

# 8 WEEK Advantage



**NORTHEAST**  
WI Technical College

*A Schedule for Student Success*

**At NWTC,  
we want *all*  
our students  
to succeed.**

# 8 WEEK Advantage = your **ADVANTAGE**

In fact, student success is our number one priority at NWTC. That's why we're making a big change that will impact most student schedules. We're changing the length of nearly all NWTC courses from 15 weeks to eight weeks.

The new eight-week format is called 8-Week Advantage.

Our data shows that with eight-week courses, students are more likely to pass their classes and keep going to graduation!

By summer 2020, about 70% of NWTC students will be taking courses in the eight-week format. By summer 2021, nearly all will be.

With 8-Week Advantage, you can focus on fewer classes at one time and increase your success! You're more likely to:

- Pass your courses and keep going to graduation.
- Develop connections with your instructors and fellow students more quickly because you're spending more time together in a shorter timeframe.
- Graduate sooner since you could complete more credits each semester.

***Want to know when your program  
will change to 8-Week Advantage?***

Go to [nwtc.edu/8week](https://nwtc.edu/8week) to find out.

*I was able to connect more with the students in my class with the 8-week course vs. the 15-week class because we were here more, we got to work together more. In the 15-week course, you are only there once a week and forget what really happened last class.*

College Reading and Writing Student

# What does the typical 8-Week Advantage student schedule look like?

Well, actually, there isn't a "typical" schedule. Because 8-Week Advantage allows for greater flexibility in student scheduling, there are multiple options. And that's good news for students with work, family, and other commitments. Let's look at how your class load/schedule could look different with 8-Week Advantage.

## Full-time Students

You may be taking four or five classes right now as a full-time student in the traditional 15-week semester. In the 8-Week Advantage format, you will only be taking two or three classes each session. That allows you to concentrate on fewer classes at one time while still earning the same amount of credits in a semester!

### TRADITIONAL SEMESTER

#### 15-Week Semester

Class One	3 credits
Class Two	3 credits
Class Three	1 credit
Class Four	3 credits
Class Five	3 credits

### 8-WEEK ADVANTAGE

#### First 8-Week Session

Class One	3 credits
Class Two	3 credits
Class Three	1 credit

#### Second 8-Week Session

Class Four	3 credits
Class Five	3 credits

## Part-time Students

As a part-time student in the traditional 15-week semester, you typically have time to take two classes per semester. With 8-Week Advantage, you could take just one class each session and have more time for work and family. And you'll still earn the same amount of credits in a semester!

### TRADITIONAL SEMESTER

#### 15-Week Semester

Class One	3 credits
Class Two	3 credits

### 8-WEEK ADVANTAGE

#### First 8-Week Session

Class One	3 credits
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#### Second 8-Week Session

Class Two	3 credits
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### Tip for part-time students:

If you're currently taking one 3-credit class each *semester*, consider taking one 3-credit class each *session* — you will cut your time to graduation in half!

# Sample 8-Week Advantage Schedules

Meet Ellie, Ed, Scott, Xai, Gina, and George. In 2020, their programs will transition to the eight-week format. Let's look at how the fictional students' current class schedules could look different with 8-Week Advantage.

**Remember,** these are sample schedules. Your class schedule may look much different than these examples. Your academic advisor is ready to help you figure out what works best for you!



**Ellie**

## ACCOUNTING, FULL-TIME

Ellie is taking seven classes right now in the traditional 15-week semester. She also works about 20 hours a week at an electronics store. She is feeling stressed trying to balance it all. In the 8-Week Advantage format, Ellie will take only three or four classes each session. That enables Ellie to concentrate on fewer classes at one time while still earning the same amount of credits in a semester. She'll even have time to join the NWTC choir!

### TRADITIONAL SEMESTER

#### 15-Week Semester

College 101	1 credit
Math Reasoning	3 credits
Accounting 1	4 credit
Micro: Excel-Intro	1 credit
Accounting Applications & Procedures	2 credits
Micro: Word-Intro	1 credit
English Comp 1	3 credits
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>15 credits</b>

### 8-WEEK ADVANTAGE

#### First 8-Week Session

College 101	1 credit
Math Reasoning	3 credits
Accounting 1	4 credit
<b>Session 1 Total</b>	<b>8 credits</b>

#### Second 8-Week Session

Accounting Applications & Procedures	2 credits
English Comp 1	3 credits
Micro: Word-Intro	1 credit
Micro: Excel-Intro	1 credit
<b>Session 2 Total</b>	<b>7 credits</b>



**Ed**

## ACCOUNTING, PART-TIME

Ed is a shift manager at a fast food restaurant. He likes the company and its values, and he hopes to work in the corporate office one day. He is taking three classes each semester in the Accounting program. In the 8-Week Advantage format, he could take one or two classes per session — increasing his flexibility for work and his growing family.

### TRADITIONAL SEMESTER

#### 15-Week Semester

College 101	1 credit
Math Reasoning	3 credits
Accounting 1	4 credit
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>8 credits</b>

### 8-WEEK ADVANTAGE

#### First 8-Week Session

College 101	1 credit
Math Reasoning	3 credits
<b>Session 1 Total</b>	<b>4 credits</b>

#### Second 8-Week Session

Accounting 1	4 credits
<b>Session 2 Total</b>	<b>4 credits</b>



## Scott

### NURSING-ASSOCIATE DEGREE, FULL-TIME

Becoming a nurse has been Scott's dream and passion since he was a teenager. He believes nursing is the best way to care for people and give back to the community. However, he is struggling with his class load, and his grades are starting to slip. In the 8-Week Advantage format, Scott could take only two or three classes each session, giving him a better opportunity at success.

#### TRADITIONAL SEMESTER

##### 15-Week Semester

College 101	1 credit
General Anatomy & Physiology	4 credits
Developmental Psychology	3 credits
English Composition 1	3 credits
Nursing Fundamentals	2 credits
Nursing Skills	3 credits
Nursing Pharmacology	2 credits
Intro to Clinical Practice	2 credits
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>20 credits</b>

#### 8-WEEK ADVANTAGE

##### First 8-Week Session

General Anatomy & Physiology	4 credits
Nursing Fundamentals	2 credits
Nursing Skills	3 credits
College 101	1 credit
<b>Session 1 Total</b>	<b>10 credits</b>

##### Second 8-Week Session

English Composition 1	3 credits
Developmental Psychology	3 credits
Intro to Clinical Practice	2 credits
Nursing Pharmacology	2 credits
<b>Session 2 Total</b>	<b>10 credits</b>

*Many Nursing-Associate Degree students complete their general studies courses prior to their program courses, reducing the number of credits required per session.*



## Gina

### ENERGY MANAGEMENT, FULL-TIME

Gina is on her way to her dream career. She's currently taking seven classes at one time so she can become an energy program manager as fast as possible. And she wants to be a strong role model for her teenage children. In the 8-Week Advantage format, Gina can focus on fewer classes at one time while still earning the same amount of credits in a semester.

#### TRADITIONAL SEMESTER

##### 15-Week Semester

College 101	1 credit
Intro to Energy Management	3 credits
DC 1: Introduction	1 credit
College Tech Math 1A	3 credits
Energy – Intro Renew & Sustain	4 credits
DC 2: Circuits	1 credit
College Physics 1	3 credit
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>16 credits</b>

#### 8-WEEK ADVANTAGE

##### First 8-Week Session

College 101	1 credit
Intro to Energy Management	3 credits
DC 1: Introduction	1 credit
College Tech Math 1A	3 credits
<b>Session 1 Total</b>	<b>8 credits</b>

##### Second 8-Week Session

Energy – Intro Renew & Sustain	4 credits
DC 2: Circuits	1 credit
College Physics 1	3 credit
<b>Session 2 Total</b>	<b>8 credits</b>



## Xai

### NURSING-ASSOCIATE DEGREE, PART-TIME

Xai is a working mother of three who wants to make a career change. She is so excited to work in health care. Currently, she is taking four classes, and it's hard to fit in quality time with her kids. In the 8-Week Advantage format, Xai could take two classes per session – enabling her to balance work, college, and family!

#### TRADITIONAL SEMESTER

##### 15-Week Semester

College 101	1 credit
General Anatomy & Physiology	4 credits
Nursing Fundamentals	2 credits
Nursing Skills	3 credits
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>10 credits</b>

#### 8-WEEK ADVANTAGE

##### First 8-Week Session

Nursing Fundamentals	2 credits
General Anatomy & Physiology	4 credits
<b>Session 1 Total</b>	<b>6 credits</b>

##### Second 8-Week Session

Nursing Skills	3 credits
College 101	1 credit
<b>Session 2 Total</b>	<b>4 credits</b>



## George

### ENERGY MANAGEMENT, PART-TIME

George wants to advance his career in the energy field. In addition to working full-time, he is taking four classes right now. In the 8-Week Advantage format, George could take just two classes per session – a much more manageable work load!

#### TRADITIONAL SEMESTER

##### 15-Week Semester

College 101	1 credit
Intro to Energy Management	3 credits
DC 1: Introduction	1 credit
College Tech Math 1A	3 credits
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>8 credits</b>

#### 8-WEEK ADVANTAGE

##### First 8-Week Session

College 101	1 credit
Intro to Energy Management	3 credits
<b>Session 1 Total</b>	<b>4 credits</b>

##### Second 8-Week Session

DC 1: Introduction	1 credit
College Tech Math 1A	3 credits
<b>Session 2 Total</b>	<b>4 credits</b>

# Have questions about 8-Week Advantage?

Below are some commonly-asked questions about the new, eight-week format. If you don't see an answer to your question, please reach out to us!

## ***When will my program change?***

Go to [nwtc.edu/8week](http://nwtc.edu/8week) to find out when your program will change to the 8-Week Advantage schedule.

## ***What will the new academic calendar look like?***

There will be a total of five academic sessions every year. Fall semester will have two eight-week sessions, spring semester will have two eight-week sessions, and there will be one eight-week session during the summer.

## ***Do I need to enroll in both eight-week sessions at once for each semester?***

Yes. If you are using financial aid, we advise that students enroll in both eight-week sessions at once. You should contact your academic advisor or financial aid advisor if you plan to make changes to your schedule.

## ***Will financial aid be impacted by 8-Week Advantage?***

Current financial aid practices will remain the same, so students will not see a change. Financial aid will still be awarded based on the number of credits you take per semester.

*My class experience was great! The fact it only was eight-weeks made me feel motivated knowing that I'm getting closer to being done and moving onto another class.*

College Reading and Writing Student



## ***Will the amount of class time I get with my instructors change in the eight-week format?***

No. Between in person and online activities, you can expect the same amount of total class time guided by your instructor to be the same in eight-week courses as it is in the full semester.

## ***Does 8-Week Advantage change when I can begin a program at NWTC?***

The 8-Week Advantage may increase the number of entry points students have into programs. For example, in a 15-week model, programs would begin in August, January, or June. With the eight-week model, some programs may now accept students in August, October, January, March, or June.

## ***How will 8-Week Advantage impact Veterans' Education Benefits?***

Certification processing will remain the same, however rate of pursuit determinations may be different. Please contact NWTC Veteran Services for additional information at [veteranservices@nwtc.edu](mailto:veteranservices@nwtc.edu).

## ***How much homework will I have?***

With every hour of class time, you can expect, on average, about one to two hours of homework outside of class. For example, for a class with three hours of in-class time, you may have a total of three to six hours of homework per week for that specific class (depending on the course and the student).

## ***Is the educational content provided in the eight-week format the same as what is provided in the traditional format?***

All classes will continue to provide the same high-quality learning experience in 8-Week Advantage as they did in the traditional format.

*Learn more about  
8-Week Advantage*



Go to **nwtc.edu/8week**



Talk to your academic advisor



Call 800-422-NWTC (6982)



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