Pirate Pearls
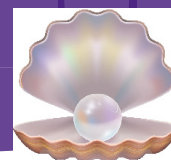
THE GRADUATE STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Early Start to Fall 2020 almost here!

August 10 - new first day for Fall 2020

The Pirate ship is sailing into our fall semester early this year as well continue to deal with COVID-19 and its impacts on every aspect of our lives. We are so proud of our graduate students who have been resilient, proactive, patient, and productive during this unprecedented time. The Graduate School has had to privilege of talking with many of you - continuing students and new students - and we are always impressed by your energy & commitment!

Please make sure you are familiar with all of the information on the Return of Pirate Nation website: https://returnofpiratenation.ecu.edu/

It really is much easier to adapt when you are fully informed, so please click through each link on the page and **please ask questions!** Please email gradschool@ecu.edu if you have any questions.

RETURN OF PIRATE NATION

You can use the menu bar at the top to review all the content, and then scroll a little to click on the Master Plan PDF. Look for Graduate School updates on the Academic Calendar page!
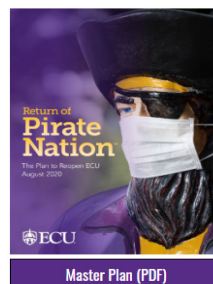
Return of Pirate Nation
The Plan to Reopen ECU
August 2020
ECU

Master Plan (PDF)

In This Issue

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. The Thesis & Dissertation deadline is always listed there!

Fall 2020 - November 11 (this is a change due to change in academic calendar)

ECU GRADUATE SCHOOL

Fall 2020 Submission of Master's Theses & Doctoral Dissertations

Deadline: November 11

If you are going to submit a thesis or dissertation to finish up and graduate in Fall 2020, make sure to mark November 11th is on your calendar. That is the deadline for sending in your master's thesis or doctoral dissertation to the Graduate School for a Fall 2020 graduation. Individuals who miss that deadline should send in their document as quickly as possible after the deadline, but a Fall graduation cannot be guaranteed.

You will want to plan your fall semester now! Speak with your thesis or dissertation director to develop a timeline of events that you likely need to accomplish:

- Set your defense date - as far in advance as your committee will agree to set it
- Get full-draft to director for final review - a month before defense?
- Get full-draft to committee for final defense
- Defend/determine edits necessary before final submission
- Complete edits & get approval of thesis/dissertation chair & get signatures on signature page
- Upload by November 11

If you are unable to meet the November 11th deadline and will graduate in Spring, the deadline for uploads is April 22, 2021.

What is the NEDL form?

The Non-Exclusive Distribution License (NEDL) is a required form you submit with your thesis or dissertation.

The NEDL is a required form that allows you to choose the licenses, embargoes, and access settings appropriate for your document. Your online signature is required in the NEDL and your thesis/dissertation director's signature is also required. If you have questions about this form, you can email Jeanne Hoover, Scholarly Communications librarian at hooverj@ecu.edu. You can review the form on the Vireo website.

Formatting Help

The Vireo LibGuide has informatio and templates on formatting your document.

The Vireo LibGuide has several tabs at the top of the page with great information to help you. Make sure to Click on "Required Elements" to see the list of pages/sections that must be in your document. Each of these pages has a Microsoft Word template for you to use. Click on "Agreements, Embargos, and Copyright" to learn more about the NEDL form that is required when you submit your document. And don't forget to consult the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section too!

AUG 10 — NEW START DATE FOR FALL 2020
Review the new calendar carefully!
Academic Calendar

AUG 12 — Last day for registration and schedule adjustments for 8W1 (Block 1)
Academic Calendar

AUG 14 — Last day for registration and schedule adjustments for 15-week semester & 8W2 Block 2.
Academic Calendar

SEPT 7 — State Holiday (no classes)
Academic Calendar

SEPT 25 — Classes end for 8W1 (Block 1)
Academic Calendar

SEPT 28-29 — Final Exams for 8W1 (Block 1)
Academic Calendar

SEPT 30 — Fall Festival
Academic Calendar

OCT 19 — Last day to withdraw from term-length courses or withdraw from school without grades by 5:00 PM. Block courses may be dropped only during the first 60% of their regularly scheduled class meetings.
Academic Calendar

NOV 6 — Early Registration for Graduate Students for Spring 2021 begins at 1:00 PM
Academic Calendar

NOV 11 — Final Day to upload a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation into Vireo for a Fall 2020 graduation
Vireo Website

NOV 17 — Last day for graduate students to submit work for removal of incompletes given during Fall 2019
Academic Calendar

JAN 18 — State Holiday - No Classes
Academic Calendar

JAN 19 — Classes for Spring 2021 begin (later start that typical)
Academic Calendar

JAN 25 — Last day to add or drop courses for Spring 2021. Drops after Jan 25 are withdrawals and are on the transcript.
Academic Calendar

This is not an official academic calendar. Always refer to the official calendar for approved deadlines. Academic Calendars are always found at ecu.edu/fsonline/senate/fscalend.cfm

FINDING FUNDING

Graduate Assistantships Available on GradFunding Mailing List!

The Grad Funding listserv (mailing list) was created specifically for ECU graduate students who are seeking assistantships, scholarships, grants, or other type of graduate education or research funding. Faculty and staff are also welcome to join the listerv to become more aware of what is available for graduate students so information can be disseminated to newly admitted students, as well. Please encourage all your classmates and coworkers to sign up! You can unsubscribe at any time. It's an opt-in/opt-out mailing list! Please tell your friends!

1. Address an email to listserv@listserv.ecu.edu
2. Do not put a subject or signature block/file.
3. Type the message: SUBSCRIBE GRADFUNDING-L firstname lastname
4. Replace "firstname" and "lastname" with your own first and last name.
5. Send the email

Additional listserv functions can be found here.

Looking for Campus Employment?

There are three basic types of employment on campus: Assistantships, Federal Work-Study, and Self-Help. Graduate students are eligible for all three, although Federal Work-Study is the least common.

To be eligible for funding, students should complete the FAFSA if you want the Federal Work-Study option. Assistantships and Self-Help jobs do not require a FAFSA on file.

To seek out campus employment, students are encouraged to:

- Speak to their Graduate Program Director about assistantships.
- Log into Career Services' Handshake web portal. All types of campus employment are listed in their job search tool.
- Speak directly to the Office of Financial Aid if you are interested in Federal Work-Study positions to determine how to request this option when you file the FAFSA.
- Students should contact the Student Employment Office when they have questions about paychecks, taxes, timesheets, or other transactional items related to their campus employment.

Scholarships

The Office of University Scholarships administers numerous scholarships available to students. Many awards require the FAFSA to be on file, so it is good idea for all graduate students to complete the FAFSA. However, also completing the online application for the University Scholarships increases your chances of "matching" with a scholarship opportunity. Graduate students who choose not to file a FAFSA can still complete the online application with the Office of University Scholarships; however, the student will be ineligible for opportunities that require a FAFSA on file. Students are also encouraged to seek out external scholarship databases for additional opportunities.

Explore the New Graduate School Website!

Over the summer, the Graduate School was hard at work revamping our website and it's now up, streamlined, and easy to navigate! The main website is http://gradschool.ecu.ecu and the main menu items that would be most helpful to current students are **Find Your Program (FYP)**, **Funding**, and **Students**. If you are considering adding a certificate to your degree program, **FYP** will be helpful. The **Students** menu tab leads you to the **Current Students** drop down menu. On the **Current Students** page you will find several links such as The Graduate Catalog, Forms, and the Academic Calendar. Finally, the **Funding** menu item has helpful information to assist you in finding funding.

Apply To Graduate At Least One Semester Prior to Your Graduation Semester

Applying to graduate is an online procedure that is completed separately for each degree and certificate you are earning. When you apply to graduate, your Degree Works audit is reviewed to ensure you are not missing anything or have not passed the deadline for completing the program. It is recommended you apply to graduate in the semester BEFORE your actual graduation semester. This way, if an issue is discovered, you can get it fixed prior to graduation week! Please review your Degree Works audit with your advisor each semester and when you apply to graduate. You will be reassured that you have completed all degree requirements. You can use this helpful guide to apply!

New Process Announced for Getting Your 1 Cards - for the first time or as a replacement

The ECU 1 Card is the official student identification card for all graduate students. It is the official photo ID for East Carolina University. All students, staff, and faculty need this card whenever they are asked to show university identification. While the ECU 1 Card is required for identification purposes, other accounts linked to the card are optional. These additional uses include meal plans, dining accounts, bookstore and Bounty Bucks accounts.

There is a new online process for obtaining your campus 1-Card. You can review the instructions on the Obtaining an ECU 1 Card website. Make sure to review this site carefully so you are aware of instructions, pick up locations, and other details.

Distance Education students who do not come to Greenville can request a 1-Card and it is mailed for a small mailing fee. You can use this to identify yourself at other UNC libraries or elsewhere in your community.

You can review the Frequently Asked Questions page and email the office at 1card@ecu.edu if you have additional questions.

GATHERING INFORMATION

Parking Permits for Students

There are important changes related to the parking permit renewal process for students who have a current parking permit. Also, new students should secure a parking permit as quickly as possible upon arriving in Greenville. You can review the [Student Permits](#) page to get specific information.

Parking permits can be purchased and renewed online. Review the Student Permits page to ensure you have all the information needed before you log into PiratePort to buy your permit.

ECU requires permits on campus at all times, so make sure to get yours!

Final Transcripts Needed!

If you are a new student to ECU and you recently graduated with your bachelor's degree and did not have your degree when you applied, we need a final transcript!

Please make sure to send a final transcript that shows you have graduated with your bachelor's degree to the Graduate School at gradschool@ecu.edu. Your financial aid may not pay to your account if you do not submit this final transcript. The transcript must come straight to the Graduate School from your undergraduate institution. We cannot accept electronic copies that were received by the student.

Getting Involved With Student Organizations

ECU has over 500 student organizations that are open to graduate students! There are organizations with interests in professional disciplines, recreation activities, and more! The best way to find out which organizations are right for you is to log into the Engage portal. Engage is the online portal where each student organization has a page for announcements, events, and contacts. In addition, there is a calendar where you can view events that have been planned all across campus! You will use your ECU Pirate ID to log into the Engage portal: https://engage.ecu.edu/

Getting Involved with Graduate & Professional Student Senate (GPSS)

The Graduate & Professional Student Senate (GPSS) is your graduate advocacy group! They bring issues of importance to the attention of the Graduate School or Student Government or any other administrative area of ECU. Their Board sits on numerous Student Government committees as well as Graduate Council and has great influence on issues that affect graduate students. You can be a part of GPSS as a member or you can serve as a GPSS representative for your student organization or as a representative of a college. Learn more about getting involved by subscribing to the [GPSS page in Engage](#)!

Career Fairs are going VIRTUAL!

To help keep you safe, Career Services has moved their career fairs to a virtual environment for Fall 2020! Using the online portal Handshake, you will have a variety of ways to interact with employers including one-on-one online meetings, information for download, and more! Click on each graphic to regsiter for that specific career fair. And make sure to investigate Handshake to its fullest! It can really help you with your job search!

Campus Employment Opportunities Available

There are thre basic types of employment on campus: Assistantships, Federal Work Study, and Self-Help. Graduate students are eligible for all three, although Federal Work Study is the lead common.

To be eligible for funding, students should complete the FAFSA if they want the Federal Work Study option. Assistantships and Self-help jobs do not require the FAFSA on file. To seek out campus employment, students are encouraged to:

- Speak to their Graduate Program Director about assistantships.
- Log into Career Services' Handshake web portal. All types of campus employment are listed in their job search tool including federal work study and self-help jobs.
- Speak directly to the Office of Financial Aid if you are interested in Federal Work-Study positions to determine how to request this option when you file the FAFSA.

Follow Purple Pantry on our social media pages! Facebook and Instagram: @ECUPantry | Twitter: @ECU_Pantry

Purple Pantry is a food bank currently located in the Main Campus Student Center. The Purple Pantry is aimed at reducing food insecurity on ECU's campus. A partnership between the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement, Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina, and several campus offices and partners. The Purple Pantry is **FREE** and available to enrolled students.

What are the hours for Purple Pantry?
Fall Semester 2020
Monday - Friday: 1:00 - 5:00 PM*
Saturday: Second Saturday of each month, 10 AM - 2 PM
Purple Pantry is closed on state holidays and/or when the university is closed.
*Hours of operation are subject to change based off COVID-19 protocol and procedures.
Please note: Purple Pantry will take the week of August 10 - 14, 2020 to offer virtual trainings for student volunteers. Pirate Packs will be available during this week. We will open the pantry, Monday August 17th at 1:00 PM.

Other Operations Include:
Pirate Packs
Pirate Packs are available for students to order and pick up from the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (Suite 208, Main Campus Student Center) each Wednesday from 9 AM - 12:00 PM. Pirate Packs are reusable bags filled with 5-10 pounds of food. Students can fill out a Pirate Pack form through Engage by 5:00 PM each Monday; forms open each Thursday.

Where is Purple Pantry Located?
Purple Pantry is located in the Main Campus Student Center. Students may come to the Welcome Desk or visit the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (Suite 208) for further assistance. Please be prepared to show your 1-card.

How do I volunteer? What can I donate?
Volunteer opportunities can be found on Purple Pantry's GivePulse page. Want to give in a different way? Monetary donations can be set up here.

If you or your organization/department want to donate items, please contact PurplePantry@ecu.edu to schedule a donation drop off. Suggested items include:

Canned meat • Whole grain pasta • Pasta sauce • Peanut Butter • Hygiene items •
Household items • Paper Products • Cereal • Fruit Cups • Granola Bars • Crackers •
Juice boxes • Bottled water • Vegan Options • Vegetarian Options
At this time we will not accept GLASS items and/or soup products. Please check labels for we will not accept expired food.

For More Information Please Contact:

Lekisha Pittman, Hunger Corps AmeriCorps VISTA in the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement at pittmanl19@ecu.edu or purplepantry@ecu.edu | 252-328-6432 | Purple Pantry Website