Scheduling for the 2020–2021 Academic Year

Block Scheduling
As part of its efforts to return to on-campus instruction in the fall, East Carolina University® will adopt a block scheduling format for the fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters.

- Under the block scheduling format, students will take the same number of courses, but instead of taking all their classes concurrently for the duration of the semester, the semester will be divided into two 7.5-week blocks. For example, a typical course load of five classes would include two classes in the first block and three in the second, or vice versa. Some courses will continue to be offered in the traditional 15-week format.
- The block scheduling format will allow us more flexibility in our approach as we plan for fall classes and implement the necessary adaptations to keep our students, faculty and staff healthy and safe.

Fall 2020
- ECU’s fall 2020 semester will begin Aug. 10, two weeks earlier than scheduled, as the university works to fulfill its educational mission while safeguarding the health of its students, faculty and staff. The administration and faculty understand that the early start will create challenges for some members of Pirate Nation™ and are developing resources to help smooth the transition.
- There will be no fall break, allowing the fall semester to conclude before Thanksgiving.
- Classes that remain in the 15-week format will begin Aug. 10. Exams for 15-week courses will end by Wednesday, Nov. 25.
- Classes for Block 7.5W1 will begin Monday, Aug. 10, and end Tuesday, Sept. 29.
- Classes for Block 7.5W2 will begin Thursday, Oct. 1, and end Tuesday, Nov. 17.

Spring 2021
- ECU’s spring 2021 semester will begin later than usual, on Tuesday, Jan. 19.
- There will be no spring break.
- Classes that remain in the 15-week format will begin Tuesday, Jan. 19. Exams for 15-week courses will end by Thursday, May 6.
- Classes for Block 7.5W3 will begin Tuesday, Jan. 19, and end Tuesday, March 9.
- Classes for Block 7.5W4 will begin Thursday, March 11, and end Friday, April 30.