

For Immediate Release to the NC State Campus Community

## **New Class Time Schedule to Begin Fall 2005**

NC State University will begin using a new class time schedule at the start of the Fall semester in August 2005. The new schedule will require some adjusting by departments, faculty and students, but should bring substantial benefits overall to NC State.

The main benefit from the new schedule, which is attached, will be to boost classroom usage on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (MWF) afternoons, which are currently relatively underutilized times. The new schedule creates three new time slots (beginning at 1:30 p.m., 3:00 p.m., and 4:30 p.m.) on Main Campus that may be used for three-credit classes on Monday and Wednesday or Monday and Friday or Wednesday and Friday. The new schedule creates four of these new time slots on Centennial Campus. These new slots require no greater burden on classrooms or on student schedules than the current MWF afternoon slots for three-credit classes. If these new slots prove to be as popular as Tuesday and Thursday (TH) afternoon slots, classroom utilization on the campus during those Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons will increase dramatically.

It is important to note that no instructor or department will be forced to convert a section meeting three days per week to meet two days per week. Instructors and departments will have greater flexibility than they do now, and the impact on classroom usage and student schedules will be the same regardless of which meeting option they choose.

Another major benefit from the new schedule will be in eliminating some of the negative effects of four-credit classes. Currently, four-credit classes overlap the time slots of either two or three three-credit courses, consuming the classroom resources (and having the effects on student schedules) of either six or nine credit hours. The new schedule will eliminate many of these overlaps, allowing many four-credit classes consuming nine credits of classroom resources to consume six instead. The current schedule has three of these major "nine-credit" overlaps (MWF 9:10-10:00 a.m., 12:25-1:15 p.m., and 3:40-4:30 p.m.) while the new schedule has just one (MWF 11:20 a.m.-12:10 p.m.). The new schedule would also allow many four-credit classes now consuming six credits of resources to only consume as much as a three-credit course, since under the new schedule a four-credit class may be scheduled for three days rather than four days each week with no overlap (for example, MWF 1:30-2:45 p.m.). By reducing four-credit overlaps, the new schedule will free classroom space and will make it easier for students to construct their schedules.

The new schedule will significantly increase classroom utilization to accommodate the university's plans for enrollment growth at a time when there will be a reduction in the number of available classrooms due to building renovations. During this transition period under the current schedule, simply maintaining the same number of classes would have required shifting some classes to very unpopular late night and late Friday times. There were very few opportunities to add new sections at times that students demand in the current schedule. The new schedule will help the university maintain or even increase the number of sections being offered during that transition period in a manner that should prove popular with faculty and students.

Under the new schedule TH classes on Main Campus will begin at 8:30 a.m. instead of 8:05 a.m. This change should increase the popularity of this earliest class time, when there are usually

classroom vacancies, and should help faculty and students with morning child care issues.

The new schedule change will lessen the start-up inefficiencies associated with large classes and classrooms using technology. Some instructors will likely shift from 50-minute to 75-minute class meetings, reducing the lost time from taking attendance, distributing handouts, setting up and taking down equipment, and similar chores. In addition, more 75-minute class meetings will likely better accommodate instructors engaged in active learning.

The new schedule also creates some additional 110-minute and 165-minute class slots which will provide departments more flexible scheduling for labs, seminars, and evening classes.

There are a few minor drawbacks from the new schedule, but nothing major. Some instructors and students will see their current class times change by a few minutes, but those instructors and students should be able to adjust quickly. The Centennial Campus schedule on MWF will lose one afternoon class time slot, at 3:05-3:55 p.m., but this is not a popular slot now and its loss will not represent a major impact. TH classes on Centennial Campus will begin at 8:05 a.m. instead of the current 8:35 a.m. beginning time, but again that should not be a major impact. All in all, the negative impacts from the new schedule should be few and the University should adjust quickly to the change.

Departments seeking to offer classes at times not listed on the new schedule will, as before, have an opportunity to request exceptions. Exception request forms are available from...(web site)... Exceptions requests must be submitted by ...(dates)... Exceptions requests are considered by the University Registration, Records and Calendar Committee and are typically granted only for smaller, upper-level classes that have needs for special spaces, equipment, or other resources.

The new schedule has been circulated for comment throughout the University for over one year. Many suggestions made by the campus community were incorporated into the new schedule.

Questions or comments on the new schedule should be directed to the University Registrar, Louis Hunt, at 515-2572 or [louis\\_hunt@ncsu.edu](mailto:louis_hunt@ncsu.edu), or to any member of the staff of Registration and Records. Questions or comments may also be directed to the Chair of the University Registration, Records and Calendar Committee, Joe Hummer, at 515-7733 or [hummer@eos.ncsu.edu](mailto:hummer@eos.ncsu.edu).

Main Campus Class Time Schedule, Beginning Fall 2005

MWF, 50 min			TH, 75 min			MW or WF or MF, 75 min		
Start	End	Comment	Start	End	Comment	Start	End	Comment
8:05 AM	8:55 AM							
9:10 AM	10:00 AM	No more overlap	8:30 AM	9:45 AM				
10:15 AM	11:05 AM		10:15 AM	11:30 AM				
11:20 AM	12:10 PM	Overlap w/ TH	11:45 AM	1:00 PM				
12:25 PM	1:15 PM	No more overlap						
1:30 PM	2:20 PM		1:30 PM	2:45 PM		1:30 PM	2:45 PM	New
3:00 PM	3:50 PM		3:00 PM	4:15 PM		3:00 PM	4:15 PM	New
4:30 PM	5:20 PM	No more overlap	4:30 PM	5:45 PM		4:30 PM	5:45 PM	New
			6:00 PM	7:15 PM		6:00 PM	7:15 PM	
			7:30 PM	8:45 PM		7:30 PM	8:45 PM	

M or T or W or H or F, 110 min			M or W or F, 165 min			T or H, 165 min		
Start	End	Comment	Start	End		Start	End	Comment
8:05 AM	9:55 AM		8:05 AM	10:50 AM		8:30 AM	11:15 AM	
9:10 AM	11:00 AM	New	9:10 AM	11:55 AM				
10:15 AM	12:05 PM					10:15 AM	1:00 PM	New
11:20 AM	1:10 PM	New						
12:25 PM	2:15 PM							
1:30 PM	3:20 PM		1:30 PM	4:15 PM		1:30 PM	4:15 PM	
2:30 PM	4:20 PM		3:00 PM	5:45 PM		3:00 PM	5:45 PM	New
3:35 PM	5:25 PM		4:10 PM	6:55 PM		4:10 PM	6:55 PM	
4:35 PM	6:25 PM		4:30 PM	7:15 PM		4:30 PM	7:15 PM	New
5:40 PM	7:30 PM	New	6:00 PM	8:45 PM		6:00 PM	8:45 PM	
6:40 PM	8:30 PM		7:10 PM	9:55 PM		7:10 PM	9:55 PM	
7:45 PM	9:35 PM	New	7:30 PM	10:15 PM		7:30 PM	10:15 PM	

Centennial Campus Class Time Schedule, Beginning Fall 2005

MWF, 50 min			TH, 75 min			MW or WF or MF, 75 min		
Start	End	Comment	Start	End	Comment	Start	End	Comment
8:30 AM	9:20 AM		8:05 AM	9:20 AM				
9:35 AM	10:25 AM	No more overlap	9:35 AM	10:50 AM				
10:40 AM	11:30 AM	Overlap w/ TH	11:05 AM	12:20 PM				
11:45 AM	12:35 PM							
12:50 PM	1:40 PM	No more overlap	12:50 PM	2:05 PM		12:50 PM	2:05 PM	New
2:20 PM	3:10 PM							
		Lost one	2:20 PM	3:35 PM		2:20 PM	3:35 PM	New
3:50 PM	4:40 PM	No more overlap	3:50 PM	5:05 PM		3:50 PM	5:05 PM	New
			5:20 PM	6:35 PM		5:20 PM	6:35 PM	New
			6:00 PM	7:15 PM		6:00 PM	7:15 PM	
			6:50 PM	8:05 PM		6:50 PM	8:05 PM	
			7:30 PM	8:45 PM		7:30 PM	8:45 PM	
			8:20 PM	9:35 PM		8:20 PM	9:35 PM	

M or T or W or H or F, 110 min			M or W or F, 165 min			T or H, 165 min		
Start	End	Comment	Start	End		Start	End	Comment
8:30 AM	10:20 AM		8:30 AM	11:15 AM		8:05 AM	10:50 AM	
9:35 AM	11:25 AM	New				9:35 AM	12:20 PM	New
10:40 AM	12:30 PM							
11:45 AM	1:35 PM	New	12:50 PM	3:35 PM		12:50 PM	3:35 PM	
12:50 PM	2:40 PM							
1:50 PM	3:40 PM		2:20 PM	5:05 PM		2:20 PM	5:05 PM	
2:55 PM	4:45 PM		3:50 PM	6:35 PM		3:50 PM	6:35 PM	
3:55 PM	5:45 PM		4:10 PM	6:55 PM		4:10 PM	6:55 PM	
5:20 PM	7:10 PM		5:20 PM	8:05 PM	New	5:20 PM	8:05 PM	New
6:00 PM	7:50 PM	New	6:00 PM	8:45 PM	New	6:00 PM	8:45 PM	New
7:30 PM	9:20 PM	New	6:50 PM	9:35 PM	New	6:50 PM	9:35 PM	New
8:05 PM	9:55 PM	New	7:10 PM	9:55 PM	New	7:10 PM	9:55 PM	New
			7:30 PM	10:15 PM	New	7:30 PM	10:15 PM	New