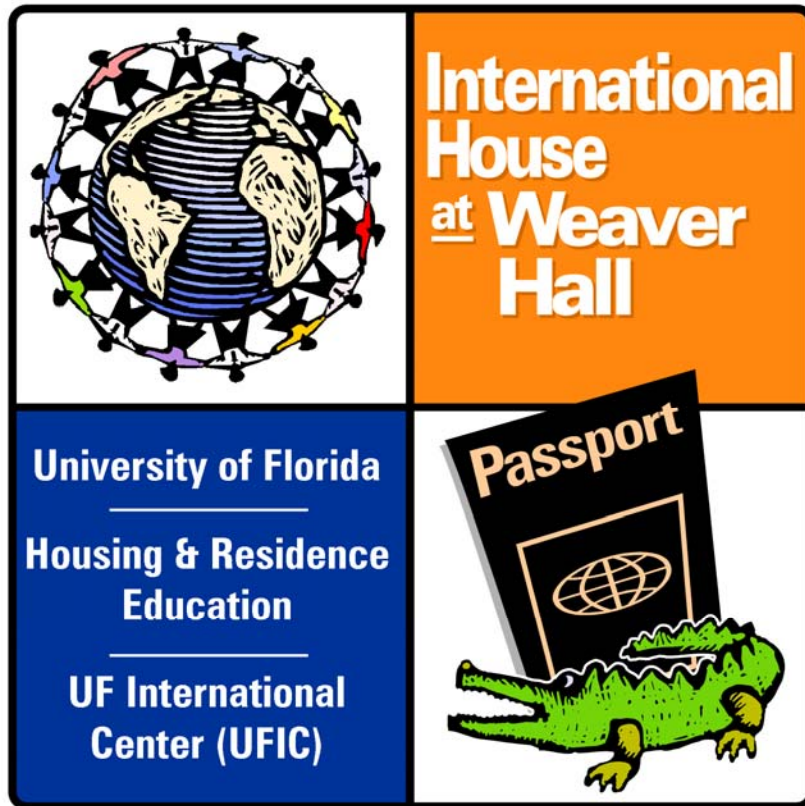


Guide to Gator Life

*for residents of
The International House at Weaver Hall*



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Division of Student Affairs
Educating Leaders for a Global Community

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
The Foundation for The Gator Nation

***Guide to Gator Life
For the Residents of
The International House at Weaver Hall***

Table of Contents

Introduction

- History of UF - 5
- History of the International House at Weaver Hall – 5
- Campus Slang/Abbreviations - 6
- Commonly Used UF/Housing Acronyms - 6

UFIC Information

- Contact information for International Students – Who’s who? How can they help? - 8
- Study Abroad - 8
- VISA - 9

Housing

- Information about Department of Housing and Residence Education (HRE) - 10
- Housing and Tolbert Area Desk Telephone Numbers - 10
- HAWK for Maintenance and Custodial Requests - 10
- Housing Rules and Regulations - 10

Student Life

- Social - General Interactions, Greetings, Forms of Address, etc. - 10
- Getting Involved on Campus and in the Community - 11
- Academic Life at UF - 13
- Academic Honesty/Honor Code/Student Code of Conduct - 14
- Sexual Harassment - 15

Textbooks

- Where to Buy Textbooks - 15
- New or Used Textbooks - 16
- Book Buyback - 16
- Supplies - 17

Computing

- Setting up a GatorLink Account - 17
- Computer Labs - 17
- Accessing the Internet through DHNet - 18
- Computer Supplies - 18

Health and Wellness

- Student Health Care Center (Infirmary) - 18
- Emergencies - 18
- Pharmacies - 18
- Counseling Center - 19

Personal Safety

- Rooms/Door Locks, etc. - 19
- Walking on Campus - 19
- Street Crossings - 20
- SNAP - 20
- Protecting Personal Belongings - 20
- UPD (University Police Department) - 20

Transportation

- City Bus System (Regional Transit System – RTS) - 20
- Bicycles – Safety Issues, Laws, etc. - 21
- Automobiles – Driver Licenses, Insurance, Parking on Campus, etc. - 21
- Ride Board at JWRU - 22

Recreation

- Recreational Sports/Lake Wauburg - 22
- Recreation Centers - 23
- Swimming Pools - 23
- Movies - 24
- Theater - 24
- Museums - 24
- Nightlife - 25

Meals and Dining

- On-campus Dining Facilities - 25
- Cooking in Weaver Hall - 26
- Ordering Food for Delivery - 27
- Local Restaurants - 27

Holidays and Observances

- U.S. Holidays - 31
- International Holidays - 31

Religion

- Places of Worship - 32

FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Cultural Adjustment

- Stages of Adjustment - 33
- Coping Strategies/Activities - 33

Banking and Money

- Local Banks – Names, Locations - 34
- U.S. Currency - 34
- Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) - 35

Shopping

- Types of Stores -Grocery, Pharmacy, Convenience, Superstore, Mall, etc. - 35
- Listing of Local Stores in Each Category - 35

Telephones

How to Make a Telephone Call - 38

Mail and Shipping

United States Postal Service (USPS) – Locations, Hours, Rates, Website - 38

Format for Addresses in the U.S. - 39

Telegrams - 39

Package Delivery – UPS, FEDEX, DHL, etc. - 39

English

Places to Improve Your English Speaking Skills - 39

Some Advice from Former Weaver International House Residents

The best part about living in Weaver Hall this semester/year was.... - 40

One piece of advice I would give to an exchange student living in Weaver next year is.... - 40

INTRODUCTION

History of UF

In 1853, the state-funded East Florida Seminary took over the Kingsbury Academy in Ocala. The seminary moved to Gainesville in the 1860s and later was consolidated with the state's land grant Florida Agricultural College, then in Lake City. In 1905, by legislative action, the college became a university and was moved to Gainesville. Classes first met with 102 students on the present site on September 26, 1906. The University of Florida officially opened its doors to women in 1947. With more than 50,000 students, Florida is one of the five largest universities in the nation.

The University of Florida is a major, public, comprehensive, land grant and research university. The state's oldest, largest and most comprehensive university, UF is among the nation's most academically diverse public universities. UF has a long history of established programs in international education, research and service. It is one of only 17 public, land grant universities belonging to the Association of American Universities.

History of the International House at Weaver Hall

Weaver Hall, which opened in 1950, is named for Rudolph Weaver who served as the first director of the School of Architectural & Allied Sciences at the University of Florida. He also served as the first state university system architect to the Board of Control (1926-1944).

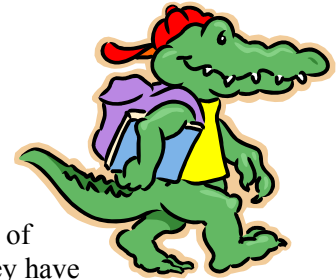
Designed by architect Guy Fulton, Weaver Hall served as the overflow area for the University Honors Program in the 1980's. In 1991, Weaver Hall became the second building housing solely University Honors Program participants. In Fall 2002, the Honors Program moved to the Honors Residential College at Hume Hall, and Weaver Hall became the home for the International House at Weaver Hall — a program to house international exchange students with American students.

The International House at Weaver Hall is home to exchange students and UF degree-seeking students who wish to take part in a cross-cultural living/learning environment. The International House program encourages and supports the acquisition of international perspectives and multiculturalism as well as the recognition of intercultural issues.

Weaver Hall is part of the Tolbert Area, which is in the central part of campus, across the street and to the south of UF's collegiate baseball stadium, soccer field, track, indoor activities building (O'Connell Center), and Ben Hill Griffin Football Stadium. Weaver Hall is also conveniently located near the J. Wayne Reitz Student Union and the Gator Corner Dining Center.



Campus Slang/Abbreviations*



- Gators:** The school mascot; nickname of the University’s athletic teams and student body in general. “Go Gators!”
- Greeks:** Members of fraternities (men) and sororities (women).
- Drop/Add:** Also called “schedule adjustment.” This is the first 3 or 4 days of class, each semester, when students may change the classes they have registered for without penalty.
- French Fries:** The bright yellow, steel sculpture located near the CSE building. The actual name of the piece is *Alachua* (the name of the county Gainesville is located in).
- The Rock or the Potato:** The large rock at the center of Turlington Plaza. It is a “simulated moon rock” that was donated to the university many years ago. Turlington Plaza is a very popular meeting place on campus.
- The Set:** Area located beside Carleton Auditorium where students “hangout” between classes.
- Plaza of the Americas:** The large lawn in front of the Smathers Library (Library West). The Hare Krishnas serve free lunch (donations are encouraged) on the Plaza Monday through Friday while classes are in session.
- RTS:** Regional Transit System. This is the local bus network operating on campus and throughout Gainesville.
- JWRU:** J. Wayne Reitz Union. The student union is a centrally located facility with a food court, the campus bookstore, Gator 1 ID Card Services, game room, bowling alley, frame/picture shop, **travel agency**, a barbershop, cinema, hotel and more. The Student Activities Center, Career Resource Center and Student Government offices are also located in the Union.
- CSE:** Computer Science and Engineering. The main computer lab is located next to the Hub and Turlington Hall.
- The Hub:** The Hub houses one of the campus food courts, Starbucks Coffee, **UF International Center**, and study space.

UF/Housing Acronyms:

Acronym: A word formed from the first or first few letters of several words.

- ACFR..... Alachua County Fire Rescue (ambulance service)
- ADH..... Assistant Director of Housing
- AG..... (see AG List)...Area Government
- ARA..... Apprentice Resident Assistant
- ASAP..... As Soon As Possible
- CRJP..... Coordinator of Residential Judicial Programs
- DA..... Desk Assistant
- FYI..... For Your Information
- GDS..... Gator Dining Services
- GFD..... Gainesville Fire Department
- GHD..... Graduate Hall Director
- GPA..... Grade Point Average
- GPD..... Gainesville Police Department

HRE	Housing & Residence Education
IRHA	Inter-Residence Hall Association
JWRU	J. Wayne Reitz Union
NERDC	Northeast Regional Data Center
NRHH	National Residence Hall Honorary
PAW	People Awareness Week
RA	Resident Assistant
RCF	Room Condition Forms
RD	Residence Director
RLC	Residence Life Coordinator
RLE	Residence Life & Education
SA	Security Assistant
SHCC	Student Health Care Center
SNAP	Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol
TGIF	Thank God It's Friday
UFIC	University of Florida International Center
UPD	University Police Department
USPS	University Support Personnel System
UVS	University Village South

AREA GOVERNMENTS (AG)

JAG	Jennings Area Government
TAG	Towers Area Government
GAC	Graham Area Council
SHO	Student Honors Organization (Hume)
LARC	Lakeside Area Residence Council
TAC	Tolbert Area Council
MAC	Murphree Area Council
BAC	Broward Area Council
RAC	Rawlings Area Council
RYMAC	Reid/Yulee/Mallory Area Council
KGB	Keys Governing Body
SPARC	Springs Area Residence Council



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL CENTER (UFIC) INFORMATION -
<http://www.ufic.ufl.edu>

Contact information for International Students

The staff of the University of Florida International Center is here to help you. Please visit the UFIC office if you have any questions about your exchange/partner school program, if you need to access a computer for a brief period of time, if you need any travel forms signed, etc. Your primary contact at UFIC is **Lyn Straka**, Exchange Coordinator. She can help you with the following issues:

- Answer questions about your exchange/partner school student status
- Direct you to the appropriate academic advising office
- Assist you with dropping a course late in the semester
- Put you in touch with other exchange/partner school students
- Make sure your grades get sent back home to your home school
- Assist you with Visa issues – if you are here for an academic year and plan to leave the US and return during the time your Visa is valid (i.e., if you go home for holiday break)
- Acclimating to the American campus setting
- General questions.

Contact information for Lyn Straka:

170 Hub
PO Box 113225
Gainesville, FL 32611-3225
Phone: 352-273-1510
Fax: 352-392-6782
e-mail: lstraka@ufic.ufl.edu

UFIC website for exchange/partner school students: www.ufic.ufl.edu/ies.htm

The Exchange Student Handbook link on this website (<http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/eshandbook.htm>) is also a great resource for more information!

Study Abroad Information for US Students -
<http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/oss/studyabroad.html>

If you are living in Weaver Hall and not already involved in an exchange/partner school program, chances are good that you plan to study abroad while you are a student at UF. If so, the following information may be helpful to you.

The University of Florida International Center is located in the Hub. The UFIC facilitates three different types of study abroad programs: UF Exchange Programs, UF Sponsored Programs, and UF-Approved Independent Programs.

UF Exchange Programs: In an Exchange Program, students are assigned UF course equivalencies for the work they do abroad, and the grades are factored into their UF GPAs. As "exchange" implies, each partner institution reciprocates by sending students to study at UF. (Your international floor mates in Weaver Hall are here as exchange students.)

UF Sponsored Programs: These programs are mainly subject-specific. "UF Sponsored" means that a faculty member at UF has spearheaded the program and has personally vested interest in its quality and academic integrity. In some cases, the faculty members actually teach the courses abroad. Most UF Sponsored Programs are offered in the summer. Some of the programs earn students UF credit, some, an earn transfer credits and a few programs earn a combination of credit types.

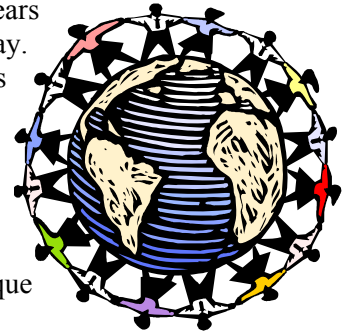
Independent Programs: If neither of the above categories offers what you seek, there are endless opportunities to study abroad on UF-Approved Independent Programs. All Independent Programs earn transfer credit. Many students enroll with reputable study abroad program providers such as ISA or AIFS. Some register as transient students at other U.S. universities with study abroad programs. Students can even enroll directly at a foreign institution as transient students.

No matter which kind of study abroad experience you choose, **it is essential** that you apply through the UF International Center. Their experienced staff will assist you every step of the way, from the initial application process to the final posting of your grades.

For more information about what programs are available, visit the UFIC Study Abroad website at: <http://www.ufic.ufl.edu>

Volunteers for International Student Affairs (VISA) - <http://grove.ufl.edu/~visa/>

VISA is an organization of American and International students who are involved in promoting awareness for international diversity at the University of Florida. It has been over 46 years since VISA was first founded, and the organization is continuing to grow today. Over the years, VISA has served to organize the many international voices present here at UF in an effort to familiarize the university community with the global diversity that exists beyond the campus boundaries.



VISA has 32 nationality clubs under it and is one of the largest and most respected student organizations at the University of Florida, with more than 4000 members. This exceptional blend of different cultures gives VISA a unique outlook.

VISA acts as a unifying body among all the nationality clubs. It also works as the liaison between international students and nationality clubs to Student Government. Furthermore, VISA organizes several cultural events throughout the year. The most prestigious event is the International Talent Show that takes place during the International Month in the spring. For approximately 38 years, this event has attracted students and organizations from all over the world to participate.

Other activities include culture nights, sports tournaments, international coffeehouses, orientation programs, overseas student scholarships, Global Gator newsletter, movie nights, trips, picnics, beach parties, dances and many more.

VISA aims to improve cultural relations and awareness by providing programs that will help UF's student body learn about the cultures of the world without leaving the University of Florida campus.

VISA can be contacted at their website or you can visit their office in the UF International Center.

This official Housing website can provide you with a wealth of information, answering most of your questions about the Department of Housing. If you need additional information, you may call the Housing Office at 392-2161. Weaver Hall is part of the greater Tolbert Area and you may dial 392-6031 to reach the Tolbert Area Desk for questions about your area. If you have a **maintenance or custodial problem, fill out a HAWK request**. You will find a HAWK link on the Housing homepage. All information regarding Housing Rules and Regulations can be found at the Department of Housing and Residence Education website as follows: http://www.housing.ufl.edu/housing/Reslife_Rules.htm You will also learn about your rights and responsibilities during floor meetings with your R.A., but the website is your best source for complete information. Please review the website thoroughly.

STUDENT LIFE

Social Life/Activities

Understanding American Greetings and Social Customs

Sometimes it is difficult for foreign students who come to the United States to fully understand American students' behaviors or the way they interact with each other. Because it is easy to form ideas about why people do the things they do, without fully understanding American social culture, it is important for you to have a few general pieces of information that may be helpful.



Many foreign students have commented that while Americans seem friendly, they rarely seem to have deep, meaningful friendships. Part of the reason for this interpretation comes from the way Americans greet each other. While it is perfectly common in many foreign countries for friends or acquaintances to hug or kiss on the cheek when they meet (male and female), Americans generally do not display this kind of affection among friends. It is more common for friends to exchange a verbal greeting and/or a handshake (mostly men).

The language of greetings is also somewhat confusing. Often, greetings in America are misinterpreted as insincere because a phrase like, "Hi, How are you?" is commonly used instead of "Hello," and the person asking does not always wait for a reply. To a foreign student this can be interpreted as disinterest on the part of the person asking, but it is actually a socially acceptable form of greeting in the States. Similarly, at the end of a conversation many Americans will say "I'll call you" or "I'll see you later," but then you don't hear from them. These are considered polite ways of ending a conversation.

Another misperception is that American students do not have many close friendships or they do not last long. This is inaccurate. In fact, most Americans (especially in college) have several close friends with whom they socialize and interact regularly. They may also have a large group of acquaintances – people they have classes with, live in a residence hall with, play intramural sports with, etc., but with whom they are not very close. Even though there is a difference in the relationships Americans have with each "type" of friend, they may share very personal information about themselves with someone they do not consider a close friend. On occasion, they might also ask someone they do not know well for personal information. In most cases they do not mean any harm, but it is your choice to decide what information about yourself you feel comfortable sharing. If someone asks you questions you do not wish to answer about yourself, feel free to tell them politely that you prefer not to answer their question. Your request will usually be honored, but in the case that someone continues to press you for personal information that you do not want to share, tell a Resident Assistant (RA) or your Graduate Hall Director (GHD), or even a friend or professor

so they can help you with the situation. This is a rare occurrence and should not cause you to avoid interaction with Americans – they are just curious.

You will also notice that men and women frequently interact as friends without any romantic element. It is not unusual for men and women to go to social activities together with no implications for a romantic connection. If someone of the opposite sex asks you to attend an event it does not necessarily mean they want anything more than a casual friendship. If you are unsure, ask the person to clarify their intentions.

Forms of address for different people

Sometimes knowing how to address someone can be confusing. What should you call your professor? How should you address a new friend or their parents? Here is a simple list of commonly accepted forms of address that should help.

Professors/Faculty Members: If you know that the faculty member has a Ph.D., you should address them as “Dr.” (Doctor) and their last name. For example, your professor Mr. Jim Smith has a Ph.D.; you should address him as “Dr. Smith.” If you are not sure that your professor has a Ph.D., it is always a good idea to call them “Professor” and their last name. For example, Mr. Bob Jones does not have a Ph.D., or has not told you that he does; you should address him as “Professor Jones.” If he wants you to call him something else, he will let you know at that time. The same rules apply with a female professor. If she has a Ph.D., you should address her as “Dr.” and if not, “Professor.”

Friends/Acquaintances: Most other students will expect you to address them by their first name only. If they have a “nickname,” or something they prefer to be called, they will let you know at the time you meet.

Older Adults/Parents of Friends/Authority Figures: It is polite to address people in positions of authority, your elders, or parents of your new friends with a title. “Mr.” (Mister), is almost always used for a man. “Mrs.” (Missus) is generally used for a woman who is married. “Ms.” (Mizz) is used by a lot of women who feel their marital status is not pertinent and is also used for women when you don’t know their marital status (single, divorced, married, etc.). “Miss” is generally used for young women who have never been married. The first time you meet the person, address them using the polite form and if they want you to call them something more informal they will let you know at that time. For example, you go to the home of your new American roommate, John Doe, for Thanksgiving dinner. You are introduced to his parents, Sam and Sally Doe. You greet them by saying “It’s nice to meet you Mr. and Mrs. Doe.” At this time, if they want you to address them differently, they will let you know (for example, “Please, call us Sam and Sally.”), if they do not say anything, you should continue to address them formally until they tell you otherwise. When you are introduced to John’s younger sister, Sarah, it is acceptable to address her by her first name rather than “Miss Doe.”

Lawyers/Officers of the Court/Police Officers: It is common in many countries to address a lawyer by her/his title. In the U.S., that is rarely, if ever, done. The acceptable form of address for an attorney is “Mr.,” “Ms.,” “Miss,” etc. as appropriate. A police officer, male or female, should always be addressed by their rank and their last name, as in “Sergeant Smith,” for example. If their rank is not known, you can use the term “Officer.” A judge, male or female, should be addressed as “Your Honor,” when being directly addressed, or “Judge” and their last name; “Judge Johnson,” for example. (Note: Don’t be fooled by television shows. Few judges would appreciate or accept being called by their first names, like “Judge Judy,” for example.)



In general, it is a good idea to always err on the side of formality and let the individual correct you as they deem appropriate.

Getting Involved on Campus and in the Community

There is almost no limit to the variety of activities for students to take part in at the University of Florida – you just have to know where to look for them.

The most basic place to start is **within your residence hall**. Your GHD and RAs will plan a variety of events for you to take part in during your time in the International House. For example, it is not unusual for the residents and staff of the International House to hold potluck dinners with foods from all parts of the world or plan international film festivals in the Weaver 1 Lounge. The “International People Extravaganza” or “International Food Fest” is a program that takes place each semester and allows students and staff from all parts of the campus to meet the residents of Weaver Hall, learn more about their home countries and sample regional foods. These are just a few examples of how you can get involved right where you live.

If you want to go a little bit further from your residence hall to get involved and meet more people, think about joining a club or organization UF has over 500 Student Government (SG) sponsored organizations (which means they get money from student fees in order to do events and activities). There are also a wide variety of “unsponsored” clubs that do not receive funds from S.G. and may charge a small fee for members. You can look for registered organizations according to your area of interest, or even your major area of study (Business Administration, for example), by going to **the Student Activities Center** on the 3rd floor of the Reitz Union, or going to their website at: <http://www.union.ufl.edu/sac/>

The Division of Student Affairs, the Reitz Union Board and Student Government also host **Gator Nights every Friday night from 9pm - 2am** at the Reitz Union and the Southwest Rec Center. All you need is your Gator1 ID to see movies, play games, hear music, see comedians, do arts and crafts, and a lot of other fun things FREE!!!! Lots of different kinds of food are available as well. The weekly schedule of events is located at: <http://www.union.ufl.edu/> for more information.



Other ways you can get involved are listed on the Reitz Union homepage. Information on student involvement and programs available at the Union are listed here and are always updated. Go to <http://www.union.ufl.edu/> for more information.

Leisure Courses are another way to get involved and learn something fun at the same time. Every semester the Reitz Union publishes a list of Leisure Courses open to all UF students, faculty and staff. These classes are offered at an additional cost to you and you do not earn any credits. If you have been thinking about learning to Salsa dance or make ceramics, or if you have always wanted to learn how to play the guitar, these courses are just for you. Registration dates for these classes are early in the semester so don't miss out! To find out what classes are available each semester, check the Reitz Union website listed above.

And what about sports? At UF there are a number of ways you can get involved with sports. While you will not be eligible to participate in collegiate level athletics, there are other ways for you to play. The Department of Recreational Sports sponsors **Intramural Sports** and **Sport Clubs**. Intramural Sports are usually small teams of students and/or staff who compete against other similar teams at UF. At a more competitive level, there are Sport Clubs. These teams are intended for the serious athlete, and some Sport Clubs offer the opportunity to compete with other colleges throughout the Southeast and nationally. Whatever level of competition you are looking for; the Department of Recreational Sports has it. For more information, visit the recreational sports website at: <http://www.recsports.ufl.edu/home.aspx>

For those of you who want to get involved as **GATOR FANS**, there are also lots of **sporting events** you can participate in - as a spectator - throughout the year. You can see who is playing and purchase tickets by going to: www.uaa.ufl.edu or <http://www.gatorzone.com/>

Also, don't forget about **community service and volunteering** around Gainesville. There are a number of worthy causes in our area and you can get involved. The Boys and Girls Clubs of Alachua County, St. Francis House (for the homeless), Hope Lodge, and many others are always eager to have student volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering your time to any of these agencies, feel free to contact them directly or get more information at the Office of Community Service on the 3rd floor of the Reitz Union or online at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/cls/>

ACADEMIC LIFE AT UF

As you know, the University of Florida is a nationally ranked, highly competitive university in the state of Florida and in the nation. You wouldn't be here if you weren't the best, but here is some helpful information about academics at UF.



Attendance is compulsory in most classes at the University. Your professors will explain their attendance policies at the beginning of the term, but you should plan to attend every class regardless of their policies.

Being late to class is not acceptable. Most professors consider it rude for students to enter their class after it has begun and doing so repeatedly may have an effect on your grade. Get there on time!

Unlike other parts of the world students are generally required to **follow a schedule of work and complete assignments and/or exams throughout the term.** Read each syllabus carefully at the start of the term so you know exactly when projects, assignments and exams are scheduled.

Also, unlike other parts of the world, **there are no re-sits for exams.** In general, the grade you receive is the one that will be used. Individual faculty members may have different policies; if you aren't sure, **ASK!** Don't ever assume that you can re-take an exam because you are not satisfied with the grade!

Participating in class discussions and asking questions is encouraged. You should go to class prepared and be able to contribute to discussion on the topic. ***Don't be shy because of your accent!*** Most faculty members enjoy the input of students from other parts of the world. The perspective you bring to the discussion is valuable to all the students in the class and will be appreciated by the professor.

Men and women both hold positions of leadership and authority on campus. A person's gender is not an indication of their social or professional rank. All campus administrators should be treated with equal respect.

Visit your professors during office hours. All professors and teaching assistants (TAs) hold office hours for their classes. If you have any academic questions or concerns, go directly to your professor or T.A. for assistance. Do not wait until the problem cannot be solved. Also, consider visiting your professor(s) even if you don't have a problem. The relationships you make with your professors can benefit you long after you complete their classes and most faculty members encourage their students to stop by just to talk. If your schedule conflicts with a professor's listed office hours, ask to schedule an appointment.

Academic Honesty / Honor Code / Student Judicial Affairs

Academic Honesty Guidelines

The Academic Honesty Guidelines at the University of Florida are designed to develop and engender a community of honor, trust and respect. The academic community of students and faculty at the University of Florida strives to develop, sustain and protect an environment based on these qualities. Students within the system receive the benefits of the academic pursuit of knowledge, free from the obstacles of lying, cheating and stealing. In return, the Academic Honesty Guidelines demand that students act with integrity in all of their endeavors. Exhibiting honesty in academic pursuits and reporting violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines will encourage others to also act with integrity. Every student who approaches their studies with honesty and forthrightness suffers when another student attains an unfair advantage by cheating.



An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. As a University of Florida student, one is expected to neither commit nor assist another in committing an academic honesty violation. Additionally, it is the student's duty to report observed academic honesty violations.

Honor Code

The University of Florida Honor Code was voted on and passed by the Student Body in the fall 1995 semester. The Honor Code reads as follows:

Preamble: In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. A student-run Honor Court and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.

The Honor Code: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Student Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is to set forth the specific authority and responsibility of the University in maintaining social discipline, to establish guidelines, which facilitate a just, and civil campus community, and to outline the educational process for determining student and student organization responsibility for alleged violations of University regulations. This judicial process will follow established procedures for ensuring fundamental fairness and an educational experience that facilitates the development of the individual and of the organization.

Additional information and the complete Student Code of Conduct are available at the Dean of Students Office in P202 Peabody Hall, or on the Student Judicial Affairs Website at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/>

Sexual Harassment - <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/affact/harass/index.htm>

The University of Florida has produced an online brochure outlining the definitions of sexual harassment; what constitutes sexual harassment; how and when to report incidences of sexual harassment; and university procedure for handling complaints of harassment. The complete brochure is available at the above email address.

The following guidelines apply to the definition of sexual harassment:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when: Submission to such conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic performance.

1. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or academic decisions affecting such individual, or job applicant, and between graduate assistant and student.
2. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or educational environment.

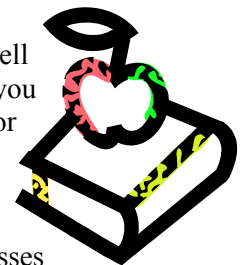
The basic premise of the sexual harassment policy is that a sexual element must not be introduced into what should be a sex-neutral situation causing the boundaries which normally exist between the professional role and the personal relationship to become blurred.

If you feel you have been the victim of sexual harassment, please tell someone. The guidelines for reporting this kind of harassment are detailed on the website listed above. Please don't be afraid to come forward if you or someone you know has been the victim of sexual harassment.

Textbooks

Where to Buy Textbooks

Textbooks are almost always required for classes at UF (although some professors may tell you that their textbooks are only supplements to what they give you in class), and while you may find them at one of the libraries on campus, you will not be able to check them out for the entire semester. As such, you should plan to purchase whatever textbooks are required or recommended.



Several bookstores in town sell competitively priced new and used copies for most classes and some professors may direct you to a particular store with which they have placed their book order for the semester. These are the most popular local bookstores for textbooks.

Traditional Textbook Stores

University of Florida Bookstore (Reitz Union 1st floor) - This is the only bookstore located on campus and you will be able to find most of the books you need here.

Florida Bookstore – 1614 W. University Avenue – Located just across University Avenue.

Florida Bookstore Volume II – 2010 SW 34th Street – A branch of the main location on University Avenue, this store sells mostly law books.

Custom Copies and Textbooks – 309 NW 13th Street – Located just up the block from McDonalds. This store sells textbooks and course packets that professors assemble. Because course packets often include copyrighted materials (articles, sections of books, etc.) they can sometimes cost as much as a textbook.

Gator Textbooks – 3501 SW 2nd Avenue – Located in the Creekside Plaza near CJ's. This store is owned and operated by UF graduates. They claim to have the lowest prices in town, but shop around.

TIS College Bookstore – 1227 W. University Avenue – Located next to Leonardo's by the Slice.

Non-traditional Textbook Stores

Goerings Bookstore at Westgate – 3433 W. University Avenue – This is a true bookstore that does not specialize in textbooks, as the others listed above. Some faculty members in English, Literature, History, Sociology and Anthropology place special orders here.

Goerings Bookstore II – 3433 W. University Ave. (across the street from campus)

Course Packet Stores

Target Copy – 1412 University Ave. W. 13th Street – Located next to Chipotle

University Copy Center – 1620 W. University Avenue – Located next to Florida Bookstore

Custom Copies and Textbooks – 309 NW 13th Street

New or Used Books

When you go to purchase your textbooks you will notice that both new and used copies are available (unless the professor is using a new edition of a book). Used books are usually a less expensive than new books, but keep in mind that since they have already been used (sometimes by 2 or 3 people), they will usually have a lot of highlighting, writing, etc. in them. This can be a problem when you study because you may not have the same technique as the book's previous owner and their markings may be a distraction to you. If you are interested in purchasing used textbooks, make sure to look through them carefully and try to find copies with the least writing and highlighting in them.

Book Buyback

“Traditional” bookstores listed above will buy back books for a percentage of what you paid for them. If you need a little extra cash at the end of the term and know that you will not need the book in the future, check into selling your books back after your exams. Bookstores will usually advertise what they are offering in exchange for used books and the UF Bookstore even sets up tents in a few locations on campus to make it easier for you.



Supplies

All the pens, pencils, notebooks, folders, paper, highlighters, and anything else you might need are available at any of the bookstores above. You can also find these supplies at local office supply stores (Office Depot, Office Max and Central Office Supply) and discount stores (Walmart, Target, K-Mart).

COMPUTING

Setting up a GatorLink Account – <http://www.gatorlink.ufl.edu/>

This is one of the first things you should do once you are set up on campus. The university requires all students, faculty and staff to have GatorLink accounts and uses them for important communication throughout the semester.



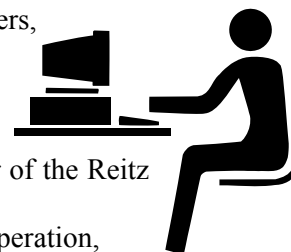
To set up your GatorLink account you can go to any of the CIRCA labs on campus or log on to the web from your own computer in the residence hall. Click on “Create a new account” and follow the simple directions.

Computer Labs - <http://labs.circa.ufl.edu/>

There are five computer labs available throughout campus for use by UF students with active GatorLink accounts. Each lab offers IBM-compatible PCs and/or Macintosh computers, free network printing, and pay-per-page laser printing. The labs are located in:

- **118 Architecture** – Macintosh and Intel, colored scanners, black and white/color laser printer, HP color plotter (Usually very crowded!) [Architecture building]
- **211 CSE** – Intel, AMD XP, and Macintosh, colored scanners, black and white/color laser printer, color plotter, ethernet plug-ins, public phone (The main computer lab.) [Computer Science and Engineering building]
- **408 Weil** – Intel, color scanners, black and white laser printer [Journalism building – closest lab to Weaver Hall]
- **G514 Norman** – Macintosh computers, HP and Epsilon colored scanners, black and white/color laser printer [Education building]

For information on hours please visit the CIRCA website.



In addition, Student Government sponsors a small computer lab on the 3rd floor of the Reitz Union. This lab has IBM-compatible PC workstations and both color and black and white laser printing. All services are free. For information about hours of operation, visit their website at: http://sg.ufl.edu/misc/sg_lab.asp

Computer stations are also available in all locations of University Libraries. Visit the library website for more information: <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/computing.html>

Accessing the Internet through DHNet

For complete information about accessing the Internet using the Department of Housing Ethernet network you should visit the website at: http://www.housing.ufl.edu/housing/GenInfo_Computing.htm

See the University of Florida computer requirement at <http://www.circa.ufl.edu/computers/>

Computer Supplies

The UF Bookstore in the Reitz Union carries many computer supplies you may need while you are a student at UF.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Student Health Care Center (Infirmary) - <http://www.health.ufl.edu/shcc/>

The SHCC offers a wide range of services to students at UF. Many of these services are made available at no cost to you at the time of service because a portion of your semester fees (paid with tuition) covers your use of this facility. An office visit is free of charge, but any lab tests, X-rays or medications resulting from your visit will be billed to you or you can pay for them at the time of treatment. Even these costs are very low compared to what you would pay at an off-campus medical facility or pharmacy.



The SHCC tries to offer same day appointments. If you need to see a doctor you can make an appointment by calling 352-392-1161 as early in the day as possible. (Hours of operation are available on the website.) If you do not have time to make an appointment because you have an acute injury or illness, and you need to see a doctor immediately, you can always walk-in to the infirmary's acute care and trauma clinic. If you have an extremely serious medical emergency, dial 911.

Among the many services offered at the Student Health Care Center are the following:

Allergy Clinic; Cold Self-Care Station; Dermatology Clinic; Immunizations; Onsite Laboratory; Massage Therapy; Mental Health Services; Nutrition Education; Pharmacy; Physical Therapy; Onsite Radiology; Sports Medicine Clinic; Travel Clinic; and Women's Clinic. For more information about any of these services, please refer to the SHCC web site listed above.

Emergencies

If you have a medical emergency, the fastest way to get help is by dialing **911**. This number should only be used in the event of a **life threatening illness or injury** for which an ambulance and paramedics are needed. If you have questions, please contact your RA or GHD.

If you become sick or are injured after the regular operating hours of the infirmary and don't know where to go for treatment, you can call the main SHCC number and there will be someone on call to refer you to the nearest medical treatment facility appropriate for your case. Call 352-392-1161 if you need this assistance.

Pharmacies

The SHCC has a fully stocked pharmacy on the premises that is available to all UF students. Prescriptions are available at a greatly reduced cost and are usually ready within several hours or one business day. The

regular hours during the fall and spring semesters are Monday-Friday, from 8:00am - 5:30pm, and Saturday-Sunday, Noon - 4pm.

If you would prefer to use a pharmacy off-campus here are some options:

- CVS**–Drug store; multiple locations in Gainesville and other cities nationally
- Walgreens**-Drug store; multiple locations in Gainesville and nationally.
- Publix**-Grocery store with pharmacy inside. Multiple locations in Florida.
- WalMart**–Large discount store. Two in Gainesville, and at various locations nationally.



Counseling Services

An important part of your overall health and well-being involves your mental health. Coming to the University of Florida as a first-year student or an international exchange student can be overwhelming at times. If you are feeling any symptoms of anxiety or depression, or if you just need to talk to someone about your adjustment to life here, first contact your RA or GHD. Please don't hesitate to contact one of these two resources on campus, either.

Student Mental Health Services - (<http://www.shcc.ufl.edu/smhs/>) is a unit of the SHCC. For a complete list of services, please consult the website. If you would like to make an appointment to speak with a counselor, you can call them at 392-1171 or visit their office in Room 245 of the Infirmary Building.

The UF Counseling Center - (<http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/default.asp?res=low>) is a separate facility, located in Peabody Hall (near Criser Hall), offering many of the same services available through the Student Mental Health Services office at the infirmary. Services include group, couples and individual counseling related to personal, academic or career concerns or issues. Regular hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm and you can make an appointment by calling 352-392-1575.

PERSONAL SAFETY

Keeping yourself and your personal belongings safe is very important. There are several simple things you can do to ensure your safety on campus – and off – and to protect your belongings.

Rooms / Door Locks

Always keep your door locked, whether you are in your room or not. You should be in control of who enters your room and when. If your door is unlocked, even if you are at home, anyone can walk in. So protect your valuables and yourself and get in the habit of locking your door and taking your keys with you when you leave your room.



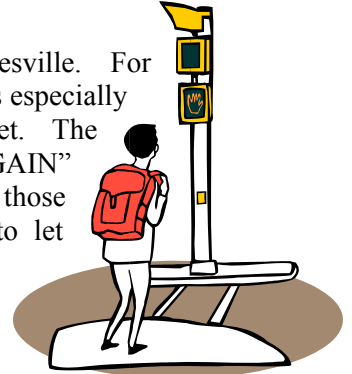
Walking on Campus

Walking on campus is, in general, pretty safe. Major paths or streets provide access to all parts of campus from the area of Weaver Hall. When walking through campus, day or night, always pay attention to cars, buses and bicycles. While most of the campus streets are closed to all traffic other than busses or campus vehicles from 8:30am - 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, some remain open to traffic at all times.

DO NOT walk alone on campus at night! Always avoid paths that are not well lit, or those with signs indicating they are not to be used at night.

Street Crossings

Whether you are on campus or off there will always be heavy traffic in Gainesville. For international residents who are used to driving on the opposite side of the street, it is especially important that you pay attention to the traffic before stepping out onto the street. The standard American guideline is “Look LEFT, then RIGHT, and then LEFT AGAIN” before crossing a street. Also, use marked crosswalks at traffic signals and/or those painted on the road between signals (on campus), where vehicles must stop to let pedestrians cross the street.



SNAP - http://www.police.ufl.edu/csd/csd_snap.asp

Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol is a student run and Student Government funded service on campus. If you are anywhere on campus at night, between 6:30pm - 1:30am, seven nights a week, and would prefer to have a ride instead of walking, you can call SNAP and the van will come pick you up and take you where you need to go. The number to call to request an escort from SNAP is **392-SNAP**. For more information, visit their website.

Personal Belongings

In addition to maintaining your personal safety, it is also important that you protect your belongings. Common sense is the key! If you are at a library, in a dining hall, or anywhere on campus where there are other people (especially those you don't know), NEVER leave your book bag, laptop computer, purse, keys, or other belongings unattended for even a minute. It takes less than 15 seconds for someone to pick one of these items up and walk away if no one is paying attention. If you must leave your belongings for a minute, ask a trusted friend to watch them – never a stranger. Again, keep doors and windows to your home and/or vehicle locked at all times, whether you are in them or not. With over 50,000 students (and several thousand faculty, staff and visitors) on UF's campus every day, there are many opportunities for things to be stolen if you are not careful. Take responsibility for your belongings and keep them safe.

University Police Department (UPD) - <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

The University Police Department plays an important role in the safety of UF students (392-1111 or 911 for emergency only). In addition to the routine tasks of responding to emergencies, issuing traffic tickets, and providing general security for the campus, UPD provides several valuable services to students. If you go to the web site listed above and click on safety, you will see an option for “Online Bicycle / Personal Property Registration.” Choosing this link allows you to make use of this free service through which you can enter information about any of your valuable property that you would like to have registered with the police department. They keep this information on file so that in the event your property is lost or stolen they have a means of identifying the property and returning it to you if it is found.

TRANSPORTATION

Regional Transit System (RTS) - <http://www.go-rt.com/>

Gainesville's local transportation is a system of buses that operate on-campus and throughout the City of Gainesville. By presenting your Gator1 ID card when you board a bus, you are entitled to ride them at any time, on or off-campus, free of charge. Information about the bus system can be found on the UF Transportation and Parking website. Schedules and route maps are also available at this link and the RTS website:



<http://www.parking.ufl.edu/pages/albus.htm>

The campus routes that pass by Weaver Hall and take you to the middle of campus are: Park-N-Ride 1; North-South Circulator; and Commuter Lot. These buses run at regular intervals and you can get further information by going to the Campus Service link from the RTS website. http://www.go-rts.com/routes/UF_Campus.html

Off-campus service is also available to all locations in town – Butler Plaza, the Oaks Mall, Downtown and anywhere else you might need to go. Please check the RTS website for route and scheduling information.

Later Gator is another service provided at no cost to students with a Gator1 ID card. This “after hours” bus service runs from the campus to downtown (roundtrip), Thursday - Saturday evenings, 8:30pm – 2:30am. Check the RTS website for bus stop locations.

Bicycles

Riding a bicycle is an inexpensive and easy way to get around campus and the city. If you plan to buy and use a bicycle in the City of Gainesville and on the UF campus, there are several safety issues and traffic laws that you need to know. The most important thing to know is that in the State of Florida, bicycles are legally defined as vehicles and riders are subject to the same traffic laws as motorists.

Some basic information about riding a bicycle in town and on campus is as follows:



- Always stop at stop signs and stop lights.
- Always ride with traffic; do not ride the wrong way down a one-way street unless it is specifically marked with a bicycle lane in that direction.
- Always yield to pedestrians when riding on a sidewalk.
- Always ride with both hands on the handlebars. (Legally, you must have at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.)
- Between the hours of sunset and sunrise, you must use a white headlight, visible to 500 feet, on the front of the bicycle; and a red reflector and red lamp, visible from 600 feet, on the rear of the bicycle.
- Always use common sense.

University and Gainesville Police will pull you over on a bicycle if you violate any of the traffic regulations, and can issue a ticket just as if you were driving a car. If you are interested in becoming a safer cyclist, University Police Community Services Division offers a free bicycle education class twice a week. For more information, please visit the UPD website: http://www.police.ufl.edu/csd/csd_bsep.asp

You can also access this site from the UF Transportation and Parking website for Bicycle Safety at: <http://www.parking.ufl.edu/pages/albic.htm>

Automobiles

Having a car on campus is often a troublesome experience. Parking is limited and permits cost approximately \$52 per semester. If you feel you need to have a car while living on campus, please visit the UF Parking and Transportation website for more information about permits, where to park, and regulations on campus: <http://www.parking.ufl.edu/pages/parkingdec.htm>

[International exchange students are eligible only for a Red 3 decal as listed on the website above.]

International students interested in obtaining a Florida Driver’s License should visit the website for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to get information on where to take a driving test and obtain a license in Gainesville: <http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/html/dlnew.html>

To obtain a Florida Drivers License, you will need to provide the following information to the issuing office: **J-1 or J-2 designation must be accompanied by an IAP-66.**

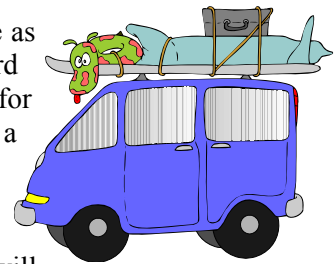
You must also have insurance in order to drive a vehicle in the U.S. Information about required levels of insurance are available at the website above under “Frequently Asked Questions.”

Ride Board at JWRU

If you would like to travel to a location in Florida (and sometimes out-of-state as well), but do not have your own car, you can always check the ride board located on the Ground Floor of the Reitz Union. People who are looking for other travelers to help them split the cost of a trip home will often advertise a ride available in this location.

What you do is, go to the board, find the location you want to travel to and the dates you want to go, get the contact information for the person(s) looking for a rider on those dates, and give them a call to arrange the trip. You will

usually be expected to pay a share of the travel costs (e.g. if you are riding with 2 other people, you would usually each pay 1/3 of the gas and tolls), but this is a cheap way to get where you want to go and meet people at the same time. Spending 4 or 5 hours with someone as you drive to and from Miami for a long weekend can let you learn a lot about each other – you may make a friend for life. Also, it is faster and more relaxing than taking a bus or train and costs a lot less.



RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Because Gainesville is a “college town” there are many social and cultural opportunities available to students and residents. While many of these opportunities are linked to the University in some way, a wide variety of other independent activities are waiting to be found. If you want to keep up with what is happening in town, take a look at “Scene” in the Thursday edition of the *Gainesville Sun* (our local newspaper). This magazine always lists movies, theatre, music, restaurants and reviews, and other fun things that may be going on throughout the week ahead. In the meantime, here are some basics to familiarize you with Gainesville’s “cultural / recreational” world.

Recreational Sports/ Lake Wauburg - <http://www.recsports.ufl.edu/lakeWauburg.aspx>

As mentioned earlier in the guide, there are a variety of activities available through the Division of Recreational Sports (see “Student Life” section). In addition to Club Sports and Intramural Sports, the Division of Recreational Sports also operates an area south of the university called Lake Wauburg.



Located south of Payne’s Prairie on Highway 441 (13th Street), Lake Wauburg is a recreational complex open to all students at no cost with your Gator1 ID card. The facilities at Lake Wauburg are open every day except Monday, and hours vary each semester. It takes about 15 minutes to drive to the lake, and on Saturdays a shuttle is available to and from the lake with the first run leaving campus at 9:30am and the last shuttle leaving the lake at 5:00pm. Departure locations and times can be viewed at the above website.

Many activities are available including boating, water-skiing, sailing, volleyball, a ropes course and a climbing wall. There are also picnic tables and grills, on-site, and nature trails on the south shore.

Recreation Centers - <http://www.recsports.hhp.ufl.edu/facilities/fitnesscenters/policies.htm>

The two Recreation and Fitness Centers located on campus are also operated by the Division of Recreational Sports and are available at no cost with your Gator1 ID card.

The **Southwest Recreational Center** (located on Hull Road near Harn Museum) features the following:

- 14,000 sq. ft. strength and conditioning room
- 4 indoor basketball courts
- 6 racquetball courts
- multi-purpose gymnasium for indoor soccer, handball and basketball
- 5,600 sq. ft. Cardio-Theatre including treadmills, stationary bikes, Stairmasters and more



The **Student Recreation and Fitness Center** (located next to the Student Health Care Center/ Infirmary), features the following:

- multi-purpose gymnasium for basketball, volleyball and martial Arts
- strength and conditioning room
- 2 group exercise rooms
- 8 racquetball courts
- 2 squash courts
- spinning room
- Lifestyle Appraisal Center

To use either of these facilities you must wear athletic shoes (no cleats) and bring a towel in addition to your Gator1 ID card. For information about the policies of the Recreation Centers, please visit their website.

Swimming Pools

Weaver Hall is surrounded by excellent swimming opportunities.

Directly north of Weaver, **O'Connell Center Pool** is Olympic sized, heated and indoors. Because it is used for classes, competitions and swim teams, hours are limited for student and staff use. **Monday through Friday** the pool is open from **11:30am - 1:45pm and again from 7:00pm - 9:30pm**. It is **not open on Saturdays**. On **Sundays** the pool is open from **6:30pm - 9:30pm**, unless it is scheduled for a swim meet. You may access the website calendar at: <http://www.Oconnellcenter.ufl.edu> You must have your Gator1 ID in order to be admitted. You will have access to the locker room for **DAY USE ONLY**. You must provide your own lock. If a lock is left on a locker over night, it will be removed by the Building Coordinator.



Graham Hall Pool is down the hill, south of Weaver Hall. Pool hours may vary, depending on the availability of lifeguards, but will be posted at the pool.

Broward Beach is east of Broward Hall. Pool hours may vary, but will be posted at the pool.

Florida Pool, located next to the Florida Gym, is northeast of Weaver Hall. Student/staff availability is as follows:

- Monday – Thursday 7:00-7:45am**
- Tuesday – Thursday 12:30-4:45pm**
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday Noon – 4:45pm**

Saturday Noon – 6:45pm
Sunday Noon – 4:45pm

Movies

There are a few places in town where you can see a movie, and you can find out what is playing at these theaters by checking “Scene” Magazine in the Thursday edition of the *Gainesville Sun*, or by using an online service like www.hollywood.com or www.moviefone.com



Regal Butler Plaza Cinemas – Located at Butler Plaza on SW 35th Street, behind Outback Steakhouse. (352) 336-0408; shows new releases including some foreign films.

Royal Park Stadium 16 Theater – Located on Newberry Road in the Royal Park Plaza. (352) 373-4277; shows new releases.

Reitz Union Cinema – Located on the 2nd floor of the J. Wayne Reitz Union on the UF campus. <http://www.union.ufl.edu/cinema/>; shows popular second run movies throughout the semester.

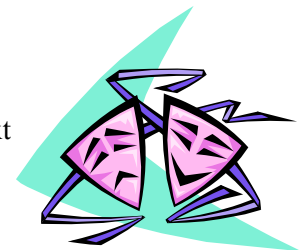
The Hippodrome State Theater – Located downtown on SE 2nd Place (next to Union Street Station and the Sun Center). - <http://hipp.gru.net/cinema.html> - shows foreign films in their original languages with English subtitles.

Theater

If you are interested in an evening (or afternoon matinee) of theater, there are several choices right in Gainesville.

The Hippodrome State Theater – Located downtown on SE 2nd Place. <http://hipp.gru.net/index.html> Featuring a local/regional professional company.

The Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts – Located on Hull Road next to the Harn Museum of Art. <http://performingarts.ufl.edu/> Featuring national touring companies and performing artists in the areas of dance, theater and musical performance.



Constans Theater – Located at the **J. Wayne Reitz Union on the UF campus.** <http://www.union.ufl.edu/ubo/constans.asp> University of Florida student productions featuring students from the Department of Theater and Dance.

Gainesville Community Playhouse – Located on NW 16th Blvd. near NW 43rd Street. <http://www.afn.org/~gcp/> Local community productions.

Acrosstown Repertory Theater – Located on S. Main Street just south of SE 6th Avenue. <http://acrosstown.org/> Local community productions.

Museums

Depending on your areas of interest, there are two fantastic museums to visit right here on the UF campus.

The Harn Museum of Art – <http://www.harn.ufl.edu/> Located on Hull Road next to the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts The permanent collection includes over 6,000 original works of art including

paintings, sculpture, ceramics, prints, photographs, and cultural objects representing Africa, Asia and the Ancient Americas, as well as a variety of other cultures.

The Harn features many traveling exhibits throughout the year and hosts lectures, a film series and small-scale performing arts exhibitions. There is also a restaurant located in the Harn.

The Florida Museum of Natural History – Located on Hull Road next to the Harn Museum of Art. <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/> The Florida Museum of Natural History features an impressive permanent collection of artifacts from the state of Florida. The museum also hosts nationally recognized special exhibitions throughout the year. The Butterfly Rainforest is also located at the museum.

Nightlife

Gainesville’s nightlife is always changing. Here are a few of the currently favorite, local, “hot spots.”

Downtown

:08 (8 Seconds) – 201 W. University Avenue - Country

Common Grounds – 210 SW 2nd Avenue

Fat Tuesday – 116 S.E. 1st Street

Lillian’s Music Store – 112 SE 1st Street (beside Fat Tuesday)

Market Street Pub – 120 SW 1st Avenue

Shamrock Irish Pub - 1017 W. University Avenue

Top – 30 N. Main Street

University Club (U.C.) – 18 E. University Avenue (LGBTQ owned and operated)

Wise Guys – 101 SE 2nd Place

Near Campus

The Swamp – 1642 W. University Avenue

Salty Dog Saloon – 1712 W. University Avenue



MEALS AND DINING

On-campus dining facilities - <http://www.gatordining.com/>

There are several dining facilities to choose from on campus. These facilities offer a variety of food options from pasta dishes, to burgers on the grill, to fast food and more.

All-You-Can-Eat Centers

Gator Corner Dining Center – Located at the corner of Stadium Road and Gale Lemerand Drive, this is the dining facility closest to Weaver Hall. Gator Corner is an all-you-can-eat facility allowing you to choose from a wide selection of foods. You pay one price here no matter how much or how little you eat at that meal. It is very convenient, but plan to go here when you have a big appetite.

Fresh Food Company – Located on Inner Drive (near the Architecture Building and Broward Hall)*, this is another all-you-can-eat facility. Basically the same as Gator Corner but located on the other side of campus.

Burger King is also at this location*. (It is not all-you-can-eat.)

Food Courts

Reitz Union Food Court – Located on the 1st floor of the Reitz Union, the food court features: Sushi and Noodle Bar (Asian cuisine), Capeesh (Italian cuisine), Subway, Wendy’s, and Home Zone (Southern Homestyle favorites).

Hub Food Court – Located at the Hub, this food court includes an Einstein Bagels, Quizno’s Subs, Starbucks Coffee, and Chick-Fil-A.

Racquet Club – Located on Fletcher Drive next to the Student Health Care Center, this food court features Burger King, Boar’s Head Deli, Steak City Cheesesteaks, Cranberry Farms, and Salad Garden.

Convenience Stores

Graham Oasis – Located at the Graham Residence Hall just down the hill from Weaver Hall. This small store features frozen foods, snacks and more. Also, there is a Boar’s Head Deli and a Grille Works where you can get a hot sandwich or burger.

Little Hall Express Shop - Located near Little Hall on the other side of campus. If you have classes in this area, this is a good place to get a drink or snack in between classes. It is a convenience store and a dining facility offering Boar’s head Deli, Grille Works, and Freshens.

Beaty Market – Located next to Beaty Towers, Beaty Market is a convenience store with a large selection of merchandise. They don’t have a deli but sell pre-packaged sandwiches, salads and fruit salads.

Also at the Reitz Union

Freshens Yogurt – Located on the Ground floor.

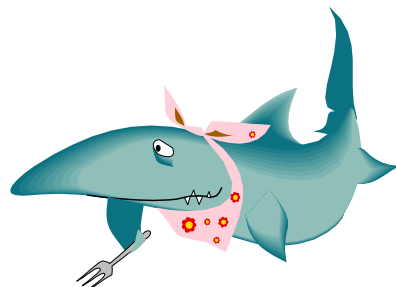
The Arredondo Room – Located on the 4th floor. Offers an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet. For around \$7 you can eat a nice lunch with a view of the rest of campus.

The Orange and Brew – Located outside on the Ground floor. This is a fast-food style sit down restaurant. Nicer than Wendy’s, not as formal as the Arredondo Room. Good sandwiches, burgers, etc.

Taco Bell – Located on the Ground floor near the game room.

Cooking in Weaver Hall

The following information is available at the Department of Housing and Residence Education website. If you have any questions, please refer to the Housing section of this guide.



Cooking – Residents should not leave their food items unattended on the stove or in the oven at any time. Residents are responsible for the proper use of approved cooking appliances and attention to food items while using the appliances.

Cooking Appliances – Residents **are allowed** to use the following items in their room or kitchen areas: electric fondue pots, airstream ovens, electric crock pots, coffee pots, hotdog cookers, electric frying pans, drip coffee makers, toasters (not toaster ovens), bread makers and popcorn poppers. These items are

permitted so long as they are single units with sealed heating elements. Convenience items such as blenders, mixers, can openers and juicers are also permitted.

The following items are permitted, but **may be used only in kitchen areas**: toaster ovens, electric hamburger cookers, waffle irons, ceramic sealed hot plates, hot plates with exposed coils, deep fryers, and counter-top electric grills without flames (e.g. “George Foreman TM” grills).

Microwave Ovens – Microwaves **will be permitted in resident rooms** provided the following guidelines are met: a) a maximum of two microwave ovens are permitted in a student room if each individual unit is .75 cubic feet or less (only one microwave oven is permitted if the unit exceeds .75 cubic feet); b) microwave ovens must be UL approved; c) each unit must not exceed 1500 watts.

Refrigerators – Are permitted in resident rooms provided the following guidelines are met:

- all refrigerators must be UL approved
- door gaskets must be in good condition
- all refrigerators must be equipped with a (3) three prong grounded plug which must be plugged into the wall outlet.
- unit amperage must not exceed 3.5 amps
- unit size must not exceed 12 cubic feet
- students must maintain refrigerators in a safe and sanitary condition.

Ordering Food for Delivery

There are a variety of restaurants in town that offer delivery service to campus. Check with the individual restaurant for more information.

If you want to have food delivered to you at the residence hall, you will usually have to have it brought to the area office where you can meet the delivery driver. They will not be able to gain access to the hall to bring food to your room. Remember to make the appropriate arrangement when you place your order.

GatorFood.com is a convenient service offering delivery from a wide selection of local restaurants – including ice cream! With GatorFood.com you can call them at or go on-line to their web site, look at the menus of the restaurants they use, order the food you want, and for a small service charge (\$3.95 per restaurant), they will pick up your food and deliver it to you in about an hour. For more information visit their web site at: <http://www.gatorfood.com/>

Local Restaurants

There are so many restaurants to choose from in Gainesville. Here is a list of some old favorites as well as some newer, trendier places to eat in Gainesville. While this is not a complete list of every restaurant in town, it is a good start. Check out the telephone directory yellow pages for more options! You may also find some menus and get coupons at <http://www.gatormenu.com>.

Gainesville Traditions

Burrito Brothers Taco Co. - Usually just called “Burrito Brothers,” this restaurant has arguably the best burritos and guacamole anywhere (this side of Mexico). Only order the guac if the green neon GUAC sign is on, though! It’s located on the west side of the Presbyterian Church near Target Copy and Firehouse Subs – 1402 W University Ave –



and open everyday 11:00am – 10:00pm. Expect to wait in line - especially at lunchtime, and remember to bring cash. Everyone should eat here once – then you'll be hooked!

Leonardo's By the Slice – Located at the SE corner of University and 13th (next to the gas station). Another local tradition that everyone should experience at least once. Eat in or take out. Great pizza, pasta and salad at reasonable prices. Be sure to get the garlic rolls – and bring your breath mints!



El Indio – Located on 13th Street a few blocks north of campus. Take-out or eat at their outdoor tables. Great Mexican food at great prices – with generous portions.

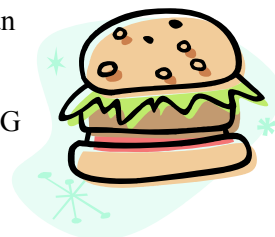
El Toro – Located on SW 13th Street. Another great Mexican food restaurant with great prices – you will pass it on the way to **Chopstix** (read on!).

Copper Monkey – Located on University Avenue across from the Murphree Residence Area, this is the place to go for a great sandwich or burger...especially the burger! Located on the second floor, above and behind the **Gator Shop**.

The Swamp – Located on University Avenue across from the Murphree Residence Area, The Swamp is a great hangout, whether on the front lawn or the back deck. Menu includes a good variety of food from appetizers and sandwiches to salads and entrees.

Café Gardens – Located behind The Swamp on 1643 NW 1st Avenue, they have an extensive menu, outdoor seating, and a relaxed atmosphere.

Louis' Lunch – 436 SE 2nd St – for a taste that's been in Gainesville for a LONG time, visit Louis' and have a seat at the lunch counter. We recommend the cheeseburger, fries, and milkshake!



Satchel's Pizza – Located at 1800 NE 23rd Avenue on the Eastside of town, it is worth the trip! Great pizza and fresh salads, CASH ONLY, and closed on Sunday and Monday. If you're lucky, you might even be able to eat in the old VW van sitting in the front yard!

Italian

Olive Garden – Located on Archer Road near the Butler Plaza. A “chain restaurant” serving Americanized Italian food. Their motto is, “Not your typical Italian,” and they mean it. Lots of grilled chicken and excellent “more traditional” pasta dishes (lasagna, etc.). Reasonably priced and consistently good.

Leonardo's 706 - Located on West University Avenue (at 706 – hence the name). Consistently rated one of the best restaurants in Gainesville. The food is great, the desserts are amazing and the atmosphere is relaxed but nice. A great “date” restaurant. Prices are moderate.

Amelia's – Located downtown in the Sun Center. Prices are moderate to expensive. This is a nice place to go with your family or a date for a special dinner. The food is authentic (owned by a family from Naples, Italy) and delicious. *Reservations recommended.*

Caribbean/Latin

Emiliano's – Located downtown on SE 1st Avenue. This is a Gainesville classic. The food is a Cuban/Puerto Rican/Caribbean fusion and everything is good! Prices are moderate for most dishes. There is a great *tapas* bar and the desserts are famous for being among the best in town.

Café Tropical – Located in the Thornbrooke Village on NW 43rd Street, this casual restaurant with patio seating combines Cuban/Argentine/Caribbean flavors in their menu items. The food is very reasonably priced and the service is usually fast. Cash or debit cards only.

Caribbean Spice – 1121 W. University Avenue – Take-out Caribbean for a quick and filling lunch around \$6!

Fritanga Latin Grill – 1702 W. University Avenue – Homestyle Latin fast food.

Chinese/Asian

Chop Stix – Located on SW 13th Street, south of Archer Road. Pan-Asian restaurant specializing in noodle dishes from **Thailand, Vietnam, and Malaysia**; sushi, too! Vegetarian options available.

Szechuan Panda – Located at 3830 SW 13th St., just past **Chop Stix**. The Panda has a large buffet for lunch and on weekends, as well as a sushi bar. Regular menu available.

Bento Café – 3832 W. Newberry Rd and 3841 SW Archer Rd – A hip and trendy Asian café with delicious sushi and bento boxes. All of the food is excellent and exotic.



Japanese

Kotobuki – Located near campus in the UF Plaza. This is a favorite lunch place for sushi lovers. Other traditional Japanese foods available. Very reasonable prices and good service.

Miya Sushi – Located in Butler Plaza East, near Ashley's Pub. Another local favorite.

Sushi Matsuri – Located in Butler Plaza East, near Blockbuster Video. Great sushi, tempura and more. Very small, but popular, restaurant. Expect to wait. Service is not that fast, but the food is worth the wait.

DragonFly Sushi and Sake Company – Located downtown in the Union Street Station. This is a much more expensive sushi restaurant than the others in town. Trendy, South Beach-style atmosphere. The sushi is rumored to be excellent.

Sawamura – Located on Southwest 13th Street. Japanese Steak House. Pretty good prices and it includes entertainment – they cook your food at your table. Great place to go with a group; you sit at a community table with other people.

Mediterranean

Nature's Table – Located in the Oaks Mall food court, Nature's Table offers a wide variety of vegetarian options, many sandwiches, fresh salads, smoothies, and lots of traditional Mediterranean items (stuffed grape leaves, *tabouli*, *hummus* and more). Relatively inexpensive considering the size of the portions.

Mexican

Ashley's Pub – Located in Butler Plaza East, this is another Gainesville tradition. Unexpectedly good Mexican food in a decidedly non-Mexican setting. If you are over 21, try the margaritas that made Ashley's famous.

Don Pablo's – Located on Newberry Road at the Oaks Mall. Don Pablo's is a fairly good, and not very expensive, "chain" Mexican restaurant. Go during happy hour when they serve fresh chips and their excellent queso dip.



Moe's – Build you own Mexican creation at Moe's. Located on Newberry Rd. by Royal Park Movie Theater and on Archer Rd. near **Panera Bread**.

Chipotle – Build your own Mexican creation at Chipotle and don't forget the chips! Located on University Ave. next to the Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures, and on W. Archer Rd. near **Bento's**.

La Fiesta – Authentic Mexican cuisine at 7038 NW 10th Place. Past the Oaks Mall off of Newberry Rd (near I-75) behind **Red Lobster**. It's worth the drive across town!

Las Margaritas – You will have an authentic Mexican experience at this restaurant and cantina. Located at 4401 NW 25th Place behind Zaxby's on NW 43rd.

Greek

Sandy's Place – 5001 NW 34th St. – 367-9993.

Cajun

Harry's – Located downtown, Harry's offers traditional New Orleans style food for lunch or dinner. Specialties include Jambalaya and Red Beans and Rice. Good food at reasonable prices in a fun atmosphere.

Thai

Bahn Thai – Located on Southwest 13th Street, not far from **Chop Stix**. Known among locals as the best Thai food in town. Eat in or take out – only open for dinner.

Tim's Thai – 501 NW 23rd Ave. – Tim's Thai has been serving the finest authentic Thai cuisine for nearly 20 years. Closed Sunday and Monday.

See **Chop Stix** under Chinese Food, too!

Coffee/Dessert

Maude's Classic Café – 101 SE 2nd Place, Sun Center, Suite 101, beside the Hippodrome downtown. Breakfast, lunch coffee, desserts, and board games on the outside patio.

2nd Street Bakery – 1511 NW 2nd St. – Great pastries, soups, sandwiches, breads, and coffee.



Starbucks – Great coffee at several locations around town and on campus – Union Street Station downtown across from the Hippodrome, Archer Road near Chipotle and Panera Bread, Newberry Road near the Oaks Mall, Royal Park near the movie theater on Newberry Road, the campus Hub.

Other Archer Road Restaurants

Atlanta Bread Company – Soup, salad, sandwiches, bakery.

Bennigan's – Pub/restaurant. American – sandwiches, burgers, salads.

Chili's – Tex-Mex.

Cracker Barrel – Southern-style cooking; great breakfast, too!

Gainesville Ale House – Sports Bar. Seafood, burgers, sandwiches.

Hops – Brewery/restaurant. Chicken, steak, burgers, salads.

McAllister's – Deli style. Sandwiches, salads, baked potatoes.

On the Border – Mexican.

Outback Steakhouse – American Steakhouse. Steak, chicken, some seafood.

Panera Bread – Bagels, coffee, soup, salad, sandwiches, bakery.

Texas Roadhouse – American. Ribs, steaks, chicken.

TGIFriday's – American bar/restaurant. Varied menu – lots of choices.

HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

U.S. Holidays

Holidays and observances are an important part of a country's culture. Because there are so many holidays throughout the year we cannot include all of them here. The following list includes "federal holidays" as designated by the United States Office of Personnel Management. For exact dates please refer to: <http://www.opm.gov/fedhol/index.asp> [Because specific dates of religious holidays are typically variable, they are not included in this list.]

New Year's Day – Offices Closed

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No Classes/Offices Closed

President's Day (Lincoln and Washington)

Memorial Day – No Classes/Offices Closed

Independence Day – No Classes/Offices Closed

Labor Day – No Classes/Offices Closed

Columbus Day

Veteran's Day – No Classes/Offices Closed

Thanksgiving – No Classes/Offices Closed (Thursday and Friday)

Christmas – Offices Closed

For more information about U.S. holidays, please visit the following web site:

<http://www.usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa/facts/factover/holidays.htm>

International Holidays

Every country in the world has its own group of special observances, and a variety of religious observances take place every day in some part of the world. As such, it is important to know what days may have special meaning to certain residents of the International House at Weaver Hall. Because these special days are far too many to list in this guide, please visit the following web site for information on international holidays: <http://www.aglobalworld.com/>

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Because of Gainesville's diverse population, there are numerous places of worship - representing many religions and denominations - throughout the city. This list may not be all-inclusive, so please ask around if you are seeking a specific community not represented here.

Christian

Anglican/Episcopal

Church of the Incarnation/Student Center	372-8506
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church	372-4721
St. Michael's Episcopal Church	376-8184

Baptist

First Baptist Church	376-4681
Covenant Baptist Church	378-6855
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church	376-8755
Friendship	376-4302

Catholic

St. Augustine/Catholic Student Center	372-3533
Holy Faith Catholic Church	375-7568
Queen of Peace	332-6279
St. Patrick's Church	372-4641

Greek Orthodox

St. Elizabeth Greek Orthodox Church	371-7258
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Lutheran

Abiding Savior	331-4409
First Lutheran Church of Gainesville	376-2062
Zion Lutheran Church	376-9940

Methodist

University United Methodist/Student Center	372-8183
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Mormon

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	372-8867
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Non-Denominational

Vineyard Christian Fellowship	371-0838
The Rock of Gainesville	371-7625
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship	377-1669

Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church	378-1527
Faith Presbyterian Church	377-5482
Westminster Presbyterian Church	378-4032

Islamic

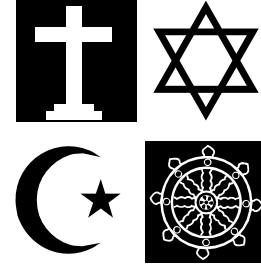
Islamic Center of Gainesville	372-1980
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Judaic

Hillel Foundation at the University of Florida	372-2900
Congregation B'nai Israel	376-1508
Temple Shir Shalom-Reform Congregation	371-6399

Buddhist

Gateless Gate Zen Center	336-1517
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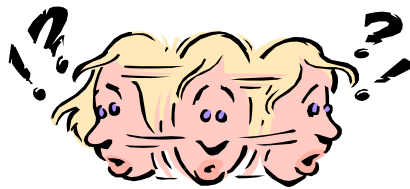


This list is just a sample of the churches available in Gainesville. Check the local phone book/yellow pages for more listings.

Cultural Adjustment

When people move into a different setting, they must make certain adjustments to their usual behavior and attitudes. Most international students go through a common and very normal set of four adjustment phases during their visit to the United States. It may help to describe these phases, but keep in mind that everyone is different and may experience some of the symptoms of "culture shock" in varying degrees and at different times.

Culture shock is the name given to the feeling of disorientation and confusion that occurs when a person moves from a familiar setting into an unfamiliar one. The climate and terrain, the language, customs, food, and culture are different. It is harder to convey your feelings and you may feel lonely and doubt your decision to attend UF.



The Four Phases of Adjustment to a New Place:

1. Generally many students feel euphoric for some time after their arrival. This is the "honeymoon phase" when you are excited and fascinated by your new experiences and the new environment.
2. When you reach this stage you are actually experiencing "culture shock." The "honeymoon" is over and the realities of academic, social and everyday life might seem overwhelming. You might feel alienated, confused and depressed by the cultural differences between your home and the United States. In order to "survive" or negotiate this phase many students associate mainly with fellow international students. Often you may feel hostile and angry because you might think you are unable to solve the cultural dilemmas.
3. The third stage is marked by "recovery." You find you can "read" cultural clues better, just as your English might have improved and you are reading your academic assignments better. Your attitude towards fellow American students and life in general improves; you might even find yourself laughing about stage two and the perceived "cultural dilemmas."
4. This is the autonomy phase. Your anxiety is largely in the past and you find yourself in a stage of equilibrium. You feel comfortable enough to assess your host country objectively and you feel free to express both negative and positive opinions. You move more freely and confidently through the "cultural maze." It is during this stage that many students acknowledge that surviving "culture shock" proved to be both a source of insight and growth. It also may lead to a renewed acceptance and appreciation of their own culture.

Tips for Coping with Adjustment:

Maintain perspective: Remember that thousands of new students from around the world have come to Gainesville and UF. You are not alone in adjusting to a new setting.

Evaluate expectations: Your reactions to the United States and Gainesville are a result of the way things actually are versus the way you expected them to be. Take time to examine whether or not your expectations were reasonable.

Keep an open mind: Think back to why you were interested in this experience. Continue to try new things even if they are unfamiliar.

Learn from your experiences: Share your experiences with others and let them share their experiences. Observe how people react differently in the same situation and then similarly in different situations.

Talk to someone: Spend time with your roommate, resident assistant (RA), or floormate. Face new things with someone instead of alone.

Visit the UF International Center: Discuss your concerns with a knowledgeable UFIC advisor. Meet and talk to other students that may feel the same way as you do.

BANKING AND MONEY

Once you arrive in Gainesville, you may want to set up a bank account to manage your money. Several banks in Gainesville offer checking and savings account services to students. Many also provide wire transfers and currency exchange. Remember to bring your passport with you if you want to open an account.

Banks Conveniently Located for Student Use:

Wachovia

Reitz Union-1st Floor (Branch & ATM)

(352) 335-1378

A full service financial center and two 24 hour ATMs are located on the ground floor of the Reitz Union. As the exclusive Gator 1 Card partner with the University of Florida, a Wachovia checking or savings account can be linked to your Gator 1 Card so it can be used as an ATM card at any Wachovia ATM with no fee. Wachovia provides a full line of banking and brokerage accounts ranging from free checking accounts to full service brokerage advisors. Money orders, traveler's checks and safe deposit boxes are all available at this office. In addition to our friendly local team, Wachovia provides 24 hour telephone and internet banking. Visit the only full service bank on campus or any of the additional five full service Gainesville locations for all of your banking needs. Wachovia has 18 Gainesville ATM locations. Visit www.wachovia.com for a complete listing of locations.

Campus USA Credit Union

1200 SW 5th Ave.

and

1900 SW 34th Ave. , (352) 335-9090

<http://www.campuscu.com/>

Other banks in the area include: Compass Bank, 1st Credit Union, M&S Bank, SunTrust, and SouthTrust. Take some time to determine which bank will be right for you based on your financial needs during your visit. Look in the yellow pages in your telephone book for a complete listing.

U.S. Currency

American currency is based on the decimal system, where 100 cents = one dollar, \$1.00. Currency is issued in the forms of bills and coins. Coins are metal and are either silver or copper-colored. They come in six different sizes: **1 cent**, a penny, is made of copper; **5 cents**, a nickel, is silver colored, and larger than a penny; **10 cents**, a dime, is the smallest



silver coin; **25 cents**, a quarter, is silver-colored and larger than a nickel; **50 cents**, a half-dollar or 50-cent piece, is silver and larger than a quarter, but not common; **100 cents**, silver dollar, comes in two forms: the Susan B. Anthony silver dollar or the Sacajawea dollar, which is the size of a quarter, and the older silver dollar, which is the largest coin (both are rarely seen in circulation). Bills are paper money. All US paper money bills are the same size and the same green color. Denominations include **\$1** (commonly called a dollar), **\$2** (not commonly in circulation), **\$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100**, and larger amounts. (Paper money for these larger amounts is not usually seen in public circulation.)

Automatic Teller Machines (or ATMs)

Most banks in Gainesville have an automated teller service. This automatic teller is a computerized device through which bank customers can make deposits or withdrawals at any time of the day, any day of the week. Automatic tellers are located at the banks themselves and at other locations, especially at supermarkets.



Withdrawals and deposits made with the automatic teller will be subtracted automatically from the customer's savings or checking account. You may be charged a fee each time you use your ATM card if the automated teller is not the same type as your bank. Retain your receipts after making a transaction, especially if you have been charged a fee, so that you record accurate changes to your account. ATM machines for Wachovia, Campus USA, and Bank of America are located in the Reitz union as well as other locations across campus.

SHOPPING

There are several types of stores in Gainesville, such as specialty stores, grocery stores, department and convenience stores. Since prices and quality vary, it is helpful to become acquainted with those stores where you can shop most conveniently and economically. Florida's sales tax is 6.25%, which is added to the marked price of an item when you purchase it.

All stores have "sales" periodically when regular merchandise is sold at reduced prices. The purpose of the sale is to stimulate consumer buying and a rapid turnover of goods, and to clear store shelves for the next season's merchandise. Sales are advertised in newspapers. Sometimes sale items may not be returned; the consumer should ask what the specific store policy is about return of sale items.

Many shoppers use discount coupons, which can be found in newspapers and other news magazines when purchasing items. These offer discounts on brand name products, and are usually valid to use for a specific size and quantity of a product. Most coupons must be used by a certain expiration date. Some coupons are only valid for use at certain stores while others can be used at any store where the product is sold. In order to receive a discount, the customer gives the cashier the coupons when paying for purchases. The *Paper Mint* and *Gator Greenbacks*, published several times each year in Gainesville, are books full of useful coupons for students.



Grocery Stores - These stores contain fruits, vegetables, frozen foods, canned foods, meats, and other ingredients necessary for food preparation, as well as magazines, greeting cards, light bulbs, shampoos and numerous other items. **Publix, Winn-Dixie, Sweetbay, Albertson's**, and **Food Lion** are stores of this type and have locations around Gainesville. **Mother Earth Market**, 521 NW 13th Street (378-5224), located closest to campus, carries "health" foods and other items at premium prices. Canned and boxed groceries can often be found at reasonable prices at **Wal-Mart, Target**, and **K-Mart**. Other specialty stores include:

La Aurora Latin Market

2722 W. University Ave.
271-9053

Chun Ching Oriental Food and Gift Supply Center

2222 NW 6th St.
376-5885

La Tienda Latina (also a restaurant!)

2204 SW 13th St.
367-0022

India Bazaar

3501 SW Archer Rd.
271-7571

World Food Store (Russian and Eastern European)

Glenwood Plaza
125 NW 23rd Ave.
379-6167

New Asia Oriental Market

2112 SW 34th St.
335-8557



Supermarkets/Superstores - These types of stores contain a variety of items such as clothing, household products, electronics, tools, and toys at low prices. *Target*, *Walmart*, and *K-mart* are stores of this type. *Walmart* is open 24 hours/day.

Pharmacy - These types of stores contain a pharmacy and a small supply of items similar to a superstore. Often, they contain boxed groceries and dairy products too. Prescriptions for medication can be filled at *Walgreen's* and *CVS*. In addition, many grocery stores and superstores such as *Albertson's*, *Publix*, *Target*, and *Walmart* have pharmacies. As a student, you can also get your prescriptions filled at the **Student Health Care Center/Infirmary Building**.

Malls - Shopping centers, also called "malls," are stores clustered together, so that consumers can visit several places when only making one stop. There are several major shopping centers in Gainesville, and a number of small shopping centers and plazas. However, when people say they are going "to the mall" they are probably referring to the Oaks Mall.

The largest shopping center is the *Oaks Mall*, <http://theoaksmall.com/html/Mallinfo.asp> located west on Newberry Road, and houses several large department stores such as *Macy's*, *Belk*, *Dillard's*, *J.C. Penney's*, *Sears*, *Linens 'N Things*; many small shops, and a food court.

In the shopping centers adjacent to the Oaks Mall:

Toys R Us - toys, games, baby supplies

Bed, Bath, and Beyond - household items

Borders – books, music, other media, and coffee

Famous Footwear - shoes

Petco - pet supplies

Gator Cinema – movie theatres

A variety of shops are located in Butler Plaza along Archer Rd.:

Best Buy - electronics

Office Max - office supplies,

Lowe's - home improvement supplies

Old Navy - clothing for men, women, and kids

Barnes & Noble - bookstore

Ross - clothing

Sally Beauty Supply - salon quality beauty products

Michael's Arts & Crafts Shop – arts and crafts

In addition to these stores that are national chains, Gainesville has many **local stores** that may offer the items you need at a lower price or provide a service that these stores cannot. Many of these stores are not located close to campus so it is necessary to use transportation like the RTS or an automobile if you plan to make a large purchase.

Clothing - Less expensive clothing can be found all over town at stores such as Walmart, Target, Ross, and Goodie's (all located in one of the Butler Plaza's on Archer Rd). Several area thrift shops also carry "used" (but still in good condition) clothing, appliances, furniture, etc.

Habitat for Humanity Thrift Shop

2317 SW 13th St.

373-5728

Sandy's Consignment Boutique

2906 SW 13th St.

372-1226

Hospice Attic West

2300 SW 34th St.

335-7119

Fifi's of Gainesville (Fine Resale)

3501 SW 2nd Ave.

378-5020

Goodwill Industries

3520 SW 34th St.

376-9041

Junior League Thrift Shop

430 N. Main St.

372-1710

Second Hand Rose

716 N. Main St.

371-1455

Hospice Attic East

2131 NW 6th St.

378-7484



Outreach Thrift Store
125 NW 23rd Ave.
371-2245

TELEPHONES

There are **no telephones or telephone jacks** available in residence hall rooms.

If you choose to bring a cell phone with you, please insure that it will work in the US.

If you have a cell phone that's on the GSM network, such as Cingular or T-Mobile, you can call and ask if they offer special rate plans for calling to and from various countries.

Another option might be to rent a phone from a company such as Cellular Abroad (www.cellularabroad.com), based in Playa del Rey, Calif., which also sells SIM cards and recharge vouchers.



SIM cards - available from cellular phone companies or on the Web are postage-stamp-size cards that are inserted into the phones and provide you with pre-paid calling time.

International pre-paid calling cards can also be used from pay phones.

To make a call from a pay phone, you do not have to enter the area code if you are calling a local number. The area code for Gainesville and Alachua County is 352. For example, if the phone number lists (352) 392-5323 and you are calling from Gainesville, then you only need to dial 392-5323.

To make a long distance call to an international number, you must first dial the international access code 011, followed by the country code and city code for that number.

Free phones are available for use at a variety of locations on the UF campus. From the phones, you can make **local calls** (by dialing 9 and then the whole number) or calls to other locations on campus like residence halls (6-then the last four digits) or academic buildings (2- then the last 4 digits). Phones are usually located in yellow boxes outside of each residence hall, in residence hall area offices, and in other student areas such as the Reitz Union, Turlington Plaza, Library West, and Carleton Auditorium.

MAILING AND SHIPPING

Packages and letters can be shipped from offices of the U.S. Postal service. For more information about specific mailing costs/fees, visit <http://www.usps.com/> or the locations below.

Closest to campus-
University Post Office
1630 NW 1st Ave
(352) 381-1895

Open Week Days 8am-5pm, Saturday 9am-noon

Main Street Station
1401 N Main St
(352) 271-6392

Open Week Days 8:30am-5pm, Saturday 8:30am-10:30am

Gainesville General Mail Facility

4600 SW 34th St
(352) 334-7601

Open Week Days 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-2pm

Addresses

As an on campus resident, you will receive your own post office box (PO Box). Your address will be an 8-digit number followed by the name of the residence hall room in which you reside. If you change residence hall rooms, your address will change too.

Sample residence hall address:

SUZIE STUDENT
16043401 WEAVER HALL
GAINESVILLE FL 32612



The format for all other addresses in the U.S. is similar to your residence hall address. To successfully send a letter or package the address must include the name (first and last), Street number and street name, city and state and zip code (a five digit code) in block format on the front of the item. In addition, it is helpful to include your address in the top left hand corner of the item. Your address lets the receiver know who sent it and also allows for the item to be sent back to you if the receiver's address is incorrect.

Telegrams

If you choose to use telegrams to relay a message, major grocery stores like Publix offer telegram service through Western Union.

Package delivery

If you receive a package through the US Postal Service, Federal Express, DHL or UPS it will be delivered to the area desk, not your post office box. You will receive a package notice card in your message box. It is your responsibility to go to your area desk to pick up your package.

ENGLISH

There are a variety of options for student who would like to practice or improve their English skills.

La Casita-Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures - <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/multicultural/lacasita/>

During the school year, interested students may go to the center to be paired with another student. The students work on their English skills in pairs and small groups. This service is free.

Graduate and Family housing - <http://www.housing.ufl.edu/villages/>

Weekly courses are taught by community volunteers, at designated Graduate and Family Housing commons rooms, to those interested in improving their English skills. This service is free and open to all students.



Community Resources - Other areas in the community such as the county library and local churches offer English courses throughout the year. Look in local papers and your residence hall bulletin boards for announcements.

Residence Hall staff and other residents - Get to know everyone and participate in hall events. The more exposure to English in a casual setting, the more you will improve.

English Language Institute (ELI) - <http://www.eli.ufl.edu/> - Course are offered on English language mastery. Most of these courses are provided as part of a specific program and may or may not be included in your exchange plan. If you would like to take these courses they will cost money, just like courses in your focus area.

SOME ADVICE FROM FORMER WEAVER INTERNATIONAL HOUSE RESIDENTS

The best part about living in Weaver Hall this semester/year was....

- The people, the staff, the location
- I could make a lot of friends here because people here are interested in foreign cultures
- People in Weaver are friendly to exchange students
- Getting to know many people from different backgrounds
- The opportunity to meet Americans
- The RAs are really nice
- Closeness to classes and some of the others living here
- Meeting some nice people from around the world and having some cool places to visit in the summer
- My roommate and the people
- Meeting people from different parts of the world
- The mix of people
- I was not used to sharing a room and was scared of that, but after all, it was a great experience with a great roommate.

One piece of advice I would give to an exchange student living in Weaver next year is....

- Have fun!
- Try a lot of different things while you're here
- Gainesville has a great central location, so take advantage of it and visit other places in Florida. If you're worried about travel costs, I am sure you will meet people in Weaver that live in great travel places where you can stay with them.
- Interact and enjoy yourself; otherwise you will just miss being at home
- Always wear shower shoes
- Make sure to include yourself and let everyone know about you and your culture
- Go out, meet people, and have fun
- Keep an open mind
- Be ready to meet new people and compromise!!
- Make friends with someone who has a car
- Have fun, be nice, and be open to different points of view
- Get out and meet people
- Don't expect things to be the same as home. Remember, you are in another country.
- Be involved in things where you meet lots of people
- Get out and experience the US
- Meet people on your hall
- Have fun in the activities in Weaver Hall
- Do not bring many things from your home country. We can buy or borrow most things after we arrive here.
- Be open to everything
- Be flexible and enjoy it. It is a great experience!
- Be prepared to share a room and bathroom. Make the effort to talk to people and your RA.
- Be sociable.