

Changes to Six-week Center Courses Schedule Beginning January 1, 2019

Due to Financial Aid requirements, we are no longer going to ask students to do any work for courses before the start date of the course. To facilitate this change for six-week center courses, the start and end dates of the course will match the start and end dates of the mini-term. This preserve six full weeks of time for students to address the course content.

The start date of each six-week course will be on a Monday (the same day the mini-term starts) no matter which day of the week the class session meets (i.e. Tuesday night). The last day of the course will be on a Sunday (the same date the mini-term ends). Since these courses have online and face-to-face aspects, students can submit work to Blackboard between the start date and end dates of the course.

The revised mini-term schedule for the non-traditional term beginning January 1, 2019 is

(January 1 – January 6 all centers on break – no classes offered)

A mini term Monday January 7 through Sunday February 17

B mini term Monday February 18 through Sunday March 31

D mini term Monday April 1 through Sunday May 12

E mini term Monday May 13 through Sunday June 23

(June 24 – June 30 all centers on break – no classes offered)

Overview of Changes

1. In addition to the date students are expected to begin work, other university policy changes also impact these courses.
 - a. All course sites in Blackboard open the Friday before the course start date.
 - b. No student work should be graded prior to the start date of the course.
 - c. All student work is retained in Blackboard as an official record of the course.
2. For all courses, no matter the day of the week the class session meets
 - a. The course start and end dates are aligned with the mini-term start and end dates.
 - b. The “weeks” of the course start on Monday at 12:01am and end on Sunday at 11:59pm.
 - c. The Blackboard course site should be opened to students the Friday before the course starts.
3. When is homework due? We no longer ask students to do any homework/online discussions prior to the start date. This significantly impacts student and instructor behavior during Week 1.
 - a. Students are asked to start work on the Monday the course starts.
 - b. For Week 1, depending on the day the class session meets, instructors might expect students to have completed some of the homework or online discussion by class time. If the course meets Monday night, instructors cannot expect any work to be done. When the session is later in the week, instructors can expect some work to be done.
 - c. All work for Week 1 is due by no later than the last day of Week 1, Sunday night.
 - d. For Weeks 2-5, homework and online discussion is still due by the time of the class session.
 - e. For Week 6, instructors can determine what is due at the time of class (presentations) and what is due at the end of the week (Sunday night), unless that is stated in the module.
4. Instructors should communicate with students about the expectations for Week 1 homework on the Friday before the course starts (the same day the course opens for students in Blackboard).