

Undergraduate Student Handbook



**College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences**

2009-2010



Family, Youth and Community Sciences Student Handbook

This handbook is a summary of the requirements for graduation with a Bachelor of Science in Family, Youth, and Community Sciences in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs). Additional information about the FYCS major, CALs and the requirements of the University of Florida are available on the web. FYCS and CALs are academic programs within the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS).

FYCS Website	http://fyys-degreeprograms.ifas.ufl.edu/
CALs Website	http://www.cals.ufl.edu/
IFAS Website	http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/
UF Website	http://www.ufl.edu/

“Every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of information in this handbook. Should a discrepancy occur, the current [University of Florida Undergraduate Catalog](#) takes precedence. It is the responsibility of every student to be familiar with the [Catalog](#) and the requirements stated therein.”

Students should refer to the catalog from their matriculation year for graduation requirements.

All programs and related activities sponsored for, or assisted by, UF/IFAS Office of Academic Programs are open to all persons regardless of race, color, age, sex, handicap or national origin. Information from this publication is available in alternate formats: Contact IFAS Communication Services, University of Florida, PO Box 110810, Gainesville, FL 32611-0810.

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* Denotes Academic Advisor

Introduction

Welcome to the major in Family, Youth and Community Sciences at the University of Florida! This handbook is designed to help you as you enter and progress through the major. The handbook provides information on curriculum requirements, student advising, and graduation requirements. This information will help you plan your program of study.

Overview of FYCS Major

The Family, Youth and Community Sciences (FYCS) major is an applied social sciences degree that provides the general academic and technical education for careers in human services, community development, and child and youth professions. The settings for future employment include public, private, nonprofit, and for-profit organizations.

The FYCS major prepares students to address the complex issues facing children, youth, families, and communities in the 21st century. Students gain in-depth knowledge of:

- individual and family development and functioning in the community and society;
- contemporary issues facing youth, families, and communities; and
- policies and programs designed to meet needs and to alleviate problems and concerns.

Students also acquire critical skills to assist children, youth, families, and communities in meeting their needs, including:

- interpersonal communication;
- leadership;
- program planning, management, and administration;
- social policy;
- applied research and evaluation; and
- community-based education.

This major is administered by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and leads to a Bachelor of Science Degree.

Some students ask why the FYCS program is located in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS). First, it is beneficial to point out that it is the College of Agricultural and *LIFE* Sciences. Second, it is usually helpful to understand that IFAS, the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, plays a pivotal role in fulfilling the University's land grant mission. As indicated in the Catalog, Florida is one of a number of U.S. Universities "whose mandate includes a commitment to the development and transmission of practical knowledge."

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences in particular has been federally mandated since 1862 "to deliver the practical benefits of university knowledge" for the public good.

Although the names, “IFAS” and “Agriculture,” usually call to mind images of farms and farming, these units of the University are deeply immersed in the study of broader social issues. A cadre of social scientists in various departments are trained in sociology, psychology, human development, economics, anthropology, and education.

Their scholarship illuminates complex human and societal problems and issues, such as poverty, stress, child maltreatment, and school violence. Their applied research provides information about ways to alleviate these concerns through educational and outreach programs, human services, and community development.

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences is regionally, nationally, and internationally recognized for preparing top-notch graduates. The FYCS graduates are in demand by employers and are accepted readily into graduate programs and professional schools.

For more information about FYCS please read the rest of this handbook and visit the department website at: <http://fycs-degreeprograms.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

FYCS List-Serve

All FYCS students are entered into the FYCS List Serve. This list serve is used for department announcements, job and internship announcements and other important notices. Remember to check your UFL email account for important emails posted to the list serve. Students will be added to the list serve within two weeks of being admitted to the major. If you do not receive emails from the list serve, please contact Jennifer Gove at jennerg@ufl.edu or 352-392-2202 Ext. 251.

Academic Advising

Every student in the FYCS major will be assigned an academic advisor. You should meet with your assigned advisor prior to every registration term. The academic advisor list is located at http://fycs-degreeprograms.ifas.ufl.edu/Main/advisor_list.htm Your advisor will be able to help you with things such as dropping a class, financial aid petitions, selecting a practicum site, etc.. Every advisor has advising times set up during the week and may or may not have walk in advising times available. You should always try to set up an appointment for advising. If you are not able to make your advising appointment, please call and cancel.

Jobs

There is a variety of jobs that graduates of FYCS can apply for including but not limited to:

- child protection services
- domestic violence specialist
- youth workers
- health education
- administration of non-profits
- adoption and foster care
- extension and 4-H

Listed below are some of the graduates of our programs and what they said about FYCS that helped them in the 'real world'.

Family

Melissa H. Kessler

Graduation from FYCS: 2003

Current Job: Girls and Boys Town

Family Preservation Services

"The FYCS courses went a long way to preparing me for my job. The practicum component gave me the reassurance that I was in the right field and couldn't wait to get into my career. When I graduated, I was able to get a position with the organization without experience while others were turned down. The practicum helped me get my foot in the door."

Kimberly Wiley

Graduation from FYCS: December 2000

Current Job: Univ. of Colorado's Grad. School

Program on Domestic Violence

"The degree I earned from FYCS has helped me in every aspect of my career in the domestic violence field. Program development and evaluation skills have been invaluable. Family and youth development knowledge assist not only in direct client care but also grant writing. I found that my education gained from UF allows flexibility in positions at a domestic violence center ranging from program management, child and court advocacy, and fundraising."

Other Post Graduation Employment: Shelter House & Micah's Place
(Both Domestic Violence Shelters)

Youth

Katie Cholewa
Graduation from FYCS: Spring 2004

Current Job: St. David's Episcopal Church
Director of Youth Ministry

"Two months after graduation I received a job as a youth minister at a large church in the Atlanta area. The church had interviewed people from all over the country and ultimately decided that I was the best person for the job because of the experiences I had during my practicum internship, which is a significant part of the FYCS program. The summer I spent as a youth ministry intern gave me the foundation I am now using to remodel the youth program into a comprehensive ministry for a church with over 250 kids between the ages of 10 and 18. I know I have my work cut out for me, but I am confident that my experiences as an FYCS student will play a significant role in my success."

Kacie Dougherty
Graduation from FYCS: Spring 2003

Current Job: Memphis Recovery Center
Mental Health Counselor
of Youth Programs

"I am a past graduate currently pursuing my Master's in Counseling and Theology at Reformed Theological Seminary and working at Memphis Recovery Center. Memphis Recovery Center is a non-profit, long-term residential, alcohol and drug treatment center for adolescents and adults. We treat everything from alcohol to heroin-addicted clients from extremely low to extremely high socioeconomic classes all from the greater Memphis metropolis. My title as 'mental health counselor' of Youth Programs means I specifically work with 15-17 yr olds from middle-upper class backgrounds. We also maintain intense parental/guardian program participation while their kids are with us. FYCS helped me in my job because we really do serve three clients: adolescent, family, and community. I have to admit the most important thing we ever did in the major is GROUP PROJECTS. Like most jobs in our field, a multitude of teachers, doctors, art therapist, counselors, family coordinators, etc. work with every patient at some time, so we must be consistent, cohesive, and clear communicators to maintain maximum benefit to our clients. I am very thankful to FYCS because I loved my major, I love the Gators, and now I love my job!!!"

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Checklist

MATHEMATICS - 6 Credits

- _____ MAC 1140 (3) College Algebra **or** MAC 1105 (3) College Algebra at a Community College **or** MAC 1147 (4) Pre-calculus: Algebra & Trigonometry¹
- _____ STA 2023 (3) - Introduction to Statistics

CHEMISTRY OR PHYSICS - 3 Credits

- _____ CHM 1083 (3) Consumer Chemistry²
or PHY 2020 (3) Introduction to Principles of Physics

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES - 4 Credits

- _____ BSC 2007 (3) Biological Sciences Cells, Organisms and Genetics
- _____ BSC 2009L (1) Laboratory in Biological Sciences

ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS - 6 Credits

Oral Communications - 3 credits

- _____ AEE 3030 (3) Effective Oral Communications²
or SPC 2600 (3) Introduction to Public Speaking
or SPC 2608 (3) Introduction to Public Speaking

Written Communications - 3 credits

- _____ AEE 3033 (3) Writing for Agriculture & Natural Resources²
or ENC 2210 (3) Technical Writing
or ENC 3250 (3) Professional Communication
or ENC 3310 (3) Advanced Exposition
or ENC 3312 (3) Advanced Argumentative Writing
or ENC 4260 (3) Advanced Professional Writing
or MMC 2100 (3) Writing for Mass Communication

ECONOMICS - 3 Credits

- _____ AEB 2014 (3) Current Economic Issues, Food and You²
or ECO 2023 (4) Principles of Microeconomics or ECO 2013 (4) Macroeconomics

¹Recommended for those interested in pursuing advanced degrees

²Recommended for FYCS Majors

Note to Transfer Students: many of these courses have community college course equivalencies – please refer to the current CALS Transfer Guide for a complete list.

Family, Youth and Community Sciences Course Descriptions

FYC 3001 - Introduction to Family, Youth and Community Sciences

Credits: 3; Prereq: 30 hours or more.

An introduction to the study and practice of family, youth and community sciences. Presents analytic concepts used in the study of family, youth and community sciences. Emphasizes the vulnerabilities and needs of U.S. children, youth, families and communities, and describes human services that maximize human potential and minimize personal and societal costs. Introduces students to the roles and skills of the human service professional.

FYC 3101 - Issues in Parenting and Family Development

Credits: 3; Prereq or Coreq: FYC 3001.

Acquaints students with challenges and changes associated with parenthood. Includes strategies, skills and resources for understanding parenting. Diverse family types and parenting risks will also be addressed.

OR

SYG 2430 - Marriage and Family

Credits: 3.

Development of masculine and feminine roles. Recent changes in premarital interaction: Dating, sexual involvement, coed dorm living, living together. Mutual adjustment and parenthood. Alternative family structures.

FYC 3112 - Contemporary Family Problems & Interventions

Credits: 3; Prereq: FYC 3001, SYG 2430 or FYC 3101 AND SYG 2000, with C or better grade, FYC majors only.

Focuses on the major social and family problems contemporary families face, including poverty, violence, and care of dependent elders. An emphasis is placed on family strengths and resiliency as well as social programs that help families withstand and overcome difficulties. Emphasizes the role of society, race and gender in constructing family problems.

FYC 3115 - Human Services

Credits: 3; Prereq: junior or senior standing and SYG 2000 or PSY 2013.

An in-depth look at human services that assist children and families. The focus is on income support, child protection, adoption and family support programs offered through human services agencies. The course emphasizes the development of professional development helping skills for working directly with children and families.

FYC 3201 - Foundations of Youth Development

Credits: 3; Prereq or Coreq: FYC 3001.

This course provides an introduction to youth development principles utilizing an ecological framework. Major theories relevant to domains of development are introduced. Then, major physical, cognitive, social and emotional changes experiences by youth in middle childhood through adolescence are explored. Application of youth development principles in context of family, school and community are emphasized throughout the course.

FYC 3401 - Introduction to Social & Economic Perspectives on the Community

Credits: 3; Prereq or Coreq: FYC 3001, with a C or better grade, FYC majors only.

An introduction to the study of community in American society. Addresses the theoretical underpinnings of the concept of community and explores changes that have affected urban and rural communities.

FYC 4003 - Family Financial Management

Credits: 3.

This course provides an overview of family financial management including an introduction to time value of money, financial goals based on family values, budgeting, credit, insurance, investments, estate planning, taxes and transfer of assets.

FYC 4114 - Ethical Issues in Family, Youth and Community Sciences

Credits: 3; Prereq: junior or senior standing.

Ethics and ethical decision-making by professionals working with individuals and their families is addressed in this course. Ethical issues related to family relationships and family life are emphasized.

FYC 4126 - Urban and Rural America In Transition

Credits: 3; Prereq: SYG 2000, FYC 3001, FYC 3401 with a C or better grade, FYC majors only.

Communities in American are being confronted with a number of significant changes. Such shifts are not felt in the same manner across various regions or communities in the U.S.. This course explores some of the current and emerging issues having differential consequences for urban and rural areas in this country.

FYC 4212 - Contemporary Youth Problems and Solutions

Credits: 3; Prereq: SYG 2000, FYC 3001, FYC 3201 with a C or better grade, FYC majors only.

Examines youth development and its ecology, emphasizing the challenges and issues facing adolescents and youth, and the creation of communities that foster positive youth development and resiliency. Includes theoretical, methodological, empirical and practical issues regarding youth development issues and solutions. Examines the ecology of youth development, focusing on the dynamics of interactions and reciprocal relationships between youth and the various systems of the environment.

FYC 4409 - Working with Nonprofit Organizations in Community Settings

Credits: 3; Prereq: junior or senior standing.

This course deals with an overview of nonprofit organizations, their functions and purpose, how they are organized and operate, and the basic structure of an incorporated nonprofit.

FYC 4410 - Fundraising for Nonprofit Organizations

Credits: 3; Prereq: FYC 4409.

Contemporary fund raising practices in the nonprofit sector applied to community organizations.

FYC 4425 – Risk Management in Nonprofit Organizations

Credits: 3; Prereq: FYC 4409

This course will provide the student with a foundation in the theory, principles and techniques associated with risk management. Topics include the nature and purpose of risk management; the general risk management exposures facing nonprofit organizations; and risk financing strategies for non profits.

FYC 4503 - Methods of Family Life Education.

Credits: 3; Prereq: SYG 2430, FYC 3101, FYC 3201 with a C or better grade, FYC majors only.

Educational techniques for family life educators and human science providers who will help individuals and families address key issues of development and human relationships at each stage of the life cycle.

FYC 4622 - Planning and Evaluating Family, Youth and Community Science Programs

Credits: 3.

Students will learn the basic philosophy, theory and process of planning and evaluating family, youth and community programs.

FYC 4660 – Family Policy

Credits: 3

This course will provide the student with an understanding of how professionals can influence family policy and the impact of government policies on families.

FYC 4801 - Applied Social Research Methods

Credits: 4; Prereq: FYC 3001 or AGG 3480 with C or better grade, STA 2122 or STA 2023, 4AG status (senior), and a FYC major.

This course is designed to enable students to understand and apply the principles of social science research methods. Students learn a variety of research methods and have “hands on” experience with data collection and analysis.

FYC 4931 - Family, Youth and Community Sciences Senior Seminar

Credits: 1

This course provides a capstone experience for seniors in FYCS including guidance for students in their search for employment and information regarding graduate education and research possibilities.

FYC 4941 - Practicum in Family, Youth and Community Sciences

Credits: 2-3++; Prereq: FYC 3001, FYC 3101, or SYG 2430, and FYC 3201, FYC 3401 **all** with a C or better grade.

An intensive supervised work experience in a human or community services agency, and a professional seminar. (See page 15 for a more detailed description.)

Practical Work Experience

Students are required to complete at least 160 hours of a practical work experience. This work experience provides students the opportunity to apply knowledge gained in the classroom and to enhance their learning experience.

Students choose a practicum site that correlates with the AoS or minor. Students completing the minor in Non-Profit Organization must choose a non-profit agency as a practicum site and must complete FYC 4409 prior to registering for the practicum.

The FYCS website provides detailed information regarding the practicum, finding a work experience, registering for the course and guidelines for proposal forms.

Admission to the practicum requires successful completion of the following courses:

FYC 3001

FYC 3101 or SYG 2430

FYC 3201

FYC 3401

Approved Electives

Students are encouraged to select elective courses (9 credits) that will provide greater depth and breadth in an area of interest.

Correspondence Courses

Some of the courses FYCS students are required to take are available by correspondence. Correspondence courses are the exact equivalent of regular lecture courses in terms of credit received and treatment on your transcript. However, six (6) semester hours of credit are the maximum allowed by correspondence/ extension while enrolled at the University of Florida.

No work in this category will be accepted for credit for students with an upper division grade point average below 2.0. If you are taking a correspondence course during your last semester of study, the University of Florida's Registrar's Office must receive a report of the student's grades at least two weeks prior to graduation. No credits taken by correspondence may be counted toward a graduate degree.

Visit the Correspondence Study web site at <http://www.correspondencestudy.ufl.edu>

Area of Specialization or Minor: Core Electives

Core electives provide an opportunity for FYCS majors to acquire in-depth knowledge in a specific area of interest. To meet this requirement, students, in consultation with their advisor, develop an Area of Specialization (AoS) or select an advisor approved minor. For an AoS the student must complete 14 upper division credit hours (3000 or higher) with a C or better. If the student chooses to complete an approved minor, rather than an AoS, at least 14 credits must be completed with a C or better AND the student must meet the minor's requirements. Please see specific departments for their minor's requirements. Below is a list of approved AoS's and minors.

Areas of Specialization (14 credits)¹	Examples of Minors^{2,3}
Child and Youth Development	Agricultural Law (15 credits)
Human Services	Anthropology (15 credits)
	Leadership (15 credits)
	Business Administration (19 credits)
	Urban and Regional Planning (15 credits)
	General Education (15 credits)
	Secondary Education (15 credits)
	Extension Education (16 credits)
	Food and Resource Economics (15 credits)
	Gerontology (15 credits)
	Religion (15 credits)
	Health Science Education (15 credits)

¹Course requirements for each AoS can be found in the next section. Course requirements and offered Areas of Specialization may change at the discretion of the Undergraduate Coordinator.

²The courses for the minor appear on the student audit under the Area of Specialization section, and are recorded on the final transcript with the official title of the minor.

³Students must complete Application to Add or Cancel a Minor form available from the CALS Dean's Office Information Kiosk across from 2002 McCarty D.

The advisor must approve the AoS or minor and selected courses must be documented in the student's advising folder.

Areas of Specialization: Child and Youth Development*Theoretical Foundations*

- ___DEP 3053 *Developmental Psychology*
- ___DEP 4115 *Infant Psychology*
- ___DEP 4163 *Cognitive Development*
- ___DEP 4305 *Adolescent Psychology*
- ___EDF 3115 *Child Development for Inclusive Education*
- ___EDF 3122 *The Young Child*
- ___EDF 3214 *Learning and Cognition in Education*
- ___SYP 3510 *Deviance*
- ___SYP 4530 *Juvenile Delinquency*

Applications

- ___LIT 4331 *Children's Literature*
- ___LIT 4333 *Literature for the Adolescent*
- ___FYC 4114 *Ethical Issues in FYCS*

Recreation

- ___LEI 3400 *Recreation Programming and Leadership*
- ___LEI 3250 *Introduction to Outdoor Recreation and Parks*
- ___LEI 3320 *Leadership and Social Recreation*
- ___LEI 3331 *Camp Administration and Programs*
- ___LEI 3335 *Camp Counseling*
- ___LEI 3705 *Leisure Services for People with Disabilities*
- ___LEI 3703 *Foundations of Therapeutic Recreation*
- ___LEI 3820 *Leisure Ed. and Counseling*
- ___LEI 3843 *Commercial Recreation*
- ___PET 3203 *Foundations and Principles of Coaching*
- ___PET 3810 *Recreational Activities 1 Teaching Methods*
- ___PET 3811 *Recreational Activities 2 Teaching Methods*
- ___PET3820 *Team Sports 1 Teaching Methods*
- ___PET 3821 *Team Sports 2 Teaching Methods*

➤ *See the Undergraduate Catalog for pre-requisites for all courses*

Areas of Specialization: Human Services

___FYC 3115	<i>Human Services¹</i>
___SDS 4410	<i>Interpersonal Communication Skills¹</i>
___FYC 4003	<i>Family Financial Management</i>
___FYC 4503	<i>Methods of Family Life Education</i>
___FYC 4409	<i>Working with Nonprofit Organizations in Community Settings</i>
___FYC 4114	<i>Ethical Issues in FYCS</i>
___SOP 3004	<i>Social Psychology</i>
___DEP 3053	<i>Development Psychology</i>
___EAB 3764	<i>Applied Behavior Analysis</i>
___CLP 3144	<i>Abnormal Psychology</i>
___GEY 4001	<i>Issues and Concepts in Gerontology.</i>
___SYP 3510	<i>Deviance</i>
___SDS 6401	<i>Counseling for Non-Majors²</i>
___EEX 3312	<i>Exceptional People</i>
___SDS 3482	<i>Stress and Anxiety Management</i>

¹Required for AOS in Human Services

²Requires departmental permission

➤ See the Undergraduate Catalog for pre-requisites for all courses

Other Opportunities for FYCS Majors

Minor in Organizational Leadership for Nonprofits

The minor in organizational leadership for nonprofits is designed for undergraduate students from all disciplines who wish to focus their careers on nonprofit work in a variety of specialized fields. Students who successfully complete the required courses, FYC 4409 (Working with Nonprofit Organizations in Community Settings) and also complete a practicum in a non-profit organization/agency will earn this minor. FYC 4409 must be taken prior to completing the practicum. Details about this minor are available on the departmental website.

Combined-Degree Program

The University of Florida and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences have approved Family, Youth and Community Sciences for a combined undergraduate/graduate (BS/MS) program. Students with a cumulative UF GPA of 3.2 or higher may be eligible to participate in the combined BS/MS program. In addition students must score a combined 1150 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the GRE.

Students who participate in this program can earn up to 12 graduate credits toward a graduate degree in FYCS. These 12 credits apply to both the undergraduate and graduate degree. For more information, contact your advisor or the FYCS Undergraduate Coordinator in 3041 McCarty D.

For more information visit the department website.

College Honors Program

FYCS participates in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Honors program. This is the first honors program on campus for upper division students. The program is offered to College of Agricultural and Life Sciences students with 30 credit hours and a 3.5 GPA or above. Eligible students enroll in the College Honors Colloquium and take two honors courses approved by the FYCS major. For more information, contact the CALS Honors Program Coordinator (392-1826 x 213) or check the web page at <http://cals.ufl.edu/UF-CALSHonorsPrograms/Honors/CALSHP.html>

Leadership Opportunities

FYCS students have various opportunities within the major and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to enhance their leadership skills through participation in clubs and organizations. Visit the CALS webpage to find out which Student Organizations you can plug into!

FYCS Club

The Family, Youth and Community Sciences Club was established to enhance educational goals and promote career understanding in the FYCS field. The FYCS Club is a proactive student organization that is committed to the academic and professional betterment of its members. The club promotes a myriad of activities such as:

- ☆Community service
- ☆Social events
- ☆Guest speakers
- ☆Leadership workshops
- ☆Career development opportunities

Scholarships

During the 2003-2004 academic year, the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences awarded more than \$200,000 in scholarships. Most CALS scholarships are competitive on a college-wide basis. The scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic performance, leadership, and professional potential. Financial need is not an important factor in the selection of scholarship recipients.

To apply for all of the scholarships, you need to fill out an application form that can be obtained in the Dean's office (McCarty 2002) and have two support letters sent to the Dean.

We recommend that your academic advisor write one of these letters. Applications are due in early February. The selection of the recipients is made during the summer so that the scholarship funds are available in the fall.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Florida in Family Youth and Community Sciences the student must meet the requirements identified in the Undergraduate Catalog for the student's matriculation year.

Graduation Check

Students are advised to complete a graduation check during the semester before they expect to graduate (the next-to-last semester). The final graduation check occurs in the week prior to graduation and is based on the satisfactory completion of courses in which the student is enrolled. To determine what you need to complete, in order to graduate, see your academic advisor.

Graduating With Honors

Students can graduate with high or highest honors by achieving a certain GPA. To graduate with highest honors the student must complete an honors project supervised by an FYCS faculty member. (This does not require participation in the college Honors Program). Normally this process begins at the start of a student's senior year. For information, consult your academic advisor. See the undergraduate catalog for details about graduating with honors.

The Undergraduate Coordinator of the FYCS major is responsible for verifying that students have satisfied the degree requirements for the major.

You are responsible for meeting all requirements of the department, the college and the university.

Applying For Graduation with the Registrar

It is **students' responsibly** to apply for graduation, even if you do not want to walk, at the beginning of your last semester. Students can submit an online degree application online in ISIS. Please see the critical dates at <http://www.isis.ufl.edu/> for the last date to submit a degree application.

Notes