End of Fall 2020 Service Dates

The final day of face-to-face instruction is Friday, November 20. Students should remember that Western Carolina University’s fall 2020 semester does not conclude until the end of exams on Saturday, December 5. Residence Halls, Dining Facilities, and other student service facilities will remain open and operating under normal business hours.

MORE INFORMATION ON FALL CLOSING

Leadership Announcements
On October 15th Chancellor Brown announced the appointment of Dr. Richard D. Starnes, as Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

On October 16th Chancellor Brown announced the appointment of Dr. Angela J. Grube as the Dean of the College of Business.

Commencement

Commencement is a significant milestone for our students, and we have been working diligently to plan a ceremony that will allow us to celebrate and recognize your accomplishments in a meaningful and safe way. In consultation with the Jackson County Department of Public Health and campus stakeholders, we are planning a four-day series of ceremonies to honor May and August graduates, as well as the members of the fall 2020 graduating class.

Ceremonies are scheduled to begin Thursday, December 10, and continue through Sunday, December 13, with graduates being grouped based on their degree, academic department, and college. Commencement participants will be assigned a specific time block for their respective ceremony.
Details on the logistics for commencement can be found at graduation.wcu.edu. Plans are subject to change based on conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Staff Senate Ornament Fund Raiser

Are you looking for a WCU memento for yourself as a WCU Parent or a gift for your WCU student? Western Carolina University’s Staff Senate’s 2020 WCU ornament is now available for purchase online! Each year, the Staff Senate sells ornaments to raise funds for the Staff Senate Scholarship, an initiative to support currently enrolled or accepted, incoming children or relatives of WCU staff members. This year’s ornament’s design, which was created in house by extremely talented WCU engineering students at the Rapid Center within the College of Engineering and Technology, reflects this year’s campus theme: Water. There is a limited supply of ornaments, so be sure to order yours today! Staff Senate appreciates the support the scholarship continues to receive from the campus community.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2021-2022 FAFSA OPENS OCTOBER 1

Priority filing deadline for WCU is January 1.

Student Connections & The Ideal Campus Food Experience
We know how important connections are for your student. As we strive to provide your student with the best experience possible, one area we want to better connect is through our campus food experience. We ask that you take 5 minutes or less to share your ideas on the ideal food experience for your student and how it can better fit into our campus lifestyle as we move into 2021 and beyond.

We are using an independent research firm to collect parent's opinions. Your input is not tied to your name/e-mail unless you explicitly request the firm to share them. We hope to have all surveys completed by November 23rd. Please click the link below to get started.

DINING SURVEY
Balance, balance, balance. There is a great deal of stress right now. An election cycle and COVID followed by the end of the semester stress. It is more important than ever that you work toward finding balance in your life. Checking with yourself to make sure that you are tending to the 7 areas of wellness will help you do just that!

For more information visit https://www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/NovemberStressKit.pdf

Being Me in Cullowhee

Campus Activities introduced two new installments in their “Being Me in Cullowhee” series. The series explores students’ various identities and their unique experience on campus.
Leave your legacy by purchasing a brick on the Catamount Legacy Walk! Located by the Alumni Tower, the walk features bricks engraved with a name or personal message that honors members of the Western Carolina University family.

- Celebrate a special occasion such as graduation, anniversary, retirement, or a holiday gift
- Honor a friend or loved one from WCU who has impacted your life
- Recognize a graduate, student, professor or friend
- Celebrate a graduate's educational, Greek membership, and athletic successes as a Catamount

Funds raised by the Catamount Legacy Walk support the Student Emergency Fund. Donors receive a commemorative certificate for each brick commissioned.

For more information please contact the Office of Student Affairs at (828) 227-7147 or visit LegacyWalk.wcu.edu.
TEXTBOOK BUYBACK
November 9 - December 11

Bring in any books you would like to sell and let us quote you a price!*

*NOT FOR CASH - we will either post the credit on your Student Account or provide a WCU Bookstore Giftcard.
2020-2021 Room Selection

Will your student need on campus housing for the 2020-2021 Academic Year? More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to Spring 2021. Below are some important items to remember:

- Room selection begins in March 2021
- Pay the non-refundable housing deposit of $150 through their MyWCU account
- Submit a Residence Hall Agreement beginning in late February
- Information will be online at roomselection.wcu.edu
- Information will be sent to your student's Suite box in January
- Emails will be sent to your student's WCU email account
- Being requested as a roommate does not qualify as submitting a Residence Hall Agreement

Questions? Please call the Department of Residential Living at 828.227.7303.

October Campus Updates

Below are some of the messages that have been shared with your student over the past few weeks.

Final Exams Exams are scheduled to begin on Monday, November 30. Fall 2020 Exam Schedule.

A Message from the Chief of Police Chief Steve Lillard encouraged all members of the community to contact UPD if they see any concerning behavior on Social Media or other platforms.

Democratic Engagement Chief Diversity Officer Ricardo Nazario-Colon urged students to engage with our democratic process and vote but also to be mindful of our community.

Election Day Message WCU is a place for collaboration with and respect for our community, and we embrace a free and open exchange of ideas. Chancellor Brown encouraged all community members to remember that these values do not need to be in conflict; it is our duty to show respect to each other, even with those with who we disagree.
Important Dates

November 20 - Last day for face-to-face classes

November 24 - Last day of classes

November 25-29 - Thanksgiving Break

November 30-December 5 - Final Exams

December 11 - Rental Textbooks Due