



Spring classes begin January 11

Spring semester classes will begin January 11 at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, with face-to-face and online/remote instruction offered.

Like last fall, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, all students, faculty, staff, and visitors must continue to wear face coverings when they are inside buildings on campus, unless wearing face coverings is contrary to meeting educational and participation objectives as determined by faculty/staff. Face coverings are not required outdoors, but highly recommended if social distancing is not possible.

The University has released a comprehensive “Return To Campus Plan” outlining general practices, Spring 2021 instruction, campus events, student organizations, student housing/dining, and other resources. It may be utilized by students, faculty, staff, parents, and the public.

To access this document, visit <https://www.se.edu/student-wellness/coronavirus-update/>.



COMING SOON... 2021



EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS

A new dining and gathering spot is coming to the campus of Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 2021. Einstein Bros. Bagels (Einsteins) will be located next to the SE Barnes & Noble store on University Avenue, with the anticipated opening next summer.

Einsteins will be open for breakfast and lunch, with a menu that includes bagels, salads, wraps, sandwiches, desserts, and a full-service coffee bar now crafting Caribou Coffee. It will also be the first Einstein Bros. at a university to feature the convenience of a drive-thru.

“We are excited to partner with Einstein Bros. and Sodexo to bring this well-known national brand to Durant,” said Southeastern president Thomas Newsom. “It will provide a third option for our students to utilize their meal plans (others are cafeteria and Magnolia Eatery), and in addition, it will be open to the community.”

The new facility is being funded with capital dollars from Sodexo and auxiliary revenue.

Heavener freshman follows in footsteps of sisters at SE

For Jayda Janway, choosing to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University was an easy decision.

You might even call it part of a family tradition as the Heavener, Oklahoma, freshman is the last of three Janway sisters to make the 146-mile move to Durant.

And Jayda, a communication major and member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is proud to follow in the footsteps of Kelsey ('20) and Sierra ('17). All three are first-generation college students/graduates.

“They are my role models and I have always wanted to be like them,” Jayda said. “As for choosing Southeastern, Durant is not too far from home (Heavener is about 45 miles southwest of Fort Smith, Arkansas), but far enough where I can start the next chapter in my life. Plus, the school is very affordable and I have family (sisters) here. (Kelsey is employed at First United Bank, while Sierra works at the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma headquarters).”

Like her two sisters before her, Jayda is deeply involved in campus activities, serving as president of the Native American Student Association and as a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority. When not in class (17-hour load this fall) or studying, Jayda can be found working at the front desk as an office clerk at the Choctaw Nation headquarters. Her hobbies include Native American beadwork, in which she has started her own business.

Even while in high school at Heavener, Jayda exhibited leadership skills, chairing (as did Kelsey before her) the Choctaw Nation Youth Advisory Board for a 10.5-county area and representing the Le Flore County south chapter of the board.

“Through the advisory board, we learned leadership skills, how to react to life’s circumstances, and how to help people,” Janway said.

One of her favorite advisory projects was the Choctaw HEART Program, with HEART being an acronym for health, exercise, awareness of what you put into your body, rest and recovery, and teamwork. The Le Flore south chapter implemented a special program involving frequent workouts using machines and incorporating yoga, CrossFit, and Zumba.

Janway says her career goal is to work in “advertising” for the Nation.

And like most college freshmen, she says it’s been challenging making friends during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has limited activities and interaction among students.

“But we’re making connections in class and through Zoom,” Janway said. “I have a very large and diverse group of friends, and have had the opportunity to meet many international students.”

Janway credits a trio of Southeastern faculty-staff members – Dr. Randy Prus (English professor), Lauren Rowland (director of Native American Institute), and Kelsi Rainwater (Choctaw Nation first-year experience coordinator) – with providing guidance to her.

“All three of them have reached out and helped me,” she said. “Dr. Prus is one of those professors who makes sure you clearly understand your assignments. That’s so important when you’re a freshman.”



Jayda Janway is a communication major from Heavener, Oklahoma. The Southeastern freshman serves as president of the Native American Student Association, and is following in the footsteps of her two older sisters, both of whom graduated from Southeastern.

New publication highlights students

The Office of University Communications and Marketing has recently produced a new publication highlighting seven unique students who were the subject of feature stories this fall.

Titled “We Are SE,” the publication will be utilized by such departments as Recruiting and Admissions, as well as Advancement and Alumni, and will be accessible on the University website.

The 18-page publication also includes information on enrollment growth and trends at Southeastern.

To access the publication, visit <https://www.se.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Student-Stories-Fall-2020-12.7.20-digital.pdf>



Loop of Lights



Southeastern Oklahoma State University started a new holiday tradition this year – the “Loop of Lights.” Lights and decorations were displayed around the campus loop each evening in December. Visitors drove around the loop to view the colorful light and ornament displays.

Semester Dates	16 Weeks	First 4-Week Block	Accelerated Online Programs – Term I	Accelerated Online Programs – Term II
Classes Begin	January 11	January 11	January 11	March 8
Payment Due Date for Tuition & Fees (without Fin Aid)	January 11	January 11	February 1	March 5
Last Day to Add a Class	January 15	January 11	January 8	March 5
Last Day to Drop a Class with No Grade	January 15	January 15	January 15	March 12
Last Day to Drop a Class with Refund/No Charges	January 15	January 15	January 15	March 12
<i>Faculty Deadline to Certify Attendance</i>	January 20 by noon	January 20 by noon	January 20 by noon	March 16
Deadline to Apply for Graduation	April 1	April 1	April 1	April 1
<i>Faculty Deadline for Mid-Term Grades</i>	April 5	January 27	February 9	April 13
Final day to Drop or Withdraw (Grade will be “W”)	April 9	January 29	February 16	April 20
Final Exams	May 3-7	Last Day of Class	Last Day of Class	Last Day of Class
Last Day of Semester or Block Class/Term	May 9	February 5	February 28	May 2
Commencement	May 8	May 8	May 8	May 8
<i>Faculty Deadline to submit Final Grades to Registrar</i>	May 12 at noon	February 12	March 2	May 4
Holidays (no classes)	MLK Day (January 18)	Spring Break (March 15-21)	Easter Holiday (April 2)	



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Men's, women's basketball teams named GAC pre-season favorites

Southeastern men's basketball heads into the 2021 season slated to start in January picked to win the Great American Conference's Western Division and is a heavy favorite to win the overall title according to the league's preseason poll released recently.

The Savage Storm collected 24 points in the poll, highlighted by four first-place votes.

SE is coming off its second-straight NCAA Central Region berth as a No. 3 seed after posting a 23-8 record and earning the number two seed in the GAC tournament.

Oklahoma Baptist was second in the division with 21 points and two first-place votes, followed by Southern Nazarene with 16 points.

Northwestern Oklahoma State and Southwestern Oklahoma State were tied for fourth while East Central was sixth in the poll.

The Storm also picked up eight of the possible 12 votes as the favorite to take home the overall GAC title, with SNU next with two votes, followed by Henderson State and Southern Arkansas with one each.

SAU was the favorite in the Eastern Division with four first-place votes, while HSU was second with two.

The teams are slated to open the season on Jan. 7 with each division playing a 20-game schedule against the teams in its division before meeting for the GAC Tournament in March.

Southeastern is set to face Oklahoma Baptist in Shawnee, Okla., on Jan. 7 with the team's first home game set for Jan. 11 against East Central.

Meanwhile, Southeastern women's basketball is set to enter the season in January tied atop the Great American Conference Western Division in the league's preseason poll released recently.

The Savage Storm picked up 23 points and three first-place votes and find themselves tied with Southwestern Oklahoma State in the poll who also snagged 23 points and three first-place votes.

SE earned a regular season and a GAC Tournament Championship a season ago with a 22-7 record, earning a berth into the NCAA Central Regional before the season was ended prematurely.

With the schedule adjustments due to COVID-19, the league will be competing in a division format this season with the six Oklahoma schools making up the Western Division, while the Arkansas schools will compose the Eastern Division.

SE and Harding were also tied for the overall championship nod with four votes apiece, with Arkansas Tech and SWOSU each receiving two votes as well.

The Bison were picked atop the Eastern Division with the Golden Suns a close second.

The teams are slated to open the season on Jan. 7 with each division playing a 20-game schedule against the teams in its division before meeting for the GAC Tournament in March.

Southeastern is set to face Oklahoma Baptist in Shawnee, Okla., on Jan. 7 with the team's first home game set for Jan. 11 against East Central.