"Summer Session gave me the opportunity to accomplish my goal of graduating with a double major. It’s also a great time to work towards completing a minor or to simply get ahead and lighten course loads for a major. With both online and on-campus courses being offered, students are able to have flexibility during the summer months while still getting ahead on their college careers."

- Ashley Midas '16

“I think taking summer courses is a really great way to get ahead in your degree. I’ve taken a couple every summer since freshman year. Now I’ll be able to have more of a relaxed final spring semester (with only 9 credits needed to satisfy my requirements- this means that I’ll have the opportunity to take more classes that I’m interested in, rather than just the core classes that are required). I’m excited to have the time to be able to focus on applying to jobs instead of having double the classes like a lot of other seniors! The classes are also flexible with where you’re located as well; most are online, so if you are moving home, you still have the option to stay ahead! I’ve also had a couple friends that needed to take a couple courses and they were really happy to be able to get them done in the summer, and were able to focus more on the specific aspects that they might struggle with during the school year.”

- Jessie Fuhrman '18

Top 10 Reasons to Attend Summer Session

10. Your friends are probably thinking about it, too. You’re not the only person planning to attend Summer Session! Talk to your friends, and you might find you’d have great company for a fun summer in Bemidji.

9. Summer Session can make life less stressful. Taking one or two courses you need - especially those that fill up quickly during fall and spring - could give you great peace of mind. You can focus on being successful in the present instead of worrying about the future.

8. You don’t need to be in Bemidji to take Summer Session Classes. Bemidji has a lot to offer in the summer, but if you have a job back home, you can still take BSU classes. Many summer courses are completely online. We also offer campus housing as an option if you want to stay in Bemidji. Weekly rates available, so you don’t have to be locked into a long-term lease.

7. You don’t have to give up employment for Summer Session. Summer session is very compatible with summer jobs. For those taking classes part time, it’s easy to schedule work around classes. When it’s not so easy, online classes can save the day. Nearly all online courses are asynchronous, which means you can log-on at any time during the day or night to complete assignments.

6. You can still take summer vacation. All work and no play? Not with Summer Session! The nice thing about Summer Session is that the schedule still allows for a nice vacation and time to spend with friends and family. You can choose a three-week May session or a four-week session in June or July.

5. Bemidji is a fun place to be during the summer. If you enjoy boating, fishing, camping, biking, the arts, festivals and shows, the Bemidji Area offers endless opportunities to have fun and stay busy. Be sure to see all that BSU’s Outdoor Program Center has to offer.

4. Summer is a great time to challenge yourself to improve your GPA. Sometimes it’s better to have more free time to focus on one or two challenging classes. Taking a couple of summer classes can help you get more out of your most important courses and help you be more successful.

3. Summer might let you complete a second major or add a minor. The extra knowledge from a second major or a minor looks great to potential employers. Give yourself an edge by completing another major or minor through Summer Session Courses.

2. Save money by graduating on time and starting your career sooner. The sooner you graduate, the less student loan debt you will accrue. You can start your career, get out of debt more quickly and pay less interest in the long run!

1. The quality of a Bemidji State Education. You picked Bemidji State for a reason. There is no better way to guarantee the quality of your education than to continue your education with trusted faculty from a campus you call home. You have the option to take courses from other schools over the summer, but few will provide the quality, consistency, and academic rigor you deserve.
Important Dates for Choosing Summer Courses

• Tentative Summer Course Schedule posted 12/13
• Summer Course Registration Starts 2/24
• Session I, Starts May 18: 3, 6, & 7 & 11 Week
• Session II, Starts May 26: 4, 5, & 10 Week
• Session III, Starts June 1: 4, 5, & 9 Week
• Session IV, Starts June 8: 4 & 8 Week
• Session V, Starts July 6: 4 Week
• Registration ends when courses fill or first day of class

Who can take Summer Courses?

• Any student enrolled in the Minnesota State system in good standing
• Visiting students (not part of Minnesota State) who have completed the admissions application process
• The high demand restriction is lifted for online courses in the summer
• Students do not need to change their on-campus student status to take online summer courses

Summer Financial Aid is Available

• Summer Session is part of the previous spring and fall financial aid cycle
• Students interested in financial aid must complete the 'Summer 2020 Financial Aid Supplement' form available 2/28
• First and Second-year students may be eligible for an additional $1000 in summer loans for advancing to the next grade level at the end of spring semester
• Financial Aid Advisors can figure out calculations for students on an individual basis

Building Experience Through Internships

• Local paid internship opportunities through the Neilson Foundation Internship Program (20+ opportunities in 2019)
• Non-profit Internship Scholarship for BSU seniors with a GPA of least 2.5 (some additional requirements).
• A variety of other internships and summer jobs available in and around Bemidji.
• Attend the BSU/NTC Job & Internship Fair on March 23, 2020 where many employers from within the region will be recruiting!

Opportunities On-Campus

• Linden Hall Suites available for BSU students (don’t have to be enrolled in summer courses, but registered for fall)
• Linden Hall is air conditioned, private bathrooms, and kitchen access
• Weekly housing rates available for those needing short term housing
• Housing applications available mid-spring semester
• Parking on-campus is free in the summer
• Students can use Beaver Bucks or pay out of pocket for campus dining in Wally’s (limited hours)
• Outdoor Program Center open daily 11 am – 7 pm, affordable watercraft & bike rentals
• Variety of opportunities to help with academic/sports camps, conferences, or workshops

Upcoming Summer Events

Check the BSU Calendar and Summer Session website to learn more about events which may include:

• Beaver Treats
• Late Night Dining Events
• Information Tables