

Robinson Construction & Academic Scheduling: FAQs

Why were there so many classes within my department which did not receive a room assignment for Fall 18?

A combination of all departments requesting classes which heavily-utilized the 'primetime' blocks during the week (M/T/W/R 10:30am-4:15pm) and the loss of Robinson A resulted in a higher number of classes which did not receive their **first choice** of time-block and requested technology for Fall 18.

Classrooms continue to be available at under-utilized time-blocks, including weekdays at 7:30am, Friday evenings, and Saturday/Sunday.

What are my options if my class did not receive a room during the initial classroom assignment phase?

- Select a new time-block (subject to room availability)
- Discuss room shuffles or swaps within your own department

All requests must be submitted by the scheduling coordinator for your department

(<https://registrar.gmu.edu/topics/scheduling-coordinators/>)

When will the new Robinson Hall be open and available?

Information about the Core Campus project and timelines can be found at <https://robinson.gmu.edu>

Estimated completion is Summer/Fall 2021. The new building will include 27 new classrooms, ranging in size to accommodate from 27 to 120 students. All classrooms were designed to support active learning.

What other types of classroom changes are anticipated before the new Robinson Hall opens?

- New classrooms to be built in Global Center this summer
- Eight new classrooms were added to the classroom inventory with the opening of Peterson Hall
- Two classrooms to be created in Robinson B to help with capacity during construction
- Classroom technology refresh: significant updates are being made to a number of classrooms over the summer. By Fall 18, all university classrooms will have a minimum of BYOD technology capability.

IMPORTANT: while any additions to the classroom inventory may provide some relief in scheduling, departments are still advised that many of their classes may not receive room assignments if most are scheduled during the most heavily-utilized time-blocks.

What can my department do in the interim to ensure that all/the majority of our classes receive room assignments?

Departments will need to ensure that classroom scheduling becomes even more robust by:

- Leveraging all available time blocks (e.g. weekdays 7:30am; Friday evenings, weekends)

- Working closely with their department scheduling coordinator to ensure that the right type of classroom is being requested for the specific needs of the class and the faculty member.
- Understanding that classroom space is a finite resource, and that the Academic Scheduling Office does not hold a reserve pool of classrooms for back-fill/overflow/special scenarios etc. All classrooms are utilized during all phases of scheduling for a semester, and all space is allocated equitably across the entire university.