Fall Semester

Prepare for Class

- Buy or rent textbooks
- Purchase attendance clicker (if required)
- Read course syllabus
- Know your professors office hours
- Recheck your class locations in GoldLink
- Find classes on campus

Check GoldLink for financial aid requirements that need to be met

You can view all of your student requirements for financial aid in Goldlink on the “My Financial Aid Info” tab.

Log into GoldLink. http://goldlink.etsu.edu/cp/home/displaylogin


Log into D2L on-line class portal

D2L is the learning management system that instructors may use to post your course materials, quizzes, tests, assignments and discussions. D2L is used by most professors with traditional on campus classes. All ETSU on-line courses are taught through D2L.


Check Goldmail regularly

Goldmail is ETSU's student e-mail. Goldmail is the primary method of communication at ETSU. Students should check their e-mail at least once a day.

Log into Goldmail here: http://goldmail.etsu.edu
Sign up for GoldAlert

You can register to receive a text messages and e-mails regarding ETSU emergency communications and other important information.

You can register to receive ETSU emergency communications here: http://www.getrave.com/login/etsu

Attend first day of fall classes

Class attendance is important for academic success. Not only will you learn the course material but many courses and departments have an attendance policy. Not attending class can affect your financial aid, housing, grades etc.

Attend Welcome Week events/learn about campus involvement

Welcome Week is an opportunity for you to make new friends, learn about different organizations, clubs and activities to get involved in at ETSU. Being involved will be fun, open up leadership opportunities, allow you to meet other people and give you the support you need to succeed.

Find more information about getting involved and a list of ETSU student organizations and clubs here: http://www.etsu.edu/students/sorc/aboutus.aspx

Participate in class

Participating in class can enhance your communication and critical thinking skills. In addition, some courses may include class participation as a percentage of your final grade.

Talk to your professors

Talking to your professors has several benefits. First, it can help clear up questions about lecture material or information that you did not understand in class. Some professors may give you a more detailed preview of what is coming up which could help you focus on what to study. Second, professor references are vital if you plan to continue your education beyond the bachelor level and professors are reluctant to write a reference letter on the basis of nothing but the coursework they've seen. Therefore, developing relationships with your professors may have more benefits than you realize.
Explore student resources at ETSU

There are many staff and resources at ETSU to help aid in your academic success (tutoring, counseling, disability services, etc.)

You can access a list of resources, names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses at this link: http://www.etsu.edu/etsu/help.aspx

Get involved on campus

Mid-term grades, or Early Semester Progress Reports (ESPR’s), will be reported by instructors to let students know how they are doing in class at that point.

Log into GoldLink and view mid-term grades. http://goldlink.etsu.edu/cp/home/displaylogin

Check your mid-term grades in GoldLink

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Print Degree Audit from GoldLink

Log-in to Degree Works and print your degree audit to take to your academic advising appointment. Go to Goldlink and click on Degree Works https://goldlink.etsu.edu/cp/home/displaylogin. Use Chrome, for best viewing results.

Meet with your academic advisor

All students with less than 60 credit hours earned are required to meet with an advisor prior to registration. It is strongly recommended that you meet with your advisor throughout your college career to ensure you are on track to graduation. This is an opportunity for you to discuss the classes you will be taking the next academic semester as well as courses you might want to take during the winter or summer sessions. The relationship you develop with your advisor is important to your success at ETSU.

Here is a list of Academic Major Advisors and contact information: http://www.etsu.edu/advisement/documents/USA_Advisor_List.pdf
Register for next academic semester and update personal information in GoldLink

Each semester you will register for the next academic semester using GoldLink. It is also important to update your personal information such as address, phone, etc.

Log into GoldLink: [http://goldlink.etsu.edu/cp/home/displaylogin](http://goldlink.etsu.edu/cp/home/displaylogin)

*Taking 15 or more hours per semester will keep you on track to graduate in four years* - [http://www.etsu.edu/reg/degreeworks/default.aspx](http://www.etsu.edu/reg/degreeworks/default.aspx)

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Prepare for final exams

Now is the time to begin studying and preparing for final exams. Your final exams are not always scheduled on the same day and time as your regular class schedule.

You will find a list of final exam dates and times here: [http://www.etsu.edu/reg/registration/finalexam.aspx](http://www.etsu.edu/reg/registration/finalexam.aspx)

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Finish 12-15 credit hours

In order to graduate in a timely manner, it is suggested that freshmen students complete 12-15 credit hours by the end of their 1st semester. Consistently enrolling in 15 semester hours puts you on the path to graduation in four years.

*Taking 15 or more hours per semester will keep you on track to graduate in four years* - [http://www.etsu.edu/reg/degreeworks/default.aspx](http://www.etsu.edu/reg/degreeworks/default.aspx)

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Verify grades, academic status and adjust class schedule (if necessary) in GoldLink.

Once your final grades have been submitted, we encourage you to verify those grades in GoldLink. You can also check your academic status (good standing, probation, suspension) as well as adjust or change classes that you have registered to take the next academic semester.

Here is the GoldLink login page: [http://goldlink.etsu.edu/cp/home/displaylogin](http://goldlink.etsu.edu/cp/home/displaylogin)
Spring Semester

Complete FAFSA for next academic year/apply for scholarships

“FAFSA” is the Federal Student Aid Application. Completing your FAFSA is the avenue to obtain federal money for your education including grants, Hope Scholarships, and other forms of funding. The FAFSA must be completed each year in order for you to be eligible for financial aid and scholarships. For ETSU based scholarships, March 1 is the deadline to submit your application each year.

Complete the FAFSA form found here: http://fafsa.ed.gov/

Get more information about ETSU Scholarships by visiting the scholarships site: http://www.etsu.edu/scholarships

Attend first day of spring classes

Class attendance is important for successful achievement. Not only will you learn the course material but many courses and departments have strict attendance policies. Not attending class can negatively impact your financial aid, housing, grades etc.

Get involved on campus

Being involved will be fun, open up leadership opportunities, allow you to meet other people and give you the support you need to succeed.

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If Undeclared Complete Career Assessment with Career Exploration Center

For students who have not declared a major, we recommend that you visit The Career Exploration Center. Graduate Assistants from the ETSU Counseling Center will help you identify your occupational interests, abilities and personal values. They use a self-assessment system named Sigi3 (pronounced “siggy3”) as a primary career guidance resource. Sigi3 measures interests, values, abilities and personality. It is available on-site or on-line.

Click here for more information about the Career Exploration Center and Sigi3: http://www.etsu.edu/students/counseling/cec.aspx.

Undeclared majors are encouraged to meet with their advisor in the University
Advisement Center in addition to using the Career Exploration Center.

**Change or update major as needed**

To officially change your major, see the academic advisor of your new major and a “Change of Major Form” must be completed and returned to room 101 in Burgin Dossett Hall or you may send an e-mail to the academic advisor of your new major and the advisor can complete this process online through Goldlink.

The Undergraduate Change of Major form is online here: [http://www.etsu.edu/reg/documents/PDF/UndergradMajorChange.pdf](http://www.etsu.edu/reg/documents/PDF/UndergradMajorChange.pdf)

Here is a list of Undergraduate Academic Advisors: [http://www.etsu.edu/advisement/continuingstudents/Advisor%20List%202013.pdf](http://www.etsu.edu/advisement/continuingstudents/Advisor%20List%202013.pdf)

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**Renew housing contract**

Students living on campus, who wish to live on campus the following year, must renew their housing contract.

Here is more information on renewing your housing contract: [http://www.etsu.edu/students/housing/returningstudent.aspx](http://www.etsu.edu/students/housing/returningstudent.aspx)
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Taking 15 or more hours per semester will keep you on track to graduate in four years - http://www.etsu.edu/reg/degreeworks/default.aspx

Visit University Career Services

There are numerous career information resources available on the web. In fact, there are so many sources of information that you may find it helpful to visit University Career Services for recommendations related to your personal interests and current needs. ETSU students and alumni can schedule an appointment with a full time staff member by calling 423-439-4450.

Visit the University Career Services website for more information: http://www.etsu.edu/students/careers/default.aspx

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Finish 24-30 credits

In order to graduate in a timely manner, it is suggested that freshmen students complete 24-30 credit hours by the end of their 2nd semester.

Taking 15 or more hours per semester will keep you on track to graduate in four years - http://www.etsu.edu/reg/degreeworks/default.aspx

Verify grades, academic status and adjust schedule (if necessary) in GoldLink
Once your final grades have been submitted, we encourage you to verify those grades in GoldLink. You can also check your academic status (good standing, probation, suspension) as well as adjust or change classes that you have registered to take the next academic semester.

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