

Transfer Times

Academic Advising Center

100 Farrior Hall

Phone Advising

(352) 392-1521

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday & Friday,
8:00—10:30 AM

E-mail

advising.ufl.edu/contact

Transfer Admissions Criteria

advising.ufl.edu/transfer

Transfer Scholarships at UF

<http://undergrad.aa.ufl.edu/transfer-scholarships.aspx>



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Today's Job Market: The Humanities and Social/Behavioral Sciences Majors

Academic advisors are having more and more conversations with students about choice of undergraduate college major in terms of which major will be the best return on their investment. The economic downturn and concern about getting a good paying job (or getting a job, period) has led many students to look at majors based solely on the current job market, not their interests or the long term employment outlook over the course of their career.

A recent article in the Chronicle of Higher Education entitled *How Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduates Fare in the Long Haul* puts in perspective the importance of helping our students see beyond the "major equals job" notion and the importance of helping students choose undergraduate majors that reflect their interests, abilities, values and long term goals. In fact, while humanities and

social/behavioral sciences majors may earn less right out of college, their long term earning potential is actually greater (source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Community Survey).

With that being said, humanities and social/behavioral sciences majors can easily be paired with minors and certificates in other more technical areas while at UF (e.g., business administration, computer science, entrepreneurship, information systems, mass communications, real estate, retailing,) if students want to enhance their undergraduate major with more job specific skills. The elective requirement in CLAS makes diversifying their CLAS major very possible. CLAS majors can pursue multiple minors and certificates while completing their undergraduate major as well as participate in internships which are proving to be very beneficial to our students in getting their "foot in the door" with their first job after graduation.

Dean's Corner



Dear State College Colleagues and Students,

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Transfer Times newsletter, produced by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Florida! Those of you who received the Fall edition already know that this publication is part of our effort to help inform prospective transfer students of the opportunities available to them in our college.

Here's an interesting fact about our transfer applicants--just two majors, Psychology and Biology, account for nearly 30% of all our transfer applications! Of course, both are wonderful programs, but our college is home to over forty undergraduate majors. Many of these are far less well-known to prospective transfer applicants, but can represent an exciting and rewarding undergraduate experience following the completion of an AA degree. In this edition of the Transfer Times, we're highlighting some of our less well-known programs in the humanities and social sciences. Each one offers a range of unique opportunities for students, and can serve as a launching pad for a variety of career paths. As always, please do not ever hesitate to contact our office if there is anything we can do to assist you or if you have any feedback for us.

Joe Spillane, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs | College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Q & A with a Transfer Student



Diesha Cole

Major: *Linguistics*

Hometown: *Ft. Myers, Florida*

AA Degree: *Santa Fe College*

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

Follow your passion in choosing a major to apply to UF. Choose something you enjoy and that comes naturally.

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

Being raised in Florida, I had always seen Gator license plates and heard about the University of Florida. My best friend came to UF and I visited her and soon realized that UF was not only a prestigious university but also beautiful. I had studied Spanish and French in high school and languages came easily to me. So I discovered the linguistics major which was perfect for me since it is the study of language acquisition.

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

Even though this is my first semester, I have already started a student organization (Adopted Gators) to reach out to prospective transfer students and help them make a smooth transition. I have also gotten involved in student government and I'm active in a current campaign. I even had a chance to meet former U.S. Senator Bob Graham and his wife at a forum on "How to Run a Political Campaign" and I also met several local government officials at this event.

Q: What are your plans after graduation?

I plan to attend law school and eventually plan for a career in politics.

Take Your Education Global! Consider a Foreign Language Major

Are you interested in majoring in a language at UF? The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers 7 languages as undergraduate majors: Chinese, German, French, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. Majoring in a language teaches you more than proficiency in that area. Students will also learn about the history, the culture, and customs of the countries where that language is spoken. Students majoring in a language can also take advantage of the many study abroad programs offered through UF. These study abroad programs allow students to enhance their understanding of their coursework while also earning credits toward their major.

If a student's community/state college offers the introductory sequence of a desired language major, students should complete that sequence before enrolling at UF. Students who already have fluency in the particular language they wish to major in should contact us directly so we can discuss transferring to UF.

Transfer students often ask if they can pursue a foreign language major at UF if their current college does not offer coursework in that area, and the answer is YES. We just want to be sure that students talk with the undergraduate coordinator (advisor) in that language department (see: www.advising.ufl.edu/transfer) to be sure they have a good academic plan and can graduate in a reasonable time since the language courses are very sequential.

Japanese Major

Some departments, like the Japanese department, have specifically developed a plan for students to test drive the major at UF and to further determine if they would enjoy and be successful in that major. The Japanese department requires students take JPN1130 (Beginning Japanese I) and JPN1131 (Beginning Japanese II) as non-degree seeking students over summer at UF. If a student is able to earn certain grades in those courses, they will be admitted to UF. If accepted, the courses students took as a non-degree seeking student will then be counted toward the Japanese major. For more details, please visit the Japanese Studies website at www.languages.ufl.edu/japanese/transfers.

Careers for Language Majors

Many students majoring in languages plan to pursue careers as translators. In fact, the US Department of Labor reports that translators and interpreters are expected to be one of the 15 fastest growing occupations in the nation from 2010 – 2020 with roughly 25,000 job openings for interpreters who focus on the spoken language and translators who focus on the written language. Language majors also offer excellent preparation for careers in business, journalism and communications, law, medicine, government and service professions.

Having the ability to speak, understand, and write a different language cannot be underestimated in today's economy, and having an in-depth understanding of other cultures is invaluable regardless of the career field a student chooses.



Did You Know?

CLAS offers 23 different languages

- Akan
- Amharic
- Arabic
- Chinese
- Czech
- Dutch
- French
- German
- Haitian
- Hebrew
- Hindi
- Italian
- Japanese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swahili
- Turkish
- Vietnamese
- Wolof
- Xhosa
- Yoruba

Application Deadlines

All CLAS majors
(Except Online
Programs)

Summer B 2014

March 1, 2014

Fall 2014

April 1, 2014

Spring 2015

September 15, 2014

Summer A/C 2015

February 1, 2015

CLAS Online Majors

Fall 2014

July 1, 2014

Spring 2015

November 1, 2014

Summer A/C 2015

April 1, 2015

A Student's Perspective: Humanities Major



Fiorella Franchini

Major: English

***Minors: Philosophy &
Communication Studies***

Hometown: Sunrise, FL

Selecting a major at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences can be pretty intimidating, mostly because there are so many to choose from! When I first started college at UF, I was unsure on which major to pursue, but I knew that I had always wanted to attend law school afterwards. I was under the impression that I had to choose a major like Political Science or Criminology, but after a little bit more research I found out that this was not the case at all! I wanted to choose a major that I knew I would enjoy and not regret four years later; as a result, I became an English major.

English is an excellent major for those who want to be prepared for diverse careers in law, publishing, advertising, media and business, teaching, and advanced degree work.

The skills that a student acquires as an English major are undoubtedly vital to the human experience: he or she will gain a much deeper appreciation for literature (in a variety of canons), learn how to express oneself through scholarly writing, and develop an expertise in one of several programs (communication and creative writing, study of the language itself, theory of media, literary study or cultural studies).

With English, I felt like the possibilities were endless. They were in a true sense, because the only requirement for the major is that a student complete ten English courses that are at the 3000-level or higher. This implies that a student can select whichever English courses they want! In the span of my undergraduate career, I have learned about African-American literature, argumentative writing, advanced exposition, Shakespeare's tragedies, race and gender in contemporary Latina-American women, and 17th Century Renaissance literature.

Another great thing about my major is the fact that the classes are small, so you become more familiar with the other students in your major and you feel very comfortable with expressing your thoughts and feelings to them. I always feel like I am in a safe space whenever I set foot in one of my English classes. The professors are some of the best that I have ever had, and they are always willing to challenge you but also care for you.

As a senior, I can now say that I absolutely love the English major. No, it is not something that you can readily attach a dollar sign to, but each student who possesses it knows that it is a rare and precious inheritance.

Are You Considering Law School?



If so, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences is the place to be! The CLAS Academic Advising Center at UF coordinates pre-law advising services for the entire university, and our pre-law advisors are eager to assist UF students and alumni as they explore the legal career field and navigate through the law school application process. In addition to offering individual appointments, website resources, and listserv updates, we also lead a variety of workshops each semester on a wide range of topics, including the law school application process, Q & A sessions, personal statements, review of the Law School Admissions Council application submission system, mock law school admissions, deans of admission from a variety of law schools, tips for strategies while waiting on admissions decisions, and law student panels, to name a few.

UF and CLAS provide an excellent foundation for matriculation into many outstanding law schools across the country. In fact, in recent years, UF has remained among the top two feeder schools in the nation for pre-law applicants to ABA-approved law schools. Each year, UF alumni are admitted to almost all law schools across the country, including many top law schools. In 2012, 850 UF alumni applied for law school admission, and 734 of those were accepted to one or more law schools.

Choosing a Major

As you make decisions regarding your undergraduate major options, it is important to know that law schools are looking for applicants with a variety of majors, and there is no preference

given to a specific major. For that reason, we encourage you to select a major that you really enjoy. Furthermore, students tend to earn higher grades and find their collegiate experience to be more enjoyable and enriching when they select majors in which they have a true interest. In order to be well prepared for the academic rigor of law school, we encourage you to take electives that challenge you academically and will strengthen your skills in writing, reading, listening and speaking. Gaining analytical reasoning and critical thinking skills will also be good academic preparation for law school.

Exploring Law

During your first few semesters of college, it is also important to take time to carefully assess your interest in and motivation for attending law school. This is a great time to explore law through some of the following ways: Talk to pre-law advisors at your current institution (or at UF after you transfer here); research and read about the legal profession to become aware of current issues/trends; join pre-law student organizations on your campus; shadow attorneys or seek law-related internships to test your fit with the profession and start to build your professional network; attend workshops and panels for pre-law students; talk with law school representatives and attend law school events geared toward undergraduates, including law school summer enrichment programs for undergraduates; and talk with currently enrolled law students to find out about their experiences and get tips for success.

We wish you the best as you work toward your law school aspirations, and we look forward to the possibility of meeting with you here at UF as you continue your academic journey!