonies unless otherwise communicated by the individual college/department,” the university wrote.

- [Student Life, ECU Graduation Guide 2023](#)



**Thursday, May 4  
5–9 p.m.**

**Dowdy-Ficklen  
Stadium™  
(North Side)**

# You Are Invited To Celebrate With The ECU Grads!

Live Music by Crawford & Power

Local Food Trucks

Beer and Wine  
*(must be 21 or older to purchase)*

Complimentary Soft Drinks and Water

Free Admission

[commencement.ecu.edu](http://commencement.ecu.edu)

ADA Accommodation:  
252-737-1018 • [ada-coordinator@ecu.edu](mailto:ada-coordinator@ecu.edu)

C.S. 23-0679



## GradBash 2023

**WHAT:** GradBash is an East Carolina University event that is hosted prior to the Spring Commencement only.

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 4, 2023 from 5:00pm-9:00pm

**WHERE:** North Side of Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium

**ACTIVITIES:** Live Music, Local Food Trucks, Beer and Wine (must be 21 or older to purchase), Complimentary Soft Drinks and Water

See their [website](#) for more info!



# GRADUATION CHECKLIST

FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS



## ACADEMIC TASKS

- [Apply to Graduate](#) (Office of the Registrar).
- Review [Degree Works](#) with an advisor to ensure all degree requirements are met.
- [Upload a thesis or dissertation by the published deadline](#), if applicable.
- Review your program's requirements and submit documentation of capstone project, internship report, or other major projects, if applicable.
- Review your degree program's policy and arrange to take a comprehensive exam, if applicable.

## FINANCIAL TASKS

- Pay all campus balances due including library fines, parking tickets, student account (with [Cashier's Office](#)), student health center, etc.
- Return all borrowed equipment from your department, research lab, and student recreation centers.
- Complete Student Exit Loan Counseling if loans were received; see the email from [Financial Aid](#) or talk with your financial aid counselor.

## GRADUATION TASKS

- Review <https://commencement.ecu.edu> to find deadlines for important graduation tasks:
  - Order your cap & gown and purchase hood, **noting pick up dates/times**. Doctoral students rent commencement regalia by contacting the [Dowdy Student Store](#).
  - RSVP to attend the main graduation ceremony by published deadline.
  - RSVP to attend your department or college recognition ceremony by published deadline.
- Complete Graduate Student Exit Survey (GSES). This will arrive in your ECU email.
- Update your personal email address and add your cell phone number in PiratePort under “My Information” so the University can stay in touch with you.
- Respond to Graduate School emails about walking in the hooding ceremony if you are an EdD, PhD or DrPh graduate. Look for emails from Tania Alvarez (alvarezt@ecu.edu).
- **PhD students only:** Complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). Instructions emailed from Dean of Graduate School.

## RESEARCH TASKS

- Consult with the Institutional Review Board to learn how to “close out” the studies in [ePIRATE](#) If you are the primary investigator on research studies.
- Discuss with your research mentor and/or the Institutional Review Board how to store data collected as a part of your research assistantship, thesis, or dissertation.
- Ensure you have followed any necessary exit procedures from your research lab & employment.

## PERSONAL TASKS

- If you are planning to leave Greenville, review your lease to determine when to give your landlord notice that you will be moving out.
- Make an appointment with [Career Services](#) to polish your resume & get advice about job search.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!





## LISTENING AND SPEAKING COURSE

The ECU Language Academy is offering a non-credit 5-week Listening & Speaking course for non-native English speakers who wish to improve their communication skills over the summer. The course face-to-face is open to all and caters to participants with minimal to intermediate listening and speaking skills. To register, or for more information, contact Edward Chaffin at [chaffine22@ecu.edu](mailto:chaffine22@ecu.edu).

**Dates: May 15 – June 20**

**Schedule: Monday – Thursday 9:00 -10:15 am**

**Location: Main Campus (TBD)**

**Cost: \$200 + book fees (appr. \$60)**



## ANNOUNCEMENT

Three-Minute Thesis is an international competition for graduate students to present their research in 3 minutes or less using only 1 slide. The first 3MT was held at The University of Queensland in 2008 with 160 PhD students competing. Enthusiasm for the 3MT concept grew and its widespread implementation by universities has led to the development of an international competition.

**East Carolina University is proud to host the Three Minute Thesis competition and hope that you will join us for this exciting event!**

**10th Annual ECU 3MT event – Fall 2023 Competition**

**Tuesday, November 14, 2023 – 1:00 – 5:00 PM**

**Held in the Main Campus Student Center Ballrooms**

**Deadline for submissions: October 31, 2023**



# GRADUATE ASSISTANT JOB OPENING

## Career Services Graduate Assistant (Employer Relations)

<https://studentaffairs.ecu.edu/wp-content/pv-uploads/sites/285/2017/12/Graduate-Assistant-Description-2023-2024-Career-Services-Employer-Relations2.pdf>

### SCOPE OF POSITION

As a paraprofessional, provides administrative and strategic support for the goals and objectives of the Employer Relations Team of the Career Center. Provides support in coordination of all employer related events, services and resources for the department. Represents the Career Center at university-sponsored events and assists in the planning, coordination, and marketing of career events, activities, and programs. Assists in the creation, maintenance, and organization of employer related information. Will help keep accurate records and analyze data for reporting. Will read, know, understand current employer marketing material and suggest ways to increase employer involvement. The Employer Relations Graduate Assistant will also work on email drafting, cold calling, employer marketing, and other duties as assigned.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Research prospective employers and job postings on Handshake to determine legitimacy of company and the relevance of employment opportunities for students.
- Assist with the development of recruiting resources and marketing materials for distribution to employers.
- Analyze and gather information pertaining to employers for use during relation-building meetings. Create reports from compiled information pertaining to employers for use during relation-building meetings. The Associate Director and Assistant Directors will use this information when meeting (virtually or in-person) with employers for the first time.
- Collect and analyze data on targeted email communications, student, and employer turnout for Career Services events such as career fairs, virtual information sessions, and employer on-campus visits
- Aid the Career Services staff with coordination and execution of marketing events, Career Fairs, tabling events, and other designated programs associated with employers
- Contribute to the development and implementation of communication and marketing strategies for the sake of attracting employers to recruit at ECU and for relationship building.

### EMPLOYMENT DETAILS

- Periods of Employment: Fall 2023 and Spring 2024
- Duration: 20 hours per week.
- Compensation: \$5500 per fall semester; \$5500 per spring semester

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Email a PDF version of your cover letter, resume, and list of three references including name, phone number and email address to [employerrelations@ecu.edu](mailto:employerrelations@ecu.edu) .

# LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



**Are you 20-26 years old and interested in education, leadership, or working with high school students? Come and join an incredible experience at the NC Governor's School.**

**The Fellows program is a five-week residential internship. Each Fellow receives free room and board and a salary based upon their educational level and experience, ranging from \$2450-\$2600.**

- Gain classroom and administrative experience with educators from around the country.
- Develop a further understanding of an area of focus based upon your interests needs of the program.
- Lead a group of students through the residential life on a college campus.
- Attend weekly leadership seminars with state educational leaders.
- Inspire and lead bright and talented students from every corner of North Carolina.

As a Governor's School Fellow you will join a team of educators and students in building an engaging, learning community and be among the scholars selected to lead them.

The NC Governor's School is the oldest program of its kind in the nation and has inspired similar programs throughout the United States. Bright and talented high school students from across the state undergo a competitive application process to be selected to attend.

**Visit [www.ncgovschool.org](http://www.ncgovschool.org) for more information and Fellows application.**



**FROM:** Dr. Kathleen T Cox, Interim Dean, Graduate School *Kathleen T. Cox*  
**CC:** Dr. Robin N. Coger, Provost and Senior Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
**DATE:** April 4, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** 2023 Thesis Dissertation Award Winners Announcement

Please join me in extending congratulations to this year's Thesis and Dissertation Award winners who will be recognized during the Research and Creative Achievement Week Award Luncheon on Monday, April 10, 2023.

Nominations were carefully reviewed by a committee of faculty and administrators and winners were based on (1) the impact in the chosen field of study; (2) the compelling case it makes for a new approach to a problem of significance; (3) the quality of writing and clarity of its messages; and (4) the originality of the work.

**Doctoral Dissertation in Life Sciences category**

Christopher Scott Moore, PhD in Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Biology, Biomedicine, and Chemistry, Department of Biology

[\*Trophically Transmitted Parasites as "Cross-taxon Surrogates" of Biodiversity in Coastal Environments\*](#)

*Dissertation Director: Dr. April Blakeslee*

**Doctoral Dissertation in Humanities category**

Alicia K. Hatcher, PhD in Rhetoric, Writing, and Professional Communication, Department of English

[\*Performative Symbolic Resistance: Examining Symbolic Resistance Efforts of Black Professional Athletes through a New Methodological Analytical Framework\*](#)

*Dissertation Director: Dr. Michelle Eble*

**Master's Thesis in Life Sciences category**

Emory Wellman, MS in Biology, Department of Biology

[\*Using Plant-bivalve Inter-specific Facilitation to Enhance Coastal Restoration\*](#)

*Thesis Director: Dr. Rachel K. Gittman*

**Master's Thesis in Social Sciences, Business, and Education category**

Gwyneth M. Schuler, MS in Recreation Sciences, Department of Recreation Sciences

[\*#oldnews: Diffusion of Pro-Conservation Behaviors and Social Media in Wildlife Tourism\*](#)

*Thesis Director: Dr. Jeffrey Skibins*



# STUDENT AFFAIRS

# GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP

# RECRUITMENT

# PROGRAM

Graduate Assistantships are on-campus positions designed to supplement your classroom experience with practical experience. The Division of Student Affairs is pleased to offer many assistantship opportunities for graduate students from numerous ECU academic programs. The graduate assistantship application process and the academic admissions process are separate but concurrent processes.

This site provides you with information about the Division of Student Affairs, our connection with the Graduate School, and Graduate Assistantship positions available for the 2023-24 academic year. There is also information about how you apply for an SA Assistantship within each job description below. [Visit this site](#) regularly for updates and links to job postings.



## Research & Creative Achievement Week

Main Campus  
Student Center  
April 3-6

 ECUGradSchool

 #RCAW23

 gradschool.ecu.edu



**Check out the 2023 Research and Creative Achievement Week award winners [HERE!](#)**

# 2022-2023

## Research & Statistics Workshops

Students can get more information at <https://ofe.ecu.edu/office-for-faculty-excellence/research-and-stats/statistics-and-research-workshop-series/>. If you have any questions, you can email Dr. Bian at [bianh@ecu.edu](mailto:bianh@ecu.edu).

	Tuesday (May 16)	Wednesday (May 17)	Thursday (May 18)
Week 1	SPSS Intro (9:00-11:00am) Dr. Courtney Baker  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	R Intro (9:00-11:00am) Dr. Alex Schoemann  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Mplus Intro (9:00-11:00am) Dr. Whitney Moore  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>
	SPSS Advanced (1:00-3:00pm) Dr. Hui Bian  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	R Markdown (1:00-3:00pm) Dr. Paul Vos  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Qualtrics (1:00-3:00pm) Dr. Hui Bian  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>

	Tuesday (May 23)	Wednesday (May 24)	Thursday (May 25)
Week 2	Descriptive Statistics and Artificial Intelligence (9:00am-12:00pm) Dr. Paul Vos  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	How to conduct quantitative research (9:00am-12:00pm) Dr. Qiang Wu  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Survival analysis (9:00am-12:00pm) Dr. Kevin O'Brien  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>
	Statistical Inference and Artificial Intelligence (1:00-4:00pm) Dr. Paul Vos  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling (1:00-4:00pm) Dr. Alex Schoemann  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Survey data analysis using BRFSS and NHANES data (1:00-4:00pm) Dr. Qiang Wu  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>

	Tuesday (May 30)	Wednesday (May 31)	Thursday (June 1)
Week 3	Mixed Research Design (9:00-11:00am) Dr. Hui Bian  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Individual Interview and Focus Groups (9:00-11:00am) Dr. Anne Ticknor  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Multiple Linear Regression (9:00-11:00am) Dr. Courtney Baker  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>
	Coding in Qualitative Research (1:00-3:00pm) Dr. Kawanna Bright  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Content Analysis (1:00-3:00pm) Dr. Heidi Bonner  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>	Mediation analysis using Lavaan in R (1:00-3:00pm) Dr. Whitney Moore  <a href="#">Link to Register</a>

For questions, please go to <https://ofe.ecu.edu/summer-research-and-statistics-workshops/> for more details or contact Dr. Hui Bian at [bianh@ecu.edu](mailto:bianh@ecu.edu)

# Interested in Summer Sessions?



## ECU Summer School on Campus

**COME BACK TO CAMPUS FOR THE SUMMER**

Join ECU for Summer 2023!

May 15th through July 28th!

### SESSION DATES

- Session 1 courses run from May 15, 2023- June 20, 2023.
- Session 2 courses run from June 22, 2023- July 28, 2023.
- 11-Week Summer Session runs from May 15, 2023- July 28, 2023.

To view ECU's Summer Academic Calendar [open the calendar page](#).

### REGISTRATION

Registration begins March 24, 2023 for select groups. Early registration begins March 27, 2023 and follows the [registration schedule](#). For a list of available courses, [open the schedule of classes](#) to be directed to ECU's course listing software.

### OUR COURSES

### ADVISING AND REGISTRATION

### HELPFUL RESOURCES

### CONTACT INFO



# SPRING 2023 SCHEDULE: IMPORTANT DATES

## 15-Week Calendar

April 25, Tuesday	State holiday makeup day; classes which would have met on Friday, April 7 will meet on this day so there will be effectively the same number of Fridays and Tuesdays as every other weekday during the semester. Tuesday classes will not meet.
April 25, Tuesday	Classes end; last day for Survey of Student Opinion of Instruction (SSOI); last day for submission of grade replacement requests.
April 26, Wednesday	Reading Day
April 27, Thursday	Final Examinations begin.
May 4, Thursday	Exams for Spring Semester end.
May 5, Friday	Commencement
May 8, Monday	Grades due at 8:00 am

## Alternate Block

BLOCK 2	
February 27, Monday	Classes begin; schedule adjustments.
March 1, Wednesday	Last day for registration and schedule adjustments (drop/add), by 5:00 p.m.
March 5-12 Sunday-Sunday	Spring break – Classes resume at 8:00 am Monday, March 13.
April 3, Monday	Last day for undergraduate and graduate students to withdraw from Block 2 courses by 5:00 p.m.
April 12, Wednesday	Survey of Student Opinion of Instruction (SSOI) becomes available
April 19, Wednesday	Classes end.
May 8, Monday	Grades due at 8:00 am

1. Classes meet four days a week, Monday through Thursday (27 class meetings)
2. Class length is one hour and twenty-five minutes (1:25)
3. No final exam period. Final exam is on the last day of class

Please remember that there are separate academic calendars for the 15-week semester and the Alternative Block schedules. Make sure to check the corresponding calendars if you have a mix of block & 15-week courses this semester.