

Transfer Times



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What's New?

There are two new exciting majors available in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: African American Studies, and our first distance learning program, Criminology and Law - Online.

African American Studies is our newest major in the College. Majors will complete 30 hours of African American Studies coursework and will be able to select from courses such as African American Literature, African American Politics, the Politics of Black Hair, Introduction to African American Studies, and Haitian Creole. Students will receive one-on-one mentoring from the program director, Dr. Sharon Austin. The program is committed to assisting its majors in finding internships, preparing for graduate or law school, and discovering career opportunities related to the major, such as civil rights professionals, attorneys, public policy professionals, journalists, community activists, and government employees. Unique study abroad opportunities in Paris and in Ghana, West Africa are also available to majors. For more information, please visit www.afam.clas.ufl.edu.

The **Criminology & Law - Online** major is intended to introduce students to the study of criminal behavior, criminal justice systems, and law from a multidisciplinary, liberal-arts perspective. This program will require students to complete approximately 60 hours at UF. It is a perfect option for students who would like to obtain a bachelor's degree but who are unable to pursue traditional on-campus programs because of family, location or work commitments. As with all of our programs, students are welcome to pursue this program part-time or full-time. For more information, please visit www.ecampus.ufl.edu/academics/undergraduate/criminology-law/ or contact Dianne Bollinger, program assistant, at gdb@ufl.edu.

Please visit www.advising.ufl.edu/transfer for the competitive criteria to transfer into both African American Studies and Criminology and Law - Online.

Did You Know?

4 tips to be a competitive applicant:

- ◆ Students should check www.advising.ufl.edu/transfer to review pre-requisite courses and GPAs that are recommended to be competitive applicants for their intended major.
- ◆ Students do not need to have all pre-requisite courses completed prior to applying for admission. However, it is recommended to complete at least half of these courses prior to applying.
- ◆ Even after students apply, they should send updated transcripts after each term they complete.
- ◆ CLAS has a 2-attempt rule which states that a course required for a major must be successfully completed within 2 attempts. If applicants have had two unsuccessful attempts (including W's) in courses required for a major, they should consider an alternate major.

Dean's Corner

Dear State College Colleagues,

Thanks to those of you who responded to my email last Spring about our prospective transfer student outreach efforts. As a result of the positive response, we have decided to follow-up with a newsletter every fall and spring semester updating you on everything from new majors that are available to prospective transfer students as well as general transfer information. We hope that you will continue to find this information helpful and will pass it along to any of your students who are considering a transfer to the University of Florida and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) following completion of their AA degree. I appreciate your efforts and please do not ever hesitate to contact our office if there is anything we can do to assist you or a prospective transfer student or if you have any feedback for us.

Sincerely,
Joe

Joseph Spillane, Ph.D. | Associate Dean for Student Affairs | College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



Q and A with a Transfer Student



Doris Guevara

Major: Political Science

Minor: Spanish

Hometown: Lima, Peru

AA Degree: Valencia College

Q: Why UF? How did you decide on your major before transferring?

UF's history, architecture, academics, athletics, and prestige, among other factors, were all inviting. I decided I wanted to be a Political Science major way before I transferred to UF. I have always been interested in politics because I am well aware of how much politics affects all of us on a daily basis.

Q: Give one tip for students looking to apply to UF.

Students should use the "Statement of Intent" section on the application to provide the admissions staff with information that would not appear otherwise on the application. You could consider writing about why you chose UF or what you could contribute as a student.

Q: As a transfer student, what opportunities have you had at UF?

Some opportunities range from being part of student organizations and honor societies to landing great internships. A couple of months ago, I was given the opportunity to serve as an Ambassador to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Without any doubt, this has been my most rewarding college experience because I have the chance to help students as well as providing support to academic advisors.

Q: What are your plans after graduation?

After graduation, I plan to go to law school and specialize in immigration law. Also, I would like to become an immigration judge one day.

Found Majors

While CLAS offers thirty nine (39) majors, transfer students tend to apply to only a handful of our great majors primarily because of unfamiliarity. In fact, last year over seventy (70) percent of our transfer applicants applied to only eight of our majors: biology, psychology, political science, criminology, English, chemistry, history and sociology. While we certainly encourage students to choose majors based on their interests and career goals, the reality is that many careers do not require a specific undergraduate major and there can actually be many benefits to choosing majors that are a bit off the beaten path.

Quite often “found majors” can provide stimulating and new course content that may have otherwise been overlooked while also developing those skills that many employers are seeking (e.g., critical thinking, communication,

leadership). In addition, found majors are frequently housed in smaller departments, and this alone can provide such perks as smaller class sizes at UF where students will get to know their peers and their professors. A found major can also be a great way for students to distinguish their applications to graduate and/or professional programs by having done something a little different. Finally, found majors are often less competitive to gain admission to than other majors since there is generally more space availability. Classics, Geography, Geology, Linguistics, Philosophy, Religion, and Women’s Studies are just a few majors that your students may want to explore.

We hope to bring more awareness to these found majors by spotlighting them in the Transfer Times. In the meantime, we encourage prospective transfer students to explore *all* of the majors in CLAS at www.clas.ufl.edu/majors/ to find which one is the best fit for them.



Application Deadlines

All CLAS majors
(*Except Criminology and Law—Online*)

Spring 2014

September 15, 2013

Summer A/C 2014

February 1, 2014

Summer B 2014

March 1, 2014

Fall 2014

April 1, 2014

Criminology and Law—Online

Spring 2014

November 1, 2013

Summer A/C 2014

April 1, 2014

Summer B 2014

May 1, 2014

Fall 2014

July 1, 2014

Quick Facts about CLAS

- ◆ Top feeder schools for CLAS transfers: Santa Fe College, Miami Dade College, Broward College, Florida State College at Jacksonville, Valencia College, Palm Beach State College, College of Central Florida.
- ◆ CLAS is the largest College on campus with more than 700 faculty members
- ◆ CLAS has more than 10,000 students pursuing 39 majors
- ◆ CLAS offers 55 minors and certificates
- ◆ 50% of CLAS majors graduate with honors
- ◆ CLAS offers 28 foreign languages and 43 study abroad programs

A Student's Perspective: Linguistics and English



Katie Scott

Majors: Linguistics & English

Minor: French

Hometown: Tampa, FL

"You're a Linguistics major? So, then how many languages do you speak?"

This is the first question I am asked every time I say I'm a Linguistics major. I then politely explain that knowing languages really isn't crucial to linguistics at all. Instead, Linguistics is the study of the structures of languages and human sounds.

Now, it is true that many linguists study other languages. How could we not? My love of learning languages is what steered me into 'Introduction to Linguistics' my sophomore year of college. However, I have come to learn so much more because of my time spent studying this continually growing and interesting field.

I am focusing on Teaching English as a Second Language. I have found these courses eye-opening to say the least. I've learned so much about my own native

language that I never knew, and I've learned how to create meaningful lesson plans and how to explain complicated grammar terminology like "gerunds." However, I have taken a variety of courses in other areas of linguistics as well and loved them all. In my Phonetics course, we studied human sounds, and in my Gender and Language course, we studied cultural norms traced through language. These were both courses I enjoyed. I love that all these classes are under one major so I can really explore the field.

I'm also pursuing a double major with English. English students have a freedom in their major that others students do not. Each student has the ability to craft his or her own focus and choose courses of personal interest. Personally, I thank my English major for giving me the ability to write eloquently and succinctly. Believe it or not, in our growing media-heavy world, finding college graduates who can write a coherent, brief, and impactful piece of writing is hard to come by.

I plan to use both my Linguistics and English degrees to help me as I work to become a WorldTeach volunteer after graduation. If accepted, I will be travelling to Hunan, China to work for a year as an English teacher. Once I return to the states, I then hope to work towards a Master's Degree in Public Administration. Bet you didn't see that one coming, right?

I think this really goes to show that your major does not define you. Study what you love. Explore your interests and then use that to do something outside of the classroom. This is where you will find your path. As Robert Frost said, "I took the [path] less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."

CLAS Academic Advising Center

Helpful resources for UF students:

Pre-Health Services

www.advising.ufl.edu/prehealth

Pre-Law Services

www.advising.ufl.edu/prelaw

Study Abroad Services

www.ufic.ufl.edu/sas

Career Resource Center

www.crc.ufl.edu



Humanities and Language Majors

African American Studies

Chinese

Classical Studies

English

French and Francophone Studies

German

History

Japanese

Jewish Studies

Linguistics

Philosophy

Portuguese

Religion

Russian

Spanish

Women's Studies

Mathematical Sciences Majors

Computer Science

Mathematics

Statistics

Social and Behavioral Sciences Majors

Anthropology

Criminology and Law

Criminology and Law Online

Economics

Geography

International Studies

Political Science

Psychology

Sociology

Sustainability Studies

Natural Sciences Majors

Astronomy

Biology

Botany

Chemistry

Geology

Marine Sciences

Microbiology and Cell Sciences

Physics

Psychology- Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience

Zoology