

# 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](mailto:advising.ufl.edu/contact)

## Transfer Admissions Criteria

[advising.ufl.edu/transfer](http://advising.ufl.edu/transfer)

## Transfer Scholarships at UF

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



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## CLAS is More than Just a Major

Although choosing a major is an important decision, it is also important for transfer students to start thinking about the other things they will want to do once at UF to enhance their undergraduate experience.

Major coursework makes up only about half of the course requirements once a student transfers to UF. And because of the flexibility with most majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) and the "elective" requirement that CLAS students are required to complete prior to graduation, it is very feasible for transfer students to pursue additional credentials in addition to their major requirements without delaying graduation or adding additional costs to their undergraduate studies.

While students can certainly select random classes of interest to fulfill their elective requirement, focusing electives on additional credentials (e.g., double major, dual degree, minors, certificates) or developing specific skills of interest through non-major coursework can be a very good use of these electives and has become very popular with CLAS students. For example, with over 40 minors (see p. 3) to choose from just in CLAS (and over 100 minors at UF), it is feasible for students to graduate

with a major and several minors. Even completing the requirements for two majors that award the same degree (double major) or two majors that award different degrees (dual degree) is also an option with good planning.

Certificates are yet another way to enhance the undergraduate experience. CLAS alone offers 11 certificate programs (see p. 2) and there are an additional 20 offered campus-wide. In addition, for students who are interested in graduate programs at UF, there is also the option to start working on a master's degree while pursuing an undergraduate degree through the Combined Degree Programs.

Taking advantage of the flexibility that goes along with CLAS majors is just one of the many things that CLAS students really appreciate about the opportunities in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. In addition, CLAS students can partner with other Colleges on campus by pursuing additional credentials outside the College. With a little planning, CLAS students can walk across the stage at commencement with much more than just a major!

# Dean's Corner



Dear State College Colleagues and Students,

Welcome to the 4th edition of the Transfer Times newsletter, produced by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Florida! Those of you who have seen previous editions know that this publication is part of our ongoing effort to help inform prospective transfer students of the amazing opportunities that await them here in our college. Most prospective students have "majors" on the mind--thinking about what degree they might seek here at UF. And that's a good thing, but this edition of the newsletter highlights many other aspects of academic life here in the college. Inside, you'll find information about how students can complement their major by adding a minor or double major, pursuing a combined degree, studying abroad, and much more. We want every prospective transfer student to know that all of these options and more are within their reach here in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Above all, this newsletter is intended to remind all future Gator transfers that our college is ready and waiting to give them the chance to be successful academically, to grow, and to continue to develop into the interesting and amazing people that will make a real impact on the world around them. We look forward to talking with each and every interested student about what lies ahead!

Joe Spillane, Ph.D.

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

## New Initiatives for CLAS Transfer Students

CLAS has increased initiatives to enhance the support of enrolled transfer students during their transition to the University of Florida. For example, during the Fall 2014 semester, new workshops were developed to assist CLAS transfer students including a Transfer Student Transition panel and Transfer Student Registration Prep workshop. In addition, during Spring 2015, a Learning Preferences Workshop was added as an additional resource. The workshops have been developed and facilitated by Robert Kwong, one of the CLAS academic advisors who also serves as the faculty advisor for UF's Tau Sigma Chapter, a national honor society for transfer students. CLAS endeavors to ensure that our transfer students feel welcomed and cared for during their time at UF. We will continue to provide the support our transfer students need so they will have an enjoyable experience in their new home at UF.



Robert Kwong, Advisor

## Certificates available through CLAS

**East-Central European Studies**

**European Union Studies**

**Holocaust Studies**

**International Relations**

**Latin American Studies**

**Meteorology and Climatology**

**Political Campaigning**

**Public Affairs**

**Russian and East-European Area Studies**

**Spanish for the Professions**

**Teaching English as a Second Language**

# Going Global with Study Abroad

The University of Florida offers many different study abroad opportunities in which students can participate. These programs are located all over the globe and can include courses that count for major or elective credit. There are some programs where students can even receive research or internship credit while abroad. Some locations students can choose to study include New Zealand, Botswana, Dubai, China, Brazil, India, France, Poland, Costa Rica, Iceland, Tanzania and many more! *Fun Fact: The top three program destinations during the most recent survey were Italy, Germany, and Spain.*

Many students also choose to pursue their required foreign language proficiency while abroad. Currently, there are 28 languages that students can study depending on the intended country and program. Some students even go on to minor in their selected language of study. Of the graduating class in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences last Spring, over 500 students participated in a study abroad program.

The Study Abroad Services office is located within [UF's International Center](#). Their website has an interactive map that students can use to explore various regions around the world. Once a student narrows down the region, they can then

select a country and see all available programs for the academic year.

Students can choose to participate in a study abroad program that can last anywhere from one week to an entire academic year! All of these programs help develop a more multi-dimensional student who is ready to go out into the workforce or pursue additional education.

Students who are interested in studying abroad should first make sure to attend a general informational session once they begin courses at UF. These informational sessions are held weekly in the summer and fall and twice weekly in the spring. Students can then meet one-on-one with a study abroad advisor to discuss programs in more detail, including factors such as cost, housing, and educational aspects. There are so many study abroad programs available to students—the key is to finding the one that is the right fit!



## Did you know that CLAS offers over 40 minors?

- Actuarial Science
- African-American Studies
- African Studies
- Anthropology
- Arabic Language and Literature
- Asian Studies
- Astronomy
- Botany
- Chemistry
- Classical Studies
- Communication Studies
- East Asian Languages & Literatures:
  - Chinese & Japanese
- East-Central European Studies
- English
- European Union Studies
- French and Francophone Studies
- Geography
- Geology
- German
- Greek Studies
- Health Disparities in Society
- Hebrew
- History
- Italian Studies
- Jewish Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Linguistics
- Mathematics
- Medieval and Early Modern Studies
- Native American Indian & Indigenous Studies
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Portuguese
- Public Leadership
- Religion
- Religious Ethics
- Russian
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Statistics
- Sustainability Studies
- Teaching English as a Second Language
- Theories and Politics of Sexuality
- Women's Studies
- Zoology

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## Application Deadlines

All CLAS majors  
(Except Online Programs)

Fall 2015

April 1, 2015

Spring 2016

September 15, 2015

Summer A/C 2016

February 1, 2016

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CLAS Online Majors

Summer A/C 2015

April 1, 2015

Fall 2015

July 1, 2015

Spring 2016

November 1, 2015

## Major Spotlight: Geology

### Why Study the Geosciences at UF?

By Dr. Matthew Smith, Geology Undergraduate Coordinator

Geoscientists study the physical, chemical and biologic aspects of the earth to learn about its past, present, and future. The work of geoscientists is diverse. Geoscientists work in both government and industry. They work as technical professionals, as scientists and as educators to protect and clean up the environment, engineer our society, find important natural resources and address issues of both local and global concern. From groundwater depletion, resource preservation, geohazards and global climate change, today's geoscientists are addressing some of society's most important challenges. They commonly work both in the field and in an office or lab, and opportunities for travel often exist. If those things sound of interest to you, you might consider a career in the geosciences.

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 16% growth in geosciences occupations from 2012-2022, well above the average for STEM occupations. Additionally, the median salary for geoscientists in 2012 was \$90,890. That's more than 50% higher than the \$60,100 median salary for all life, physical and social sciences.

UF offers both BS and BA degree programs for students interested in studying the geosciences ([Geology](#)).

The BS degrees (Geology or IDS Marine Sciences) are intended for students who wish to pursue graduate and professional careers in geosciences and/or environmental science. BA degrees (Geology or Environmental Geosciences) are intended for students interested in Environmental Science, Environmental Policy, Earth Science teaching or Environmental Law. Transfer students interested in exploring the geological sciences should consider taking coursework in geology, oceanography or earth science.

More Information on geoscience careers can be found in the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) and from the [American Geosciences Institute](#).

### Career Corner

#### Top 5 Skills Employers Seek in Job Applicants Regardless of Major

- ⇒ **Verbal communication skills**
- ⇒ **Teamwork skills**
- ⇒ **Decision making & problem solving skills**
- ⇒ **Organizational skills**
- ⇒ **Obtaining & processing information skills**

*Source: Job Outlook 2013, National Association of College and Employers*

# A Student's Perspective: Microbiology and Cell Science



***Maureen Mohan***

***Major: Microbiology and Cell Science***

***Hometown: Ocala, FL***

Choosing Microbiology and Cell Science as my major was an amazing decision. Microbiology fits my personality, keeps me motivated to learn, and has provided excellent preparation for all of my professional areas of interest. I chose Microbiology because I have always been interested in the miniscule life forms that affect our everyday lives but that are so often overlooked. I enjoy the lab setting and my meticulous and perfectionistic personality thrives in the world of Microbiology. As someone who is interested in both research and health, I chose Microbiology because it allows me to delve into a wide range of subject areas, my favorites of which have been parasitology and genetics.

Being a Microbiology major has many perks. The very specialized classes mean I often have

smaller class sizes than what I would typically find in a biology course. I am also in class with professors who do outstanding research and are experts in their fields. These professors have piqued my interest in the world of research, and I have benefitted a great deal from speaking with them outside of class. As a Microbiology major, I have expanded my research skills in the laboratory setting, and I have developed excellent study skills. To complement the material and skills that I have learned through my major, I currently do research through the College of Medicine, and I have my Microbiology courses to thank for my better understanding of the material and comfort in the lab environment.

I am considering several paths to pursue after graduating with my degree. My long-term goal is to attend medical school, but before that, I plan to take at least a year off after I graduate. During this year, I hope to work in a research lab, continuing the research that I have done as an undergraduate. I have also considered the possibility of getting a Master's degree in the field of Microbiology, or even attending graduate school to study genetics. My experience as a Microbiology major has given me an interest in many fields of biology, and has also piqued my interest in work environments such as the Center for Disease Control or the National Institute of Health. I could not be more pleased with my decision to major in Microbiology at the University of Florida.