

# Florida State University Perspective

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## Overview

Florida State University is a public, fully accredited, coeducational research institution, and one of twelve units within the Florida State University System directed by the Florida Board of Governors. Located in Tallahassee, Florida's capital city, the University affords students and faculty opportunities for interaction with state and federal agencies for internships, research, and part-time employment, as well as a myriad of social, cultural, and recreational activities. The main campus is located on 486.7 acres in Tallahassee with other facilities owned in Leon, Bay, Collier, Franklin, Sarasota, and Gadsden counties, and leased in Escambia, Jackson, Leon, Orange, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, and Volusia counties in Florida, and other locations overseas. The University owns a total of 1,696.8 acres.

Founded in 1851, Florida State University is a comprehensive, national, graduate-research university offering more than 300 outstanding academic and professional degrees in top flight programs ranging from Business and Physics to Music and Creative Writing. Florida State University provides extraordinary opportunities for undergraduate students to build a strong foundation in their chosen fields; study abroad at the University's overseas campuses; engage in scores of service activities; benefit from world class library and technical facilities; participate in extensive intramural and recreational events; and interact with some of the finest students and faculty in the nation in a distinctive, welcoming environment. The University instills the strength, skill, and character essential for lifelong learning, personal responsibility, and achievement.

With 17 colleges, plus the Graduate School, and Dedman School of Hospitality, students may take courses of study leading to the baccalaureate degree in 99 degree programs, to the master's degree in 104 degree programs, to the specialist degree in 6 degree programs, to the doctorate degree in 64 degree programs, and to the professional degree in 3 degree programs. The academic divisions are the Colleges of Applied Studies; Arts & Sciences; Business; Communication & Information; Criminology & Criminal Justice; Education; Entrepreneurship; Engineering; Fine Arts; Human Sciences; Law; Medicine; Motion Picture Arts; Music; Nursing; Social Sciences & Public Policy; and Social Work; plus the Graduate School and Dedman School of Hospitality.

Approximately 84.1 percent of the students enrolled at FSU attend full time. Undergraduates comprise 77.0 percent and graduate students 20.3 percent of the total enrollment of 42,876 students in the Fall of 2019. The remaining 2.7 percent are considered unclassified. The average age of all students is 22.6; of undergraduates, 20.6; and of graduate students, 29.4.

The State University System operates under the supervision of the Board of Governors, State of Florida. Florida State University is governed by a Board of Trustees, which was established in July, 2001. The twelve governor-appointed members of the Board of Trustees are: Edward "Ed" Burr (Chair), Maximo Alvarez, Kathryn Ballard, William "Billy" Buzzett, Emily Fleming "June" Duda, Jorge Gonzalez, Jim Henderson, Craig Mateer, Bob Sasser, Brent Sembler, John Thiel, Eric Chicken (Faculty Representative), and the thirteenth member of Florida State University's Board of Trustees is the current student body president, Jonathan Levin.

## Research and Special Programs

Florida State University has built a reputation as a strong research center in both the sciences and the humanities. It is expected that more than \$230 million in external funds will be generated this year by the faculty and administration as supplements to state funds used for research. These external funds are in the form of contracts and grants from private foundations, industries, and government agencies, and are used to support research, improve research facilities, and provide stipends for graduate students.

Florida State is well known in the natural sciences for its basic research programs in biology, chemistry, meteorology, nuclear science, oceanography, physics, and psychology. Strong basic and applied research programs are also found in computer science, geology, mathematics, and statistics. As a nationally recognized center of excellence in graduate training in the visual and performing arts, the University offers professional training in music, theatre, and dance performance and theory.

FSU International Programs has over 50 years of experience in providing students with extraordinary study abroad experiences. Through our more than 60 academic programs, students can choose to study in over 20 locations throughout the world. Program opportunities include spring, summer and fall semesters at our four study centers, summer terms in additional locations, Spring Break programs, First Year Abroad for incoming freshmen, and international internships. The year-round study centers are located in Florence, Italy; London, England; Panama City, The Republic of Panama; and Valencia, Spain. Summer programs are currently being offered in locations including Australia, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Granada, Indonesia, Russia, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, and Thailand. FSU credits are earned for all courses and are transferable within the US university system, in accordance with each student's home university regulations.

FSU operates the Ringling Center for the Cultural Arts in Sarasota, which includes the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, the largest museum/university complex in the nation. Also on the property and operated by FSU is the Florida State University Center for the Performing Arts, which houses the Asolo Repertory Theatre.

Florida State University has both an Air Force and an Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program. FSU students may apply for admission to the Navy ROTC Program offered through Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee.

FSU is a founding member of the Florida LambdaRail, a consortium of universities created to facilitate advanced research, education, & economic development activities. The network consists of 1,540 miles of dark fiber/optical equipment, operating at 10 gigs/sec. & allowing up to 32 independent networks to exist. FSU has a supercomputing grid that enables researchers to use high capacity computing to support complex investigations.

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University Libraries provide collections, resources and services to enhance the learning, teaching, research, and service activities of the Florida State University. The Libraries' collections includes 4.2 million titles and the web site offers access to more than 600 databases and 334,556 electronic journals. Materials not available online or at the libraries may be requested through interlibrary loan or through the statewide UBorrow system, offering FSU faculty and students millions of books from 40 other state university and college libraries. The Library Express Delivery Service delivers books and articles to faculty, post-docs, graduate, teaching and research assistants on a daily basis. University Libraries had over 1.8 million visitors in 2018-19. Strozier Library, FSU's largest library, is open 134 hours each week, providing around-the-clock research assistance and other services like free academic tutoring and a robust range of academic support throughout the day and late into the night.

The FSU Libraries include 7 libraries on campus: the Robert Manning Strozier Library, Paul A. M. Dirac Science Library, Mildred and Claude Pepper Library, Warren Allen Music Library, College of Law Library, College of Medicine Medical Library, and the College of Engineering Library. Library materials and services are also available at the FSU Panama City Campus, as well as International Programs study centers in London, Florence, and Panama, and a collection of art and related materials at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, Florida.

Among the special programs which have won national or international distinction in research are the Program in Nuclear Research, Institute for Molecular Biophysics, FSU Marine Laboratory, Center for Music Research, Learning Systems Institute, FSU Proton-Induced X-Ray Emission (PIXE) Laboratory, FSU Institute of Science and Public Affairs, the College of Motion Picture Arts.

In 1990, the National Science Foundation announced that FSU would be the home of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory. A joint project with the University of Florida and Los Alamos National Laboratory, the lab became the nation's top center for research on magnets millions of times more powerful than the Earth's magnetic field. This facility is the first national lab to be located in Florida and went into operation in 1994. Research at the lab is conducted in such diverse fields as biology, materials science, medicine, physics, chemistry, engineering, and superconductivity.

*Online Resource: Florida State University's website can be accessed at <http://www.fsu.edu>*



### Seal of Florida State University

The seal of Florida State University, which was designed by the combined talents of the Art and Classics Departments, has its origins in the first decade of the 20th century during the administration of President Albert A. Murphree. It was updated in the year 2000 to accurately reflect the year that Florida State University was created, 1851. In 2005, minor cosmetic updates were made.

The torches of the seal symbolize the fire given to man by the Greek god Prometheus. This fire enabled man to elevate himself above the animals and become human. The torches of the FSU seal symbolize the purpose of the University: the passing on of knowledge from generation to generation. The torch on the left is Vires: strength of all kinds, physical, moral and intellectual. The center torch is Artes: that which we acquire - knowledge which transcends skills, the appreciation of beauty. The torch on the right is Mores: customs, character and tradition. Through these three ideals the student is educated physically, mentally and morally.

*Source: Florida State College for Women: Notes on the Formative Years, by William G. Dodd*

*Online Resource: The history of the FSU seal and university identity guidelines can be viewed at: <http://unicomm.fsu.edu/brand/>*