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Course and Curriculum Deadlines for 2021-2022 Catalogs

December 31 is the start deadline for course and curriculum proposals. The earlier you start, the more likely the proposal will reach final approval in time for publication in the next Catalog. Only timely course and program proposals will be included. For more information, visit [Course and Curriculum Deadlines and FAQs](#). A Curriculog Open Swim session is being held Tuesday, December 15, 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. via Zoom. To learn more about Curriculog and to register for training, visit [Curriculog Training](#).

Developing Successful Mentoring Strategies

The ADVANCE Faculty Affairs and Diversity Office will be offering a series of workshops on mentoring undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdocs based on the evidence-based practices of the CIMER Institute (Center for Improved Mentoring Experiences in Research) at the University of Wisconsin. This series of eight, hour-long workshops entitled Developing Successful Mentoring Strategies will be scheduled on the first and third Thursday of each month from 12:30–1:30 p.m. starting on January 7, 2021, and ending April 15, 2021. All new faculty who will be mentors to students, post-doctoral fellows, and all graduate faculty are encouraged to [register](#) for this training.

Byker Receives 2020 International Education Faculty Award



The Office of International Programs is pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Erik Byker as the recipient of the 2020 International Education Faculty Award. Dr. Byker, Associate Professor in the Department of Reading and Elementary Education in the Cato College of Education, is recognized for his outstanding contributions to the enhancement of the international education experience at UNC Charlotte. Some of his accomplishments include being named a Global Teacher Education Fellow by the Global Teacher Education Group; leading multiple study abroad trips to Stellenbosch, South Africa; integrating global competency modules and activities in all of the courses he teaches, and contributing to the creation of the Applied Understandings in Global Education minor. For more information about the Faculty International Education Award, please visit the International Education Awards [website](#).

School of Data Science is Accepting Seed Grant Applications for Spring 2021 Cycle

The School of Data Science is accepting cross-disciplinary research proposals through January 10 for the summer 2021 seed grants for data science funding cycle. This grant opportunity is \$10,000 per award, a grand total of \$20,000 in funding for UNC Charlotte and partnering faculty and researchers. [Proposals](#) must be submitted by teams composed primarily of UNC Charlotte researchers, where the lead PI is a UNC Charlotte faculty member.

Center for Teaching and Learning Resources and Workshops

Delivering Final Exams & Submitting Final Grades

Final Exams begin on December 17. Review the resources below to prepare to finish the semester strong.

- [Consider an Alternative Assessment for your Final Exam](#)
- [Finishing the Semester Strong: With Online Activities](#)
- Understand the Grading Policy Exceptions Available in 2020 - 2021
 - [Undergraduate Students](#) (Fall 2020, Spring & Summer 2021)
 - [Graduate Students](#) (Fall 2020)
- [Use the Canvas to Banner Grade Submission Tool](#)

Live Support for Finalizing Your Canvas Gradebook

- Tuesday, December 15, 10:00 - 11:00 AM ([Register](#))
- Wednesday, December 16, 2:30 - 3:30 PM ([Register](#))
- Monday, January 4, 2:30 - 3:30 PM ([Register](#))

Spring Into Action and Start the Next Semester Strong

It is never too early to get a jump-start on the next semester. Begin by taking advantage of the Center for Teaching and Learning's custom programs for online course design.

Observe a Well-Designed Online Course

[The Teachers Observing Peers \(TOP\) program](#) provides UNC Charlotte faculty members with an opportunity to observe peers representing a variety of disciplines. See how your peers organize their course in Canvas, how they structure assignments, and use engagement strategies.

Live Webinars

- Canvas Quizzing
 - Wednesday, December 9, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM ([Register](#))
 - Thursday, December 17, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM ([Register](#))
- Kaltura Quick Start
 - Friday, December 11, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ([Register](#))
- Starting with a Fresh Canvas
 - Monday, December 14, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ([Register](#))
- Teaching with Poll Everywhere
 - Monday, December 14, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM ([Register](#))
- Canvas Assignments & Gradebook
 - Tuesday, December 15, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM ([Register](#))

Self-Paced Courses

- Starting with a Fresh Canvas ([On Demand](#))
- Online Teaching Foundations ([On Demand](#))
- Online Video Foundation ([On Demand](#))

Important Canvas Update: New Rich Content Editor (RCE)

The Rich Content Editor (RCE) is also commonly referred to as the text editing toolbar or menubar and appears when you edit any page, assignment, discussion, etc. This update will also relocate the right hand menu where you would previously have added links, files, and images. Review the materials below to prepare for this change as soon as possible. This change will go into effect campus-wide on December 23.

- [NEW RCE Video for Everyone \(Video\)](#)
- [NEW RCE for Instructors \(FAQs\)](#)
- [NEW RCE for Students \(FAQs\)](#)
- [How do I use the menubar in the New Rich Content Editor as an Instructor \(FAQ\)](#)

Office of Undergraduate Research News

Summer 2021 Call for Faculty Applications for OUR Summer Research Program

The Summer 2021 Call for Faculty Applications will be accepted through December 11 at 5 p.m. for the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) Summer Research Program. To apply, please complete the [2021 OUR Summer Call for Faculty Projects Form](#). For more information, visit [OUR website](#) or call 704-687-5316.

2021 Undergraduate Research Conference

Save the date for the virtual 2021 UNC Charlotte Undergraduate Research Conference (URC), scheduled for Thursday, April 15, and Friday, April 16, 2021. URC 2021 registration will open on Monday, January 25, 2021, and close at 5 p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2021. The conference will use the ForagerOne platform. Students will record short 2-3 minute videos

for poster presentations and 10-12 minute videos for oral presentations. Students are required to submit an abstract as part of the registration. For more information, visit [OUR website](#).

Faculty Toolkit for Teaching During the Pandemic

Resources for faculty and staff teaching and advising during the 2020-21 academic year are available on the [Office of the Provost website](#). This includes the new grading exception policy, FAQs, suggested syllabus policies, how to handle student absences during COVID, a list of faculty mentors for remote instruction advice, resources from the Center of Teaching and Learning and other helpful resources.

Dissertation Defenses

The dissertation defense is one of the ways a new scholar demonstrates readiness to join the academy and is an opportunity to share their research widely. [View All Dissertation Defense Announcements](#)

Latest AA News

For up-to-the-minute news from Academic Affairs (faculty awards, research, recognition, initiatives), follow us on Twitter (www.twitter.com/UNCC_Academics) or visit the [Academic Affairs Division News webpage](#).

Upcoming Events

This Week:

- Dec-Jan** [UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens events](#)
- Dec-Jan** [Diversity events](#)
- Dec 8** [W+GRA Panel: Women in Public Service Leadership \(virtual\)](#)

Upcoming: provost.uncc.edu/division-news/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events

*The [DAA News Digest](#) is distributed each Monday to Academic Affairs faculty and staff.
Deadline for submission is 11:00 a.m. every Friday.
Send submissions to academicaffairs@uncc.edu.*