Important Dates

We acknowledge that this is a challenging time for our students, the faculty and staff. Therefore, we will extend the utmost flexibility to students being negatively impacted by COVID-19. We have already extended some deadlines to reflect this trying time and will accept exception requests due to COVID-19.

April 1

• Extension: Registration Required ETD Deadline

• Extension: Apply to Graduate Deadline

April 15

Extension: Final Error Free ETD Deadline

April 20-23

Last week of classes

April 23

• Last day of classes

April 24

• ETD Committee Approval Deadline

April 27-May 5

• Final Examinations

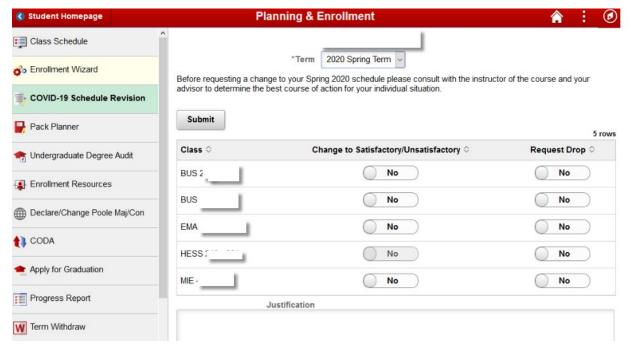
Form for Departments Offering Distance

Please fill this <u>form</u> out to let the Graduate School know whether or not you want to allow master's students to start your program(s) on-line. At this point, the focus is relative to international students, who are unlikely to get a visa in time to arrive for the start of the Fall semester, but this also needs to be thought about for domestic students at some point.

Revised Grading & Late Drop Policies

We recognize there are potential challenges associated with the transition to online classes. Therefore, the university has <u>revised the S/U policy</u> and <u>late drop</u> option for Spring and Summer 2020 terms in an attempt to minimize any course disruptions and complications that may arise. Given that decisions related to converting to an S/U grade can be made even after grades are assigned, we encourage graduate students to delay making any changes and to confer with their instructors prior to the decision. As outlined in the policy, once a decision to change grading option has been made, it cannot be reversed. Students will be able to submit late drop requests through the last day of class (4/24) for ungraded classes.

The following page is now available in the MyPack portal for students to choose to switch to S/U grading or to drop a course:



For change to S/U grading we will change the grading basis without approval and send email confirmation to the student. For late drops the request will be routed to the DGP(s) for approval. If a student is international, then OIS will be notified. Once the DGP approves it will be routed to the Graduate School Dean for final approval

Summer Enrollment Exceptions

Exceptions to summer enrollment will be considered only if there is clear evidence that a defense planned for the spring or prior to the no-registration deadline was disrupted by COVID-19. Exceptions should be requested with this <u>form</u>.

PhD Diploma Distribution

Since the spring commencement ceremony has been postponed, diplomas will be mailed to the graduates home mailing or diploma mailing addresses. The first diplomas should be mailed the week of May 26th.

Admissions

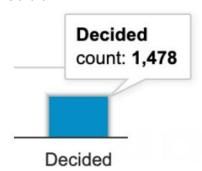
New enrollment of international overseas students will be drastically low in Fall 2020, with U.S. consulate offices closed and not issuing visas for the foreseeable future. We anticipate many deferments to Spring and Fall 2021. For programs who rely heavily on international student enrollment, you may wish to review your international applicants who listed a U.S. address when they applied. This query will return any such applications that are still pending an admission decision. To view U.S. citizens who still need review and an admission decision, use this query.

Duolingo English test scores are now available in Slate Reader. We mentioned that with testing centers closed, we are adopting the secure online Duolingo English test as an alternative to TOEFL and IELTS. Applicants need a minimum score of 105 and either the department or Graduate School may still require a skype interview. If your applicant has Duolingo scores, you will see a new tab in the Reader, which will open a page with their score, test date, and a video and writing interview (see below).

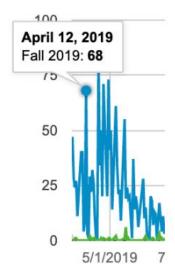


Slate Updates

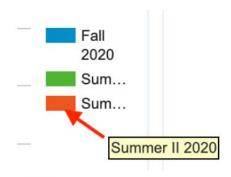
New charts have been added on the homepage when you first login to Slate. The first chart displays the applications status counts for all current applications. To see the count for each column, just hold your cursor over the chart:



The other new chart compares the number of applicants by day from Fall 2019 to Fall 2020. To see the count for each day, you'll need to hover over the graph with your cursor:



If a category's title is cut off in the legend, hover over it with your cursor to see the full name:



We've also broken out our training documents into individual links into categories and questions. There's also a link to our Requests and Suggestions form.

LinkedIn

In light of the challenges created by the Coronavirus, we are asking for your help in getting admitted students to enroll for the fall. Since prospective students often "follow" their PIs on LinkedIn, we encourage you to help us by sharing the Graduate School's LinkedIn content about graduate students

(https://www.linkedin.com/school/nc-state-university-graduate-school/) on your own Linkedin page or any other social media channels you have. Many thanks in advance!

Assistantship Reminders

NextGen is now open for May 16th actions. When starting summer actions, please remember that the **May 15th** auto-term job will run April 22nd. This means that all modification actions must be completed by 5 pm on April 22nd. New hires and rapid rehires can start after April 22nd without falsely inflated FTEs.

Graduating students on a F-1 visa who are currently on a research or service assistantship, may need their separation date modified, prior to the auto-term job.

Summer Graduate Student Teaching – 2020 HIRING PROCESS

Graduate students teaching in the summer should be hired through NextGen using the A198 job code (account code 51311 allowed over the summer only). The flat rate position, SSW911, will NOT be allowed for graduate

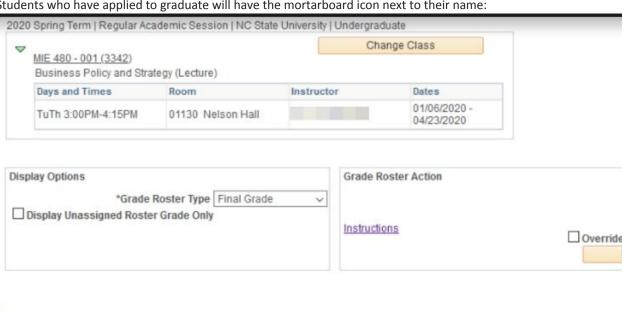
teaching positions over the summer. See pages 5 and 6 of the HRIM Summer Session Appointment Guide for information, https://hrim.hr.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/13/2016/11/Summer-Session-Instruction.pdf

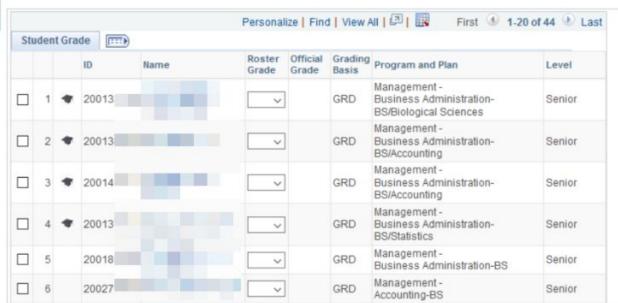
Celebrate Virtual Graduate Education Week

To let our graduate students know how much we appreciate them and build some community, we are celebrating Virtual Graduate Education Week April 6-10. This would be a good week to let students know you are thinking about them and maybe check in virtually. You can <u>find a list of activities</u> we have planned -- please join us in participating.

Mortarboard on Grade Roster

A new feature has been added to the grading roster to assist with grading prioritization at the end of the term. Students who have applied to graduate will have the mortarboard icon next to their name:





Professional Development Programming

The Graduate School Professional Development Team will continue to offer support to graduate students and postdocs through virtual platforms. Our current offerings include workshops, the <u>Academic Packways</u> career

preparation program, and a <u>Writing Retreat</u>. We will continue to add programming, so please check our <u>workshops</u> <u>page</u> regularly. In addition, our team is happy to provide one-on-one virtual consultations on writing, teaching, career planning and more to students and postdocs on request. Contact <u>Vanessa Doriott Anderson</u> with questions.

The Virtual Writing Retreat | May 4-8

The Virtual Writing Retreat, formerly known as Camp Completion, offers 5 days of dedicated writing time for graduate and postdoc trainees seeking support and accountability in order to make progress on their dissertations, theses, capstone projects, and more. Participants will connect via Zoom video conferencing to participate in daily check-in sessions as well as optional consultations and workshops. Advisees can fill out the <u>registration form</u> or visit <u>our website</u> for details. Priority will be given to applications submitted before April 15, so encourage your advisees to sign up as soon as possible. Questions? Contact <u>Katie Homar</u>.

Academic Packways | June 4-5

Academic Packways: Gearing up for Faculty is a two-day professional development workshop for NC State postdocs and late-stage Ph.D. candidates interested in pursuing a faculty career. Academic Packways will inform and prepare prospective faculty for a career in academia through panels, working sessions, presentations, and more. The program will be held June 4 and 5 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Zoom video conferencing, and full participation over both days is required. The application is open until April 17. Please encourage your scholars to apply!

Professional Development Consultations

The Graduate School Professional Development Team is currently offering online consultations regarding writing, career exploration, faculty job searches and more, via Zoom video conferencing. Graduate students and postdoc trainees can schedule appointments with <u>Vanessa Doriott Anderson</u> (Director of Teaching and Communication Programs), <u>Katie Homar</u> (Director of Academic and Engineering Writing Support), <u>Chris Smith</u> (Postdoctoral Affairs Program Manager), and <u>Joe Aldinger</u> (Director of Accelerate to Industry) by clicking their names to see available meeting times. Please share these schedules with your scholars.

Career and Professional Development Content

Encourage your scholars to check out the Graduate School Professional Development Team's Impackful Blog for content that can enhance their career and professional development comprehension including:

- <u>PACK in Action</u> highlights postdoctoral scholars and graduate students doing interesting work and having an impact on their field, NC State, and society
- ImPACKful Tips offers useful advice on the career exploration and job search process for graduate students and postdocs
- Expand Your PACK highlights important people and resources available to enhance graduate students and postdocs' training and development while at NC State
- <u>Alumni Insights</u> profiles alumni working in a variety of fields and how their experiences at NC State helped prepare them for transitioning into their current work

Nominate someone to be featured on the ImPACKful Blog!

Complete <u>this form</u> to nominate one of your scholars and the work they are doing for your department or the NCSU community at large.