# PROFESSIONAL WRITING & INFORMATION DESIGN First Semester Registration Information Packet



### How do I register for classes?

Never fear! This packet includes directions for registering for your first semester at ECU!

- 1. Make sure you follow the instructions exactly.
- 2. Do not wait until your Orientation to register.
- 3. At your Orientation, an Academic Advisor will review your schedule.
  - a. If a schedule change is needed, you can do so through the first week of the fall semester.
- 4. Courses fill up quickly, so register for your classes as soon as possible.
- 5. If you were an Early College or Dual Enrollment student, make sure you submit a **final**, **official** transcript from your community college/university in addition to your high school transcript. Please email a copy of your COLLEGE transcripts to <a href="mailto:THCASadvising@ecu.edu">THCASadvising@ecu.edu</a> if you need further guidance.

## **Registration Key Terms**

Academic Advisor: The staff member who will guide you through your degree. Academic Advisors

assist with course registration and degree planning, among other duties.

Add/Drop Period: A grace period at the beginning of each semester when you can add or drop a

course without penalty.

<u>Course Load</u>: The number of courses you are taking a semester.

Credit Hour: You may also see this referred to as "semester hour credit." Each course is

assigned a number of credit hours that measures the instruction and learning for

that course.

<u>Full-Time</u>: To be enrolled as a full-time student, you should register for at least **12 credit** 

hours a semester.

General Education: Requirements outside of your major that are chosen to give you a broad, "well

rounded" education.

<u>Orientation:</u> Required session/event where you will learn about campus resources, how you

are expected to behave on campus (also known as a code of conduct), and will

meet with an Academic Advisor.

<u>Pre-Requisite:</u> Course or placement you must complete before taking a course.

<u>Semester:</u> Measurement that divides the academic year into 15-16 week terms. The main

semesters are Fall (August through December) and Spring (January through May); however, there are also shorter semester (8 week) options for some

courses, as well as the Summer semester (May through August).

Semester Hour Credit: A semester hour credit is how college courses are measured. It is defined by the

Federal Student Aid Handbook as "one hour of classroom or direct instruction, plus a minimum of two hours outside class work per week, for fifteen weeks" (the

length of a semester).



**Did you know?** If you want to complete your degree within 4 years, without enrolling in summer courses, you should register for *at least* 15 credit hours for the fall (and spring) semester.

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### Step One:

Click <u>HERE</u> to open a step-by-step, screenshot tutorial on how to register for classes.

# **Step Two: Choose your Fall Courses**

1. Begin with the PRIORITY courses for your major. If those courses are full, you'll move on to the next step to continue registering for courses. You can check for open seats in priority courses until the first week of the fall semester.

#### Your PRIORITY courses:

English	ENGL 1100: Foundations of College Writing
Choose one or two.	It is recommended that you try to take this course in the fall. However, if it isn't available, it is fine to take in the spring.
	If you are unable to get into ENGL 1100, choose any 1 of these courses instead. You may also choose to take one of these courses in addition to ENGL 1100.
	ENGL 1000 Appreciating Literature
	ENGL 1500 Topics in Words, Images, and Ideas
	ENGL 2230 Southern Literature
	ENGL 2260 Topics in Contemporary African American Cultural Texts
	ENGL 2420 The Short Story
	ENGL 2470 Topics in Popular Literature
	ENGL 2480 Science Fiction
	ENGL 2490 Introduction to Environmental Humanities
	ENGL 2570 The Supernatural
	ENGL 2630 The Bible as Literature
	ENGL 2815 Introduction to Creative Writing
	FILM 2900 Introduction to Film Studies
	LING 2050 English for Global Communication
	LING 2700 Introduction to Language Studies LING 2710 English Grammar
	LING 2710 English Granimal LING 2720 Invented Languages
	LING 2740 Invented Languages LING 2740 Language in the USA
	LING 2740 Language in the GGA LING 2760 Afro-Caribbean Language and Culture
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	3-6 credit hours

# **Step Three: Additional Courses**

For financial aid, insurance, and tuition purposes, you will likely want to register for at least 12 hours. If you did not get 12 hours from the suggestions in Step Two, please choose additional courses from the examples below.

Social Science	Any General Education Social Science course(s). Click <u>HERE</u> for options. You can take up to 2 in this category in your first semester.
	3-6 credit hours
Humanities	Any General Education Humanities course(s). Click <u>HERE</u> for options. You can take up to 2 in this category in your first semester.
	3-6 credit hours

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Fine Arts	Any General Education Fine Arts course(s). Click <u>HERE</u> for options.  You can take up to 2 in this category in your first semester.
	3-6 credit hours
Natural Science	Any General Education Science course (with or without lab). Click <u>HERE</u> for options.
	3-4 credit hours
MINOR	A minor is optional for this major.
	You can find a list of minors <u>HERE</u> .
	Most minors require 18 to 24 credits.
	Start with a 1000 or 2000 level course in that area.  You may also choose to complete a double major.
	You may also choose to complete a double major.
	3-6 credit hours
Health	HLTH 1000: Health in Modern Society  Or RCTX 2200: Principles and Practices in Stress Management
	2-3 credit hours
Kinesiology	KINE 1000: Lifetime Physical Activity and Fitness Lab You'll likely take KINE 1000 during your sophomore year or later.
	1 credit hour
Mathematics	MATH 1050: Explorations in Mathematics (No math placement test needed)
	or
	PHIL 1500: Introduction to Logic (No math placement test needed)
	If you plan to pursue a pre-professional field (pre-med, pre-dental, etc.), we do not advise you to take math in the fall. You'll take a different math course in the spring.
	3 credit hours

### Step Four: What else do I need to know?

- If there is a course you want to take but it is closed, add yourself to a wait list. Wait list instructions are HERE.
- Requirements for any major can be found in the <u>Undergraduate Catalog</u>.
- Advisors are only an email away!
  - Email <u>thcasadvising@ecu.edu</u> from your ECU student account for assistance. Our Academic Advisors get a lot of emails and have a lot of students to help, but their goal is to return your email within two business days.

## **Step Five: Use Your Resources**

Foreign Language Placement Testing: <a href="https://foreign.ecu.edu/resources/placement-exams/">https://foreign.ecu.edu/resources/placement-exams/</a>

General Education Course Options: Click HERE.

Math Course Placement Information: <a href="https://math.ecu.edu/placement/">https://math.ecu.edu/placement/</a> Registration Errors Explained: <a href="https://advising.ecu.edu/registration-errors/">https://advising.ecu.edu/registration-errors/</a> Registration Tutorials: <a href="https://registrar.ecu.edu/preparing-to-register/">https://registrar.ecu.edu/preparing-to-register/</a>

Undergraduate Catalog: Click HERE.