

## Credit

[Top](#)

The main campus of East Carolina University operates on the semester system. The fall and spring semesters are each approximately fourteen weeks in length. The summer session is divided into two equal terms of approximately five and one-half weeks each. An alternative eleven week summer schedule is available in some areas. Doctoral students may enroll for a single eleven-week summer term. The Division of Continuing Studies will supply calendars for the off-campus centers.

The university is in session five and one-half days each week. Classes usually meet for fifty-minute periods, but some of the courses meet for three hours in one evening or on Saturday morning.

Only courses numbered 5000 or higher can be counted toward completion of graduate degrees or CAS programs. At least one-half of the credit for a master's degree must be earned in courses for graduates only, numbering 6000 or above. During the summer terms, most courses are offered during the daytime. Three semester hour courses meet one and a half hours daily; five semester hour courses meet two and one-half hours daily. Other courses meet for the appropriate times in order to meet the total contact hour requirement. The university offers many graduate courses, workshops, conferences, and short courses during the summer session. Graduate degree credit can be earned only at the ~~rate of one semester hour of credit for each calendar week of attendance.~~ standard of a minimum of 750 scheduled minutes of instructional time or the equivalent per credit hour, as stated in the UNC Policy Manual.

Graduate students who seek and obtain permission to take courses at other institutions for subsequent transfer to degree programs at East Carolina University may obtain credit only at ~~the rate of one semester hour of credit for each calendar week of course attendance.~~ the standard of a minimum of 750 scheduled minutes of instructional time or the equivalent per credit hour, as stated in the UNC Policy Manual. Degree or CAS credit cannot be obtained through completion of correspondence courses. The Graduate School does not award credit for experiential learning, advanced placement, or professional certificates.

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[Top](#)

## Continuous Enrollment (or Registration)

Graduate students who have previously registered for all credits in a graduate degree program but who have not completed all requirements (e.g., thesis, professional paper, internship, etc.) must continue to register each semester (except summer terms) until all degree requirements are completed and filed with the registrar. Students must be enrolled for at least one credit hour during the semester of graduation except summer, if registered for the prior spring semester. ~~Students who complete all degree requirements prior to the first day of the term of graduation may petition the Graduate School for an exception to the registration requirement for that term.~~

Students who do not complete all degree requirements prior to the published commencement date of the intended term of graduation but complete all degree requirements prior to the first day of class of the subsequent term may petition the Graduate School for a waiver of the registration requirement for that term.

In special circumstances, students may request a leave of absence from their program of study. They must notify their graduate program director and file a readmission application prior to returning. During a leave of absence, students will not be permitted to utilize university resources. Students readmitted after a leave of absence will be required to meet the continuous enrollment requirement.

For information on leave of absence, view Absence and Readmission found at [www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/grcat/admission.cfm#LOAReadmit](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/grcat/admission.cfm#LOAReadmit).

