

The background of the entire page is a vibrant photograph of a university campus. In the foreground, a group of seven diverse graduate students are walking along a wide, red-brick paved path. They are dressed in casual summer attire, including tank tops, jeans, and skirts. In the background, a large, historic-style brick building with a prominent steeple and multiple windows is visible, surrounded by lush green trees and palm fronds under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds.

UF

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

2024
2025

NEW

GRADUATE STUDENT GUIDE

Welcome

TO THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA & GAINESVILLE!

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WELCOME!

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Newest Grad Gators,

How happy I am to welcome you, the University of Florida's latest influx of master's, specialist, and doctoral admittees, into our graduate student body!

This New Graduate Student Guide PDF booklet will help you get settled at UF and in Gainesville with:

- Basic pointers on taking care of business and adjusting to life at UF.
- Picture profiles of campus landmarks and Gainesville geography to help you learn the lay of the land.
- A handy quick reference chart where you can list important contacts you need to know on campus.
- A directory of campus services and resources that will help keep your graduate student experience well-rounded and balanced in body, mind, and spirit, both personally and socially.

UF and Gainesville have a lot to offer to add to your personal, academic, and professional growth. Make the most of it! Keep in mind that graduate school is about more than mere pursuit of a degree. It is about gaining new knowledge, perspective, and insight through any number of venues and experiences, both in the classroom and outside of it.

Finally, remember that the Graduate School is here for you! Learn more about our programs, services, and resources on our website: grad.ufl.edu. Visit our home base at [106 Grinter Hall](#). Or call us at 352 392 6622 or email gradschool@aa.ufl.edu.

All the best to you as you embark on your new adventure as a UF graduate student!

Go Gators!



Nicole L.P. Stedman, Ph.D.

Dean and Associate Provost
The Graduate School
University of Florida

Tools and tips to ease your transition into life at UF

**OneStop**

Gator 1 ID Card

Your Gator 1 ID Card gets you access to free local bus fare, the UF Libraries, prepaid Bookstore, Gator Dining, and Vending accounts, and other campus services. The cost is \$15. Get yours at the the UF Bookstore and Welcome Center (ground floor of Reitz Union, 1900 Museum Road on campus). Bring an official photo ID (driver's license or passport). For more details, go online to go.ufl.edu/gator-1.

Be sure to check your financial aid information in ONE.UF, which may not include aid from your degree program. You must let the Bursar's Office know of any financial aid awards from your program.

Failure to report all financial aid can result in overpayment to you, and you will not be able to receive aid for future semesters until you have repaid all funds. A hold will be placed on your account to block you from registering for future courses. If the funds are not repaid by deadline, the Bursar's Office will drop your courses.

For more details on financial aid policies, procedures, and processes, consult the UF Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships website at go.ufl.edu/sfa.

Gainesville and the UF campus are quite bicycle-friendly — but riders have to do their part too. Wear a safety helmet and obey traffic laws — including all traffic signs, lights, signals, and the campuswide 20 mile-per-hour speed limit. Bicycling at night? A headlight and reflective tail lights are a must. Failure to do any of these things can result in tickets and fines from the UF Police Department (UFPD). Invest in a good bike lock to prevent theft, and for added security, register your bicycle with UFPD — for details go online to go.ufl.edu/bikereg. Also, download and review UFPD’s “Bicycles Are Vehicles” PDF brochure at go.ufl.edu/bikelaws.

To park motorized vehicles on campus, you must buy a parking decal from UF Transportation and Parking for a week, month, semester, or year.

Eligibility for campus parking decals is based on whether you live on or off campus and the number of credit hours you have earned to date.

For complete details, go online to go.ufl.edu/park.

Campus parking restrictions are often lifted outside of 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — but always check the signs at the lot or garage where you plan to park, to avoid parking fines after hours.

EXPLORING CAMPUS: LANDMARKS AND LOCALES



Grinter Hall

Located at 1532 Union Road across from Peabody and Criser Halls, Grinter Hall is the nerve center of the Graduate School, as well as home to the Office of Research, Center for African Studies, and Center for Latin American Studies.



Peabody and Criser Halls

Across Union Road from Grinter Hall stand Peabody and Criser Halls. Peabody Hall houses the Dean of Students Office, while Criser Hall hosts the Office of Admission, Office of the University Registrar, Bursar's Office, and Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.



Tigert Hall

One block due east of Grinter Hall, where Union Road and S.W. 13th Street meet, Tigert Hall is headquarters for UF's Office of the President, Office of the Provost, Board of Trustees, and related academic affairs units.



Century Tower and University Auditorium

Just west of Grinter Hall, iconic Century Tower and University Auditorium soar above the historic core of the UF campus. Century Tower's carillon chimes frequently throughout the day, while University Auditorium serves as a venue for public speakers and performances.



Plaza of the Americas and the UF Libraries

Facing the Century Tower and University Auditorium complex is the Plaza of the Americas — a lively, well-landscaped “town square” abuzz with student activity — hemmed in part by Libraries East and West (main hub of the UF George A. Smathers Libraries system).



Institute of Black Culture

Founded in 1971, the Institute of Black Culture (across from the UF Libraries at 1510 W. University Avenue) provides an open house environment where Black scholarship, culture, and community at UF are fueled through study, activism, and social events.



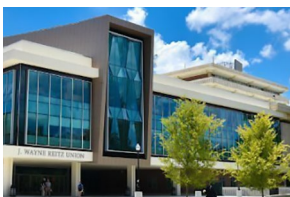
Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures: La Casita

Established in 1994, the Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures (nicknamed “La Casita”) at 1504 W. University Avenue serves as a hearth of connection, fellowship, and activity for Hispanic-Latinx students within the UF campus community.



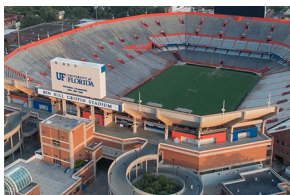
Alachua: “French Fries”

The gigantic, eye-catching bright yellow steel sculpture “Alachua” (jocularly nicknamed “French Fries”) forms a gateway of sorts, leading from campus' historic core, through the Computer Science and Engineering building atrium, towards the Reitz Union.



Reitz: The Union

The J. Wayne Reitz Student Union (686 Museum Road) — colloquially “Reitz” or “The Union” — houses the Student Activities Center, Career Connections Center, Student Government offices, the campus bookstore, a food court, and much, much more.



Ben Hill Griffin Stadium: “The Swamp”

This 88,548-seat arena at 157 Gale Lemerand Drive is home field to the Florida Gators football team and occasional venue for commencement ceremonies and student pep rallies. It is the largest stadium in the state of Florida and twelfth-largest in the United States.



Southwest Recreation Center

The Southwest Recreation Center (3150 Hull Road) features 140,000 square feet of state-of-the-art exercise, recreation, and athletic facilities and programming to keep UF’s student body active, fit, and agile.



Harn Museum of Art

The Harn Museum (3529 Hull Road) boasts 40,000-plus square feet of exhibition space, five gardens, and a 250-seat auditorium where the UF campus community can find cultural enrichment through visual art — including impressive African and Asian collections.



Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

The 1,700-seat Phillips Center (3259 Hull Road) brings world-class entertainment — ranging from Broadway theater to global music-makers to contemporary wits and insightful storytellers — right to the UF campus... with specially priced student tickets, to boot!



Florida Museum of Natural History

The Florida Museum of Natural History (3125 Hull Road) showcases a permanent collection focused on Florida’s flora, fauna, fossils, and historic peoples — along with a butterfly rainforest and traveling exhibits.



UF Student Health Care Center

Housed in a brand-new state-of-the-art facility on campus at 2140 Stadium Road, the UF Student Health Care Center offers both primary and specialized medical care, plus pharmacy services and more, to keep UF’s student body healthy.



UF Counseling and Wellness Center

The UF Counseling and Wellness Center (3190 Radio Road) provides one-on-one counseling, group workshops, crisis management services, and special programs to sustain mental health, emotional balance, and social well-being among UF’s student body.

GAINESVILLE LIVING: ATTRACTIVE, ACTIVE, AMIABLE

UF's home base ranks **Number 8 out of 400-plus localities** in WalletHub's 2024 best college town ratings



Natural Gem

Gainesville's bevy of lakes, springs, rivers, parks, and trails puts Mother Nature and outdoor recreation within easy reach — from UF's own Lake Wauburg to nearby Paynes Prairie, Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, Santa Fe Teaching Zoo, Ichetucknee Springs, and more.



Cultural Crossroads

Gainesville's museums, theaters, art galleries, and music venues — such as the Hippodrome, the Cade Museum, the Gainesville Community Playhouse, to name but a few — host a lively cultural scene that will energize your interest, imagination, and insight.



Innovation Hub

Gainesville's Innovation District — with UF Innovate within it — is an incubator that hatches economic opportunity and technological advancement by grooming budding entrepreneurs and startup ventures bent on moving research out of labs and into lives.



Sports Fan

Whether you like to cheer from the stands or join in the action, Gainesville offers plenty of avenues for sports and physical fitness — from the athletic powerhouse of the Florida Gators to amateur intramural teams and exercise facilities, both indoors and out.



Night Owl

Even graduate students need a night out on the town now and then — and Gainesville's broad selection of eateries, pubs, nightclubs, movie theaters, and other entertainment options can help you make the most fun of your downtime after hours.



Home Sweet Home

On campus or off, Gainesville features a varied array of housing options — from vintage chic to just-built luxe — that meet virtually any budget, taste, or lifestyle, with convenient access to local shopping, healthcare, and other quality-of-life amenities.



On the Move

Gainesville is a bicycle-friendly town that also treats UF students to free bus fare on its Regional Transit System (RTS) — handy alternatives if you don't dig daily commutes and parking permits. Need to travel by air? Gainesville Regional Airport is here to serve you.

GETTING YOUR BEARINGS: GAINESVILLE GEOGRAPHY IN A NUTSHELL

Explore local culture, dining, entertainment, recreation, shopping, and more online at visitgainesville.com



Downtown

Downtown Gainesville, at the intersection of University Avenue and Main Street, is the hub for city and county government by day, scene of good eats and entertainment by night. Check out its array of eateries, nightclubs, music venues, and art galleries — plus the stately Hippodrome Theatre (thehipp.org) for live performances and unique cinema.



Midtown

Midtown — the neighborhood just north and east of the UF campus along University Avenue and 13th Street — bustles with activity day and night, thanks to nearby student housing, restaurants, shops, and nightlife hot spots. Among its conveniences is a fully-stocked, full-service Publix Super Market just one block from campus.



Shopping Zones: Butler Plaza • Celebration Pointe • Oaks Mall

Butler Plaza (tinyurl.com/butler-pnt) and Celebration Pointe (tinyurl.com/c-pointe) on Archer Road, plus Newberry Road's Oaks Mall (tinyurl.com/oaksmall) offer plenty of shopping options, from big-box retail chains to local merchants — plus fast food, fine dining, movie theaters, and grocery stores galore.



Green Space: Parks and Nature Trails

Get outdoors in Gainesville at its bevy of parks and nature trails (tinyurl.com/parks-gnv), including Boulware Springs, Morningside Living History Farm, Westside Park and Pool, and downtown's Depot Park. Nearby Kanapaha Gardens (kanapaha.org) and Paynes Prairie (tinyurl.com/paynesppsp) offer more chances to commune with local flora and fauna.



Health Care Landmarks

On campus and off, Gainesville hosts a wide variety of medical professionals for your physical and mental well-being. Two local health care landmarks to be aware of right off the bat: UF Health's Shands Hospital at 1600 S.W. Archer Road (tinyurl.com/uf-shands), and North Florida Hospital at 6500 W. Newberry Road (tinyurl.com/gnv-nfh).



Family Circle: Schools • Daycare • Libraries • Youth Activities

You a graduate student with family and children? Gainesville offers many public school (sbac.edu), private school (tinyurl.com/gnv-priv), and daycare (tinyurl.com/gnv-daycare) options, along with a robust countywide library system (aclib.us). Looking for things your young ones can do outside of school? Check out this resource: fun4gatorkids.com.



Getting Around Town

Both pedestrian and bicycle friendly, Gainesville also offers free bus fare for UF students on its Regional Transit System (go-rt.com). Alongside conventional taxis and car rental agencies, alternatives Lyft, Uber, and Zipcar are available locally — as well as grab-and-go electric scooter rentals Bird, Spin, and Veo.

KNOW YOUR CONTACTS!

Important names and other data to keep at your fingertips

Who is your graduate coordinator?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Who is your department chair?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Who is your college dean?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Whom do you contact if you have issues registering for classes?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Whom do you contact if you have problems with your assistantship or fellowship?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Who is your assigned financial aid advisor?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Whom do you contact if you need help adjusting your schedule?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Whom do you contact if you need help filing a petition?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Whom do you contact if you need help filing a medical withdrawal?	Name
	Telephone
	Email
Whom do you contact if you need help managing stress, anxiety, hopelessness, or depression?	Name
	Telephone
	Email

LEADS: CAMPUS SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Where to find help and support as a UF graduate student

Academic Skills Development

Dial Center for Written and Oral Communication

402 Rolfs Hall (341 Buckman Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 5421 · Website: go.ufl.edu/cwoc

Writing Studio

2215 Turlington Hall (330 Newell Drive)

Telephone: 352 846 1138 · Website: go.ufl.edu/write

Admissions

Office of Admissions

201 Criser Hall (1478 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 392 1365 · Website: go.ufl.edu/admit

Conflict Resolution

Your Department Chair/School Director

First stage in reporting and resolving conflict

Your College Graduate Associate Dean

Second stage in reporting and resolving conflict

Office of the Ombuds

Third and final stage in reporting and resolving conflict

31 Tigert Hall (300 SW 13th Street)

Telephone: 352 392 1308 · Website: go.ufl.edu/ombuds

Financial Aid

Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships

S-107 Criser Hall (1478 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 392 1275 · Website: go.ufl.edu/sfa

Health, Self-Care, Wellness, and Safety

GradCare

105 Grinter Hall

Telephone: 352 392 6622 · Website: go.ufl.edu/gradcare

Counseling & Wellness Center

3190 Radio Road

Telephone: 352 392 1575 · Website: go.ufl.edu/cwc

Field and Fork Campus Food Pantry

564 Newell Drive

Telephone: 352 294 3601 · Website: go.ufl.edu/faf

GatorWell Health Promotion Services

1100 J Wayne Reitz Union (655 Reitz Union Drive)

Telephone: 352 273 4450 · Website: go.ufl.edu/gwell

Recovery Support and Services

Coordinated through the Counseling & Wellness Center

Telephone: 352 392 1575 · Website: go.ufl.edu/recovery

RecSports Fitness and Nutrition

Multiple locations across campus

Telephone: 352 846 1081 · Website: go.ufl.edu/recsport

Student Health Care Center

The Infirmary (280 Fletcher Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 1161 · Website: go.ufl.edu/shcc

Student Legal Services

Reitz Union Suite 3500 (655 Reitz Union Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 5297 · Website: go.ufl.edu/legal

U Matter We Care

202 Peabody Hall (1500 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 294 2273 · Website: go.ufl.edu/umwc

University of Florida Police Department

1521 Museum Road

Telephone: 352 392 1111 · Website: go.ufl.edu/upd

Housing

Housing and Residence Life

1304 Diamond Road

Telephone: 352 392 2161 · Website: go.ufl.edu/housing

Off Campus Life

1304 Diamond Road

Telephone: 352 392 1207 · Website: go.ufl.edu/ocl

Legal Aid

Student Legal Services

Reitz Union Suite 3500 (655 Reitz Union Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 5297 · Website: go.ufl.edu/legal

Library

UF George A. Smathers Libraries

Multiple locations across campus

Telephone: 352 281 6309 · Website: go.ufl.edu/libraries

Parking

Transportation and Parking Services

1273 Gale Lemerand Dr

Telephone: 352 392 7275 · Website: go.ufl.edu/park

Professional Development

Office of Graduate Professional Development

129 Grinter Hall (1523 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 294 0488 • Website: go.ufl.edu/ogpd

Career Connections Center

1300 J Wayne Reitz Union (655 Reitz Union Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 1601 • Website: go.ufl.edu/cc

Center for Teaching Excellence

200 Bryant Space Science Center (1772 Stadium Road)

Telephone: 352 294 0811 • Website: go.ufl.edu/teach

Dial Center for Written and Oral Communication

402 Rolfs Hall (341 Buckman Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 5421 • Website: go.ufl.edu/cwoc

Recreation

RecSports (Department of Recreational Sports)

Multiple locations across campus

Telephone: 352 846 1081 • Website: go.ufl.edu/recsport

Registration and Enrollment

Office of the University Registrar

S107L Criser Hall (1478 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 392 2244 • Website: go.ufl.edu/registrar

Research

UF Office of Research

460 Grinter Hall (1523 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 392 1582 • Website: go.ufl.edu/research

Research Integrity at UF Office of Research

460 Grinter Hall (1523 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 273 3052 • Website: go.ufl.edu/integrity

Spirituality

UF Campus Multi-Faith Cooperative

A campus network of UF-recognized student ministries

Website: go.ufl.edu/cmc

UF Faith Groups

Listings and contacts for a variety of spiritual traditions

Website: go.ufl.edu/faith

Student Involvement and Representation

Graduate Assistants United

224 Yon Hall (1908 Stadium Road)

Telephone: 352 575 0366 • Website: tinyurl.com/ufgau

Graduate Student Council

3000 Reitz Union (3102 Reitz Union Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 1665 • Website: go.ufl.edu/gsc

Student Activities and Involvement

Reitz Union Level 2 (3102 Reitz Union Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 1671 • Website: go.ufl.edu/involve

Student Government

3000 Reitz Union (3102 Reitz Union Drive)

Telephone: 352 392 1665 • Website: go.ufl.edu/sg

Student Support

GradCare

105 Grinter Hall

Telephone: 352 392 6622 • Website: go.ufl.edu/gradcare

Graduate Student Success Center

123 Grinter Hall (1523 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 392 6444 • Website: go.ufl.edu/gssc

Collegiate Veterans Success Center

418 Yon Hall (1908 Stadium Road)

Telephone: 352 294 7233 • Website: go.ufl.edu/vets

Disability Resource Center

001 Reid Hall (1316 Museum Road)

Telephone: 352 392 8565 • Website: go.ufl.edu/drc

International Center

170 The Hub (1765 Stadium Road)

Telephone: 352 392 5323 • Website: go.ufl.edu/ufic

Thesis and Dissertation

Thesis, Dissertation, and Publishing

134 Grinter Hall (1523 Union Road)

Telephone: 352 392 1282 • Website: go.ufl.edu/tdp