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### Spring 2021 Full Term and Second Half Term Final Grades

Final grades for spring 2021 and the second half term can be submitted through [My UNC Charlotte](#), starting on April 16. Grading will be available until May 17 at 12:00 p.m. Detailed final grading instructions can be found [here](#).

#### Grade Elections Information for full term and second half term courses:

Students will complete their courses and review their letter grades before deciding whether to request P/N grades to replace standard grades for any of their Spring 2021 courses. Students in full term and second half term courses can make grade elections between May 20 and June 1.

### Academic Policy Changes

The Faculty Council approved changes to the following UNC Charlotte Academic Policies at its March 25, 2021, meeting. The updated policies with revision history are posted in 'Academic Policies and Procedures' on the Office of the Provost website.

- [University Marshal](#)
- [Academic Distinctions](#)
- [Declaring Undergraduate Majors and Minors](#)
- [Baccalaureate Degree Progression](#)

### 2021 Undergraduate Research Conference

The Office of Undergraduate Research launches the 2021 Virtual Undergraduate Research Conference and the conference officially opens at 8am, Monday, April 12. Please click [this link](#) for more information.

### TIAA Lecture Series Featuring Elizabeth Kolbert

Please join us for the virtual TIAA Lecture Series featuring Pulitzer Prize-Winning Science Writer and Journalist, [Elizabeth Kolbert](#), tomorrow, April 13 at 6:00 p.m. Please use this [Zoom link](#) to attend. For questions, contact [Erin Millerick](#).

### Community Talk to Discuss Confederate Monuments and the Ongoing Fight for Racial Justice

Join Karen L. Cox in conversation on her book *No Common Ground: Confederate Monuments and the Ongoing Fight for Racial Justice*. The [virtual talk](#) will be held April 22 from 5:30-7 p.m. In partnership with UNC Press, facilitators include Dr.

Willie J. Griffin, staff historian at the Levine Museum of the New South, and Emily Gunzburger Makas, associate professor of architectural and urban history in the School of Architecture at UNC Charlotte.

## Virtual STEM Summit

### Promoting Educational Reform in STEM at the Course, Department, and Institutional Level

The keynote speaker for the summit is Dr. Paula Lemons, Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Georgia. The COVID-19 pandemic and heightened attention to systemic racism have highlighted the fact that outdated teaching practices can stunt student learning and trust of science, maintain systemic biases, and prevent equitable education. Institutions can dismantle these problems, and rebuild equitable and just systems through collective action among instructors, administrators, and change agents. This talk will describe a transformation project that aims to shift the University towards new core commitments for education. The summit is open to the campus community and is supported by Transforming STEM Teaching and Learning Academy, Center for Teaching and Learning and the Office of Undergraduate Education.

- Thursday, May 13, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM via Zoom ([Register](#))

## Faculty-Led Study Abroad Program Proposals Open

The Office of International Programs' Office of Education Abroad is excited to announce that faculty-led study abroad program proposals for spring break and summer 2022 are now open. Propose a program now and provide your students with an opportunity to develop global perspectives, experience hands-on learning in authentic contexts, and engage with cultural similarities and differences. Faculty interested in proposing a high impact experience should begin by enrolling in the [Program Development 101 Canvas course](#).

## Faculty Fellow Opportunity in the Honors College

The Honors College invites applications for a Faculty Fellow for Curriculum and Pedagogy to oversee the proposal and course development process with faculty wishing to teach an honors course (LBST H sections or HONR 3700 seminars) in the Honors College. The expected term will be two years, beginning July 1, 2021, and is renewable. The position provides a stipend but no course release. View the full details [here](#). Interested faculty should email [Dr. Malin Pereira](#), Executive Director, a letter expressing interest in relation to the position details and attach a current CV by April 26, 2021.

## International Experiences Continue During Pandemic with Globally Networked Learning

Some faculty members refused to give up on providing their students with a global learning experience during the pandemic, so they partnered with the Office of International Programs to pilot a new initiative called Globally Networked Learning. [Learn how several faculty members updated their curriculum to provide unique student engagement with partner universities.](#)

## Charlotte Venture Challenge and Innovation Virtual Showcase Announces Lineup

Join us in celebrating innovation and entrepreneurship at UNC Charlotte. The virtual event brings together our community of innovators from UNC Charlotte and the Charlotte region. Our innovator showcase will feature UNC Charlotte research startups, student entrepreneurs, local startups and exciting technologies available for license. The event will include a sampling of student business and social entrepreneurs seeking to launch new companies. [RSVP today.](#)

## J. Murrey Atkins Library News and Events

### Atkins Library Survey for Faculty

Faculty, please be sure to take the [Atkins Library Survey](#). The library is interested in how you currently use the library and how we might improve those interactions in the future. The survey is anonymous and no personally identifiable information will be gathered or retained. Completion of this survey is voluntary and will take about 20 minutes of your time.

### COVID-19 Vaccinations: Science, Politics, Mistrust, and Misinformation Panel

Atkins Library's Digital Media Literacy Group will host a [panel discussion focusing on the COVID-19 vaccines](#). Speakers will address topics ranging from scientific information to political influences to medical mistrust to misinformation and disinformation. Please plan to join us on Wednesday, April 21 at 1:00 PM for a facilitated discussion followed by a 30-minute question and answer session.

## Webinar: Digital Humanities as Open Access Resources

Do you teach in the Humanities or Social Sciences and wish to explore how you can incorporate open access resources into your teaching? Join Natalie Ornat, Humanities Librarian, and Savannah Lake, Digital Scholarship Coordinator from Atkins Library, to learn how digital humanities projects, tools, and resources can be integrated into your curriculum and instruction methods. We'll discuss the value of using digital humanities projects as central classroom texts and opportunities to develop open access digital projects in your classroom.

- Wednesday, April 21, 12:00 - 1:00 PM ([Registration](#))

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### Webinar: Bring Technology and Innovation Into Your Classroom with Area 49

Join Atkins Library's Area 49 librarians and staff to learn about the spaces, technology, and services we offer and how you can incorporate these resources into your classroom to teach concepts like design thinking, critical thinking, the basics of digital scholarship, collaboration, game development, virtual reality, and more. We'll share examples from past classes and projects and you'll have the opportunity to brainstorm activities that align with your course goals and help students think about topics in new ways.

- Friday, April 23, 1:00 - 2:00 PM ([Registration](#))

### 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 grade election procedure for Spring 2021, related 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](http://www.twitter.com/UNCC_Academics)) or visit the [Academic Affairs Division News webpage](#).

### Upcoming Events

**This Week:**

**Apr-Jun** [UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens events](#)

**Apr-Jun** [Diversity events](#)

**Upcoming:** [provost.uncc.edu/division-news/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events](http://provost.uncc.edu/division-news/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events)

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*The [DAA News Digest](#) is distributed each Monday to Academic Affairs faculty and staff. To have items included in the digest, complete the [NEWS DIGEST REQUEST FORM](#). Deadline for submission is 11:00 a.m. every Friday.*