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NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CHANGE TO MAKE EIU SUMMER SCHOOL FORMAT MORE STUDENT FRIENDLY

CHARLESTON -- A format change in schedule will allow both traditional and non-traditional students enrolled in Eastern Illinois University's Summer School a larger range of options.

Beginning next summer, Eastern will offer its usual intersession classes (beginning May 11) and eight-week session (beginning June 14). There will no longer be a five-week session, however, as it will be replaced by two four-week sessions -- the first beginning June 14; the second, July 12.

Students enrolled in the eight-week session will attend classes four days a week. Four-week session courses will meet daily, Monday through Friday, and will retain the same "academic integrity" offered in eight-week session format.

A recent study concluded that Summer School is "the ninth semester for many of

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Eastern Illinois University emphasizes distinguished teaching in the liberal arts, sciences and selected professions. A traditional, residential state university of recognized quality, Eastern enrolls more than 11,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. The university, located in Charleston, also serves the region through a variety of non-credit and off-site degree programs, as well as cultural and recreational opportunities. Eastern's pursuit of excellence attracts well-qualified students of an increasingly diverse population and a teaching faculty active in research and public service who utilize the latest technology.

Eastern's students," said Jeanne Simpson, Summer School director. She believes the change in format will help enable the university to provide the courses many students need to finish up requirements for degrees.

The four-week schedules were also created with local teachers in mind. These individuals -- who already possess their degrees -- use Eastern's Summer School opportunities to supplement their knowledge. The second four-week session in particular will be of benefit in that it begins well after the high school/middle school/grade school traditional school year ends and concludes prior to the start of school in the fall.

A number of university faculty have indicated approval of the four-week format, Simpson said. It allows them to continue to teach quality courses in the summer but yet finish up in a shorter amount of time.

A listing of courses to be offered during Summer '99 will become available around the first of March.