

Florida State University Perspective

Overview

Florida State University is a public, fully accredited, coeducational research institution, and one of twelve universities comprising State University System of Florida, led by the 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 485.7 acres in Tallahassee with other facilities owned in Leon, Bay, Collier, Franklin, Sarasota, and Gadsden counties, and leased in Escambia, Jackson, Leon, Orange, St. Lucie, and Volusia counties in Florida, and other locations overseas. The University owns a total of 1,715.5 acres.

Founded in 1851, Florida State University is a comprehensive, national, graduate-research university offering more than 280 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 18 colleges, students may take courses of study leading to the baccalaureate degree in 103 degree programs, to the master's degree in 106 degree programs, to the specialist degree in 6 degree programs, to the doctorate degree in 63 degree programs, and to the professional degree in 4 degree programs. The academic divisions are the Colleges of Applied Studies; Arts & Sciences; Business; Communication & Information; Criminology & Criminal Justice; Education; Engineering; Entrepreneurship; Fine Arts; Health & Human Sciences; Hospitality; Law; Medicine; Motion Picture Arts; Music; Nursing; Social Sciences & Public Policy; and Social Work.

At FSU, 81.3 percent of the enrolled students attend full time. Undergraduates comprise 73.5 percent and graduate students 24.4 percent of the total enrollment of 44,597 students in the Fall of 2022. The remaining 2.1 percent are considered unclassified. The average age of all students is 23.0; of undergraduates, 20.5; and of graduate students; 30.2.

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: Peter Collins (chair), Maximo Alvarez, Kathryn Ballard, Bridgett Birmingham (Faculty Representative), Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Jorge Gonzalez, Jim W. Henderson, Justin Roth, Deborah Sargeant, Bob Sasser, John Thiel, Drew Weatherford, and the thirteenth member of Florida State University's Board of Trustees is the current student body president, Jackson "Jack" Hitchcock.

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 \$287 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.

For over 65 years, Florida State University International Programs has been a nationally recognized leader in the field of international higher education. 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. 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 International Programs consistently ranks among the top public universities in the nation for "long-term duration" of study abroad experiences thanks to its unique First Year Abroad program.

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. The FSU Student Veterans Center is the hub for the university's veteran-support programs and resources. Veterans, active military personnel, National Guard and Reserve members, and their dependents can get assistance with their federal educational benefits from the Student Veterans Center.

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 include over 4.5 million titles, and the website offers access to 653 databases, and more than 119,159 electronic journals. Materials not available online or at the Libraries may be requested through interlibrary loan or the statewide UBorrow system, offering FSU faculty and students access to millions of books from 39 other state university and college libraries. The Library Express Delivery Service (LEDS) delivers books and articles to faculty, post-docs, graduate, teaching, and research assistants daily. Strozier and Dirac Libraries fully reopened in the Fall of 2022 after limited hours during the COVID-19 pandemic. For 2021-2022, both libraries reported over one million visitors, down from pre-pandemic visitor counts, but up from last fiscal year when libraries' hours varied from closed and partially reopened. The FSU Libraries include Robert Manning Strozier Library (Main), Paul A. M. Dirac Science Library, Mildred and Claude Pepper Library, the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering Library, and FSU Panama City - Florida Library and Learning Center. The following are designated dean-directed libraries: Warren Allen Music Library, College of Law Legal Research Center, College of Medicine Medical Library, and the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art Library in Sarasota, Florida. International Programs study centers also provide library services, resources, and spaces.

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, Institute of Science and Public Affairs, Resilient Infrastructure & Disaster Response Center, and the College of Motion Picture Arts. FSU was awarded the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) 2021 Degree Completion Award. The award is recognized as the most prominent in the country for student success. The APLU selected FSU for achieving a record-high 74 percent four-year graduation rate last year while nearly eliminating gaps by race, ethnicity, and income level.

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/>