

## **Important Dates**

### **June 8**

- Spring 2020 COVID-19 Schedule Revision Deadline - S/U grading and/or late drops

### **June 9**

- Spring 2020 Term Withdrawal Deadline

### **June 16**

- Last day of classes for Summer I

### **June 17-18**

- Final exams for Summer I

### **June 22**

- First day of classes for Summer II
- Summer I grades due

### **June 23**

- Last day to add a course without permission of instructor

### **June 24**

- Summer II census day

### **June 29**

- Apply to graduate deadline for Summer 2020
- Registration required ETD review deadline

## **Fall Academic Calendar Updates**

In addition to the semester beginning on August 10, nine days earlier than originally scheduled, the following changes have been made to the Fall 2020 academic calendar:

1. Last day of classes: The last day of classes for the first 8-week session will be Monday, September 28. The last day of classes for the fall regular session and the second 8-week session will be Friday, November 13.
2. Shortened Final Exams: Final exams will take place from November 16-20 with no reading day, and will have a maximum time limit of 2.5 hours. The updated final exam calendar will be posted to the [Student Services Center website](#) in the coming weeks.
3. Classes to be held on Labor Day: The new calendar has eliminated Labor Day as a university holiday, and classes will be held on Monday, September 7. University offices will remain open.
4. No Fall Break: NC State will forgo Fall Break, and classes will be held on October 8-9.
5. Commencement Plans to be Announced: Plans for the fall ceremony are under review and will be announced at a later date.

Details for the new Fall 2020 academic calendar, including updated add/drop deadlines, are available on the [Student Services Center website](#).

## **Fall ETD Deadlines**

Based on the updated fall start date, the following updates have been made to the ETD deadlines.

1. The ETD no registration required deadline will remain the same - Aug 18
2. The registration required deadline will change to Nov 2nd (instead of Nov 6th)
3. The final error free deadline Nov 13th
4. Final committee approval Nov 18th

## **International Students - Starting Fall as Distance Students**

If you have new international students who will remain in their foreign country and enroll in the Fall semester online, you will need to notify Lindsay Gentile ([lwgentil@ncsu.edu](mailto:lwgentil@ncsu.edu)) so that we can flag them in Slate and communicate with them regarding an I-20 to obtain a visa and enter the U.S. for on-campus courses in Spring 2021.

## **Fall Orientation**

Fall 2020 New Graduate Student Orientation will NOT be held in-person. Instead, online orientation will be accessed through WolfWare (Moodle). We anticipate online orientation opening in late July. More information will be posted soon on our [Graduate School Orientation website](#).

## Admissions

- Duolingo English - we have decided to keep Duolingo English as an acceptable English proficiency test, however, we found that the minimum requirement that we originally adopted was too low. The minimum score will now be 110. Since there are no subsection scores, we encourage you to continue to require your TAs to take TOEFL or IELTS, to ensure adequate minimums are met for their teaching responsibilities.
- This summer, please review your list of faculty who have access to review admissions in Slate. You should remove any who no longer need access and add those who are missing. Login to the MyPack Portal, navigate to the Student Information System, click on the Admissions tile, then the Grad Admission Setup folder and go to the Admissions Program Security page. Hit the search button to see all programs in your security access, choose one, and click on the Faculty Reviewers tab. You can click the minus button and hit save, to remove faculty. An overnight process will delete their access within Slate.
- Please review your application deadline(s) listed on the Graduate School's [programs page](#), and on your department websites. If you are changing your deadlines, please notify Lauren Liston to update it in Slate.

## Graduate Student Support Plan

### ***GSSP Indicators for Tuition Sponsorship***

Those students who received a Spring 2020 tuition award and are within eligible semesters for Fall 2020 will automatically have a GSSP tuition "do not cancel [enrollment]" service indicator for Fall 2020 added to their student accounts. If you have a group of new graduate students that need GSSP tuition indicators for Fall 2020, to prevent possible enrollment cancellation by the Cashier's Office, please send Dare Cook ([decook@ncsu.edu](mailto:decook@ncsu.edu)) a list of those student IDs in an Excel spreadsheet ([template linked](#)) by **July 1st** and they will be uploaded to the system on the department's behalf. This will prevent departments from having to add them one-by-one in cases where there are many. But, if departments would like to add them manually, they are welcome to do so (see [Manage Service Indicator Instructions](#)).

#### GSSP Indicator Upload Request Form

<https://grad.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/gssp-indicator-request-form-2198.xlsx>

\* Please remember that only graduate students that will be eligible for GSSP tuition support ([within allowed semesters](#)) should receive a GSSP tuition indicator.

\* If the student will be beyond their allowed semesters for GSSP tuition support and the advisor/department still plan to sponsor them (payment through a department initiated GA-1), the "DEPT" - department sponsorship (non-GSSP) indicator is appropriate.

### ***GSSP Health Insurance (RA-TA Plan)***

REMINDER: All students participating on the RA-TA Health Insurance Plan for the Spring semester will retain their RA-TA Health Insurance coverage through 7/31, regardless of GSSP eligible graduate appointment type or appointment end date. If a participating student does not need coverage for the summer period because they have an alternate form of coverage, the student can request early termination for the coverage period by completing the RA-TA Decline Form found on the GSSP for Students website ([go.ncsu.edu/gssp](http://go.ncsu.edu/gssp)). The GSHI rate for FY 2020-2021, effective 8/1/2020 is \$218.30/month.

### ***GSSP Academic Year Timeline***

Linked below is a [GSSP Academic Year Timeline](#) (pdf) that documents the general schedule of processes on campus related to administering the GSSP. The schedule includes links to other helpful resources as well as useful queries for managing graduate student information. We will continue to add to this schedule as new resources are developed. This timeline is also linked on the [GSSP for Administrators webpage](#) under "Guides & Instructions."

### ***GSSP Exception Requests***

As a reminder, departments are required to electronically submit GSSP exception requests. The GSSP exception request form can be found on the [Graduate School GSSP website](#). Only DGP's or GSC's are allowed to submit the GSSP exception request forms. *Exception requests for Fall 2020 must be submitted before August 20, 2020 at 5:00pm.* Please direct any questions regarding exception requests to [decook@ncsu.edu](mailto:decook@ncsu.edu). Note that we are currently reviewing exception requests for Fall 2020 and will be updating departments soon regarding pending requests.

#### [GSSP Exception Request Form](#)

### **Graduate Assistantships**

#### ***GA Employment Transition Dates***

The Graduate School has decided, in consultation with HR and Payroll, to change the GA dates of employment in response to the August 10 start date to the 2020-21 academic year. These changes have become necessary in order to continue to keep the summer and fall employment periods separated. We also want to make sure that our International graduate students on F-1 and J-1 visas do not jeopardize their status by working more than 20 hours per week during Fall and/or Spring semesters.

**Below, you will find the new GA transition dates for Summer and Fall only:**

**Entire Summer session: 5/16/2020 – 8/4/2020**

**Summer 2 term: 7/1/2020 – 8/4/2020**

**Fall semester: 8/5/2020 – 12/31/2020**

We anticipate that there will be many questions surrounding this schedule change, how exactly these changes will be implemented and the impact upon programs. We will be sending more detailed information addressing these concerns and more later this week. Thanks for your understanding and patience.

#### **Licensure Requirement**

Based on recent changes in regulations from the Dept. of Education about requirements in terms of supplying applicants and students with details about whether NC State graduate programs meet licensure requirements for every state, we are developing a short survey to determine which disciplines may need to supply this information. Given that initial elements of this must be in place by July 1, 2020, we will be contacting you soon.

#### **New Teaching Assistant (TA) Workshop - August 6 & 7**

The New TA Workshop is going virtual this year! We will hold synchronous morning sessions on Thursday, Aug. 6 (plenary sessions) and Friday, Aug. 7 (breakout sessions). In addition to providing an overview of best practices, the workshop aims to increase participants' classroom confidence and connect them to resources they can draw on in the future, whether in face-to-face, virtual or hybrid modes of instruction. We will release more details when registration opens in June. Contact Stella Jackman-Ryan with questions ([professional-development@ncsu.edu](mailto:professional-development@ncsu.edu)).

#### **Advice on Publishing an Academic Book**

Get tips on submitting and publishing your book manuscript! Join Elizabeth Ault (Duke University Press) on Friday, June 5 from 8:15 to 9 a.m. for an information session on the academic book publishing process, from submitting proposals to working with editors to final publication. Open to all master's, doctoral, and postdoc trainees, and to faculty. [Sign up for the Zoom webinar](#) or contact Vanessa Doriott Anderson ([vkdoriot@ncsu.edu](mailto:vkdoriot@ncsu.edu)) with questions.

#### **OPA Highlights Postdoc Research**

In lieu of our Postdoctoral Research Symposium originally scheduled for May 29, we asked postdocs to submit short research descriptions to be featured on our ImPACKful blog.

[Check out the postdoc research spotlights here](#)

### **Professional Development Consultations for Trainees**

The Graduate Professional Development Team is currently offering online consultations regarding writing, career exploration, faculty job searches and more. Graduate and postdoc trainees can schedule appointments with [Vanessa Doriott Anderson](#) (Director of Teaching and Communication Programs), [Katie Homar](#) (Director of Academic and Engineering Writing Support), [Joe Aldinger](#) (Director of Accelerate to Industry), and [Chris Smith](#) (Postdoc Affairs Program Manager).

**Seeking Graduate Students and Postdocs to Highlight in ImPACKful**

Please complete [this form](#) to nominate a student or postdoc to be featured in the ImPACKful blog.

**Office of Postdoctoral Affairs Seeks Graduate Assistant**

Application deadline: Monday, June 29

Virtual interviews will take place July 13–17.

Hire date is tentatively Aug. 3.

[See ad for more details](#)

**FLE 402 Advanced Written Communication for International Students**

Please see the attachment regarding the specialized writing course for international graduate students. only offering one section in the fall and it is capped at 15.