

# Online Family Chat - Main Lobby

Thursday, October 20, 2016

**familychatadministrator(Rachel\_NewStudentFamilyProgram):** Welcome everyone! Thank you for joining us tonight! My name is Rachel Griffin and I am the graduate assistant for Family Programs and Engagement. I'm excited to chat with you all for the next couple of hours! We have some great campus partners on the chat today. If you have specific questions for the Disability Resource Center, Recreational Sports, Academic Advising, or the Student Health Care Center, please click the "Add More Chatrooms" tab on the top righthand corner of your screen to join those specific chatrooms.

Floorzgirl77: What is this topic?

**familychatadministrator(Rachel\_NewStudentFamilyProgram):** Tonight we will be discussing **Staying Connected**, but we are also here to answer any questions you may have!

MGUELLER01: What are the best ways for out of state parents to stay connected with their student while they are in school?

Floorzgirl77: Ok My daughter is a new student living at Jennings Hall. I am concerned that her air conditioner is omitting mold which is creating such a smell that she cannot turn it down or it smells worse. Is there someone else I should contact regarding this?

Mikesmom: How much do you think that we should be asking our kids about their grades (like specifics)? Some people don't think it is the parents' business at all, but I want to know.

**familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat):** Hello @MGUELLER01, it can be difficult to stay connected with your student especially when they are out of state. I would suggest finding a time every week that both of you can FaceTime or Skype which will help them tremendously! That way you both have a fixed time to talk and stay connected.

**familychatmoderator(Cat\_RecSports):** Hi all, I am Cat and I work for Recreational Sport- our department works with aquatics, fitness programs, intramural sports, sport clubs, outdoor adventure and recreational facilities

**familychatmoderator(Arie\_NewStudentFamilyPrograms):** @Mikesmom, It varies by family. Some students tell their family members every grade from homework to quizzes, to essays and tests. Some families only get updated on the grades that are over a certain percentage of their grade. The best way to decide what is best for your family is to have an open conversation about expectations.

**familychatadministrator(Rachel\_NewStudentFamilyProgram):** @floorzgirl77 - I would suggest that your student submits an iService, which is a maintenance request to have their AC checked out. She can also let her RA know and they can help her make this request. She can go here find out more information as well: <http://www.housing.ufl.edu/undergrad/resources/> .

Ann3934: Is there a site where the kids' grades are recorded?

Floorzgirl77: Yep, she has done that and they say they changed her filter. No change in smell and its going to get cooler and she cannot have that air on high. So is there someone at a high level?

**familychatmoderator(Tara\_DisabilityResourceCenter):** Hi everyone, this is Tara. I work over in the Dean of Students; Disability Resource Center. We act as a resource for students with physical, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities. If you have any questions please feel free to join me in the DRC chat room!

**familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat):** @Ann3934, yes, grades are recorded on Elearning! That's how students keep up with their grades and assignments.

marivicabrera: My son wants to drop a class now. What are the consequences academically and financially. He has FI Bright Future.
kathiembrennan: As a freshman, our son took 12 credits the first semester. Is it typical for 2nd semester freshman students to be able to handle 15 credits if they're not working or on any sports teams? We are encouraging it and wanted to get confirmation from those with experience.
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @Floorzgirl77 - She can also reach out to her Area Coordinator: danl@housing.ufl.edu. Hope this helps!</b>
Floorzgirl77: thanks so much!
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @Floorzgirl77 - He is the professional that specifically oversees Jennings and Beaty Towers residence halls.</b>
depwife: marivicabrera - I was going to ask the same thing!!!!!!
<b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @marivicabrera and @kathiembrennan,if you are able to stick around for the next 15 minutes, Lynn, our Academic Advising expert will be joining us in the Academic Advising chatroom.</b>
marivicabrera: I will...for sure
kathiembrennan: I'll be here!
<b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @Kathiembrennan, as a student I think it is doable to do 12 credits the first semester and then 15 in the spring if they aren't working! Of course it depends on his study skills and what courses he is taking but I think he will be okay.</b>
kathiembrennan: He has good study skills.He's signed up for 14 credits in the spring...2 math/science classes with labs (hisstrengths)and 23-credit classes (don't know what subjects). Should he take a 1 credit class to get to 15 or ok at 14? His advisor said 14 was good.
depwife: So when do they start signing up for spring classes?
<b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @kathiembrennan, If his advisor said 14 was good, that's the advice I would go with! It sounds like they had a great conversation and the Advisor knows his situation best!</b>
kathiembrennan: Oops that was two 3-credit classes not 23 credits!
MGUELLER01: We Face Time once a week, send care packages, and our student texts periodically with questions. Besides Midnight Cookies are there any other fun things we can surprise our student with that delivers to the campus? Are there any specific times during the semester that is might be beneficial to touch base a little more often - around exam time when they aren't studying? Just this week had the first experience with our student being ill and not getting around well. Student clinic did not call back, so I sent him to an off campus clinic. Any suggestions for additional supports on campus in these cases?
<b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @depwife, spring registration begins in November and varies for each student but it's usually around November 5-6!</b>
slouCHAT: My daughter is a Florida Bright Future student and entered as a freshman with 45 credits. If she attends a semester on a UF study abroad program, does this meet the 9 credit summer requirement?
Mikesmom: what is midnight cookies?
depwife: I am so thankful for technology. Between SnapChat and texting we stay in contact with our daughter. We are lucky enough too that we only live 4 hours away. But honestly, I am not sure how we would get through her being away from home without social media! :-)
marivicabrera: who requires 9 summer credits..UF? of FBF?

<p><b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @Mikesmom, Midnight Cookies is a cookie store that delivers to campus. The students go crazy for them because they arrive still warm and are about as big as your hand. They also have some fun flavors.</b></p>
<p><b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @slouCHAT - If the courses are technically UF courses and are approved by an advisor, I believe that should count. If you are able to stick around for the next few minutes, our Academic Advising expert, Lynn, will be joining us in the Academic Advising chatroom and she may have a more direct answer!</b></p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @marivicabrera, The summer requirement is a state requirement. <a href="https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/graduation.aspx#summer">https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/graduation.aspx#summer</a></b></p>
<p>marivicabrera: Thank you @Arie-NewStudentFamilyPrograms. So I guess he can fulfill those in FIU too since is a State Univ.</p>
<p>coopsdane: It's like pulling teeth for my son to communicate with me!! I guess no news is good news! He snapchat's with his younger brother, and he shares with me so at least I know he is still alive, lol!</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @MGUELLER01, other than midnight cookies you can always opt for pizza or jimmy johns! I know October is a crazy month for most students because it is the middle of the semester. Touching base then would really help and also right before mid- November! Additionally, if she's very stressed out she is always welcome to come to the Care Area in the Dean of Students Office.</b></p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @marivicabrera, she sure can! Just have her talk with her advisor about which courses she is considering taking before she registers anywhere else to make sure she is taking the right courses!</b></p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @MGUELLER01, the Student Health Care Center also does walk-ins even though calling ahead is recommended.</b></p>
<p><b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @depwife - Social media can definitely be a great way to stay connected to your student, so glad to hear that is working for you and your's!</b></p>
<p>depwife: Oh yes, Inlove getting random and surprise SnapChats during the day. ٩٩</p>
<p>mrkmak: My daughter is missing her furry siblings (more than me I suspect). I know there are therapy dogs somewhere on campus, she's put in an application to volunteer with the Humane Society - any other thoughts on how she can get some animal TLC? She heard from an alum about a volunteer opportunity with horses on campus but hasn't been able to find out about it (maybe discontinued?)</p>
<p>donaldwj: Can you make appointments @ the student health care center or is it walk in only ?</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @donaldwj, you can make appointments at the student health care center but also walk in!</b></p>
<p>kathiembrennan: Do your students ask you or tell you if they're going out of town to say, Orlando, to visit with a friend at UCF, or to go to an away football game?Should we encourage this independence? I think it's a good experience for the kids but wondered what others have experienced.</p>
<p>mibuffill: Hi there, my question is about the few "storm days". Will the students be required to stay a few more days over, either holiday break?</p>
<p>jmc123: I have requested that my son let me know if he's traveling out of Gainesville-have found out when he's en route but better late than never</p>
<p>depwife: @kathiembrennan - my daughter usually just says 'oh I'm going to FSU to visit a friend this weekend'. But, without us asking she texts us when she leaves and when she returns so we know she's on the road.</p>

<b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @donaldwj, it is recommended that students make appointments!</b>
MGUELLER01: Does UF have coach busses that students can pay to travel to away games?
kathiembrennan: Thanks for sharing re: travel out of town.
<b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @mibuffill, there are not specific makeup days. Professors make up the material in different ways, but it is up to them.</b>
mibuffill: thanks,
mrkmak: @kathiembrennan, I usually know in advance if there are any trips to UCF (or elsewhere) but she doesn't ask for permission anymore since she hit the big 18 this past weekend. I'm okay with it as long as I get an update on when she gets there and back to know she's made it. (since she knows I'll be freaking out until I hear).
<b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @MGUELLER01, there are some student groups that will get a bus together to go to the games, but the travel packages that the Athletic Department sometimes advertises are open to the general public, though I'm sure students would be welcome.</b>
MGUELLER01: In the last chat it was mentioned about some fun activities that are available on campus to help destress and decompress during midterms and finals. A website for scheduled activities was provided, but could you tell me it again please?
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @mrkmak - The Counseling and Wellness Center offers a few services that work with animals, such as their Volunteer Certified Therapy Canine (<a href="http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/gabe-therapy-canine.aspx">http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/gabe-therapy-canine.aspx</a>) and Yappy Hour on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. She can also definitely find opportunities volunteering with animals with the many shelters in the Gainesville area; I would even encourage her to reach out to those facilities and ask! Visiting the Brown Center for Leadership and Service (<a href="http://www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu/">http://www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu/</a>) can be another great resource. She can talk with a staff member about her volunteer interests and they can help align her with opportunities. I have also heard many good things about the animal conservation sites in Alachua C</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @MGUELLER01, I think this is the link you're asking for! <a href="https://www.union.ufl.edu/Resources/DeStressStudyFest">https://www.union.ufl.edu/Resources/DeStressStudyFest</a></b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): Hi folks, my name is Lynn O'Sickey and I'm an advisor in the College of Liberal Arts and Science Academic Advising Center. Sorry I'm late in joining you! I'll be in the Academic Advising Chat room to answer academic questions.</b>
fondamoll: I was wondering if it is too late to join intramural sports? My son may it sound like he missed his opportunity for fall sports?
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @fondamoll - That's a great question for our Recreational Sports expert! Feel free to join the "Recreational Sports</b>
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @fondamoll - chatroom by clicking "Add More Chatrooms" in the top right corner.</b>
MGUELLER01: As a fundraiser, do any of the music programs do carol grams or singing telegrams or instrument serenades as birthdays and holidays approach?
fondamoll: Thank you @Rachel_NewStudentFamily program!! Will do

proudgatormom0430: Hi, it's been 2 weeks since I've emailed the Director. I don't know whether she has been out of the office as I did not get an out of office reply. What I like to know, is whom other can I email about housing issue that can get my daughter's issue resolved? The Dean of Students? I know my daughter has made some emails as well, but no solid answers.
proudgatormom0430: correction: Director of Housing
<b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @MGUELLER01, I'm not sure about carol grams but I know that the music fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha serenades students if you donate! There are also a lot of a capella groups on campus who will serenade and do telegrams when they fundraise for Dance Marathon but it is usually restricted to certain weeks.</b>
fondamoll: Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms - - sorry I missed the topic above but am interested where my son could find out about those buses to football game. He is not in a frat so I wonder where he would go to find this?
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @proudgatormom0430 - I would suggest following back up with who you contacted or calling the main Housing and Residence Life office to see if they can direct you to someone else who might be able to help resolve the issue. Reaching out to your student's Area Coordinator could also be an option. In addition, you can encourage your student to discuss the issue with their RA or Graduate Hall Director - both are great resources for her to contact and talk with!</b>
proudgatormom0430: Thank you Rachel. I do know my daughter has spoken and emailed both with her RA and her RA's superior. My daughter has been waiting to hear back I believe from the area coordinator, but I will call. Do you know the office hours?
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @fondamoll - No worries! Our topic tonight is Staying Connected, and football games are definitely a part of that! From my knowledge, some Gator Clubs (affiliated organizations of the UF Alumni Association) offer bus trips, so check to see a local chapter has any scheduled for the season. Bus trips are not limited to members of fraternities and there are other student organizations that organize trips to go see the Gators play!</b>
proudgatormom0430: I have found the number and hours of operation. No worries Rachel, thank you again.
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @proudgatormom0430 - Glad to hear! Good luck!</b>
<b>familychatadministrator(Rachel_NewStudentFamilyProgram): What are some ways you all are staying connected with your students so far this semester?</b>
nelsongreglori@gmail.com: I'm always texting my daughter and son usually on a daily basis, even if it's just a quick check in with them
fondamoll: I also text and FaceTime him.
nelsongreglori@gmail.com: We Face time with my younger daughter which helps them stay connected with the family
Kayallen23: I visited my daughter for Family Weekend and stay in touch FaceTiming, texting, and some calls.
fondamoll: I would like to meet him in Jax for the game... but wonder how he can get there? Are there any buses going up that are NON frat related? and where can he find out about it and how to go?
nelsongreglori@gmail.com: yes, taking them back to school and having a special lunch has been enjoyed by the whole family, even just going to PDQ

Kayallen23: I thought about sending her something in the mail because the past few weeks have been super stressful for her.
fondamoll: I sent Midnight Cookies for the first time on Tuesday for his bday and that seemed VERY well received and it was soo eady
nelsongreglori@gmail.com: great idea.. I did that for Valentine's day last year and she LOVED it, very surprised... I, also, did the care package that UF offers
nelsongreglori@gmail.com: love to hear more about Midnight cookies!
Jags_Fan: I just sent some of my son's fav cookies to him. He is not expecting the package, and it should get there tomorrow.
<b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @fondamoll, an alternative to a bus could be the UF Ride Board Facebook page! Tons of UF students will be going to Jacksonville for FL/GA and people are always willing to carpool!</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): @kayallen23 - that's a great idea - a way to connect with them outside of the pressures of academics - when you chat with your student a suggestion would be to asks that are not related to classes or tests, but something like - what was the best thing that happened to you today?</b>
Jags_Fan: Yes, I was wondering about the carpool thing. We live out-of-state. I have family about 1.5 hours away from UF and I think they are giving him a ride to the Jax airport. It's a lot cheaper to fly out of than GNV.
nelsongreglori@gmail.com: and my daughter has done that FB Ride board several times (although I was concerned at first) lots of kids use it
Kayallen23: Good suggestion.
nelsongreglori@gmail.com: @ Cat_RecSports.. great idea.. when I ask "how was your day" and they said "good" I say "what was good about it", I even ask that of my younger kids, gives them something to think about and tell me
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): Another thought - knowingstudents may not always respond (in a manner benefiting our desire to communicate with them)- just sending a text to say you are thinking about them or have a great day will change the conversatio nto of one encouragement</b>
marivicabrera: @Cat-RecSports..how you suggest we approach them about falling academically
<b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @marivicabrera, Cat can chime in too, but I'll also offer my experience. A lot of times, students are harder on themselves than you ever could be. Try asking them about the classes they are doing well in and help them figure out what they are doing RIGHT in those classes. Then try to encourage them to channel those energies towards the other courses.</b>
marivicabrera: thank you Arie.
<b>familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): Hello everyone! I am Shahreen, a senior Anthropologystudent from Kissimmee, Florida! We have about 20 minutes remaining in this chat so feel free to ask me any questions! :)</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): @marivicabrera I concur with Arie. That is a great suggestion. Some classes are incredibly difficult. Many times students learn more from failing. They can start identifying whereopportunities exist - such as exploring different types of study habits, look at tutoring, time management, how to balance life, and studying after exercise or some small activity increases retention and success</b>

Kayallen23: I realized that I needed to listen and encourage more than ever and let her know everything was going to be OK. It has been interesting to watch this "I've got it together, independent" kid start to worry about so much. She was trying to map out every semester, internships, clubs, work, etc. She was super worried about her grades and test scores that I was imagining a D or F, but when I asked what she made it was a B and a C. I breathed a sigh of relief and offered some suggestions, but went back to reassuring her that she would adapt and that As are much tougher at UF. I was more worried about her adjusting than I was the C.

Kayallen23: @Cat\_RecSports I agree.

fondamoll: I concur with @kayallen23 !!! I have the exact same experience and my son just wants to figure it all out today what he should do with his career path .

nelsonreglori@gmail.com: I have a question that's not particularly related to the topics but it's about safety.. my daughter walks home late after work and I'm VERY concerned snap isn't avail

**familychatmoderator(Cat\_RecSports): Your student has what it takes as they were accepted into UF and UF is a tough school to get into.**

**familychatmoderator(Cat\_RecSports): I want to encourage your student to reach out to a faculty or staff member with whom they feel comfortable for connectivity/coaching/mentoring to help ease your students angst.**

**familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @nelsonreglori@gmail.com, could you please clarify why snap isn't available?**

jmc123: can anyone explain Midnight Cookies?

nelsonreglori@gmail.com: bc it's too late at night and they don't have any transportation

Kayallen23: Midnight Cookies delivers cookies.

**familychatmoderator(Cat\_RecSports): @jmc123 Midnight Cookies is a cookie store that delivers to campus. The students go crazy for them because they arrive still warm and are about as big as your hand. They also have some fun flavors.**

Kayallen23: If you Google it you can see the menu.

Kayallen23: Any suggestions for a simple care package for my student?

jmc123: wow awesome thank you

**familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @nelsonreglori@gmail.com, SNAP runs from 6:30PM to 3 AM, after 3AM students would have to Uber or bike home. To be safer, she could register with GatorSafe which is an app that you hold down until you make it to your destination and if you do not update when you're home, it alerts the authorities.**

nelsonreglori@gmail.com: thanks SO much! My daughter said it's not avail late at night like 1:00 a.m.

nelsonreglori@gmail.com: awesome, thanks SO much for this helpful info!!!

**familychatadministrator(Rachel\_NewStudentFamilyProgram): We've got around 5 minutes remaining before we wrap up tonight! Does anyone have any final questions?**

**familychatmoderator(Cat\_RecSports): A great self care package - you can purchase a massage therapy session for your student - <http://recsports.ufl.edu/fitness/massage-therapy>**

**familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @kayallen23, since it's October you could do some fun Fall or Halloween things! You could send candy or cute Halloween décor! UF also offers care packages you can send!**

Kayallen23: Thanks for the ideas! Both great!

**familychatmoderator(ShahreenCampusDiplomat): @kayallen23, no problem!**

nelsonreglori@gmail.com: Thank you very much for this helpful chat! :)

fondamoll: Sorry - one more question. Do you think Air purifiers are a good idea for the dorm rooms? I hear about a lot of allergies and illnesses in the dorm

Kayallen23: Thanks everyone. Glad I was able to hop on for a little.

fondamoll: I think I will buy one and try

**familychatadministrator(Rachel\_NewStudentFamilyProgram): @fondamoll - Many students find their allergies react to new locations, especially Gainesville and the UF campus since there are many trees and greenery! Sometimes this just takes time to settle or adjust, but an air purifier can be a good idea too.**

fondamoll: Perfect - thanks ! I do remember all those trees - so I can only imagine:) Love UF :)

**familychatadministrator(Rachel\_NewStudentFamilyProgram): Thank you everyone for joining us tonight! Family Chat transcripts will be online by next week. Have a great rest of your week and Go Gators!**

## Online Family Chat - Academic Advising

Thursday, October 20, 2016

<p><b>familychatmoderator(Arie_NewStudentFamilyPrograms):</b> Hi Everyone, Lynn will be joining us around 5:30 tonight! When she logs in, you can ask your Advising questions here!</p>
<p>jmc123: Should students make appt now with advisor to discuss upcoming registration/options</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor):</b> Hi jmc, yes, students should seek advising ASAP. Advance Registration begins at the end of October and goes through much of November, but students are already coming in to see advisors and we'll only get busier!</p>
<p>marivicabrera: Good afternoon Lynn, I have ask Arie the following: My son wants to drop a class now. What are the consequences academically and financially. He has FI Bright Future</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor):</b> jmc, what college/major is your student?</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor):</b> marivica, It's important that your student talk to Financial Aid about the financial consequences - I will tell you my understanding of them, but as that's not my area of expertise your student should confirm this info...</p>
<p>depwife: I have the same question re: dropping. My daughter is in CLAS and is a Bright Future student.</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor):</b> marivica, as far as BF and dropping, students have to pay back to BF whatever BF paid for the credit hours for the class. The good news is once they do that, BF evaluates their progress based on hours BF funded - so the fact that they dropped that course isn't held against them. And dropping is often a better option than taking a hit to the GPA, since BF requires a minimum GPA.</p>
<p>slouCHAT: My daughter is a Florida Bright Future student and entered as a freshman with 45 credits. If she attends a semester on a UF study abroad program, does this meet the 9 credit summer requirement?</p>
<p>depwife: What is the deadline for dropping?</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor):</b> marivica, depwife, academically, dropping a course may put your student behind - or it may not - it depends on the course and the requirements for your student's major. So it's important to talk to their advisors to know where they stand.</p>
<p>marivicabrera: Thank you Lynn that is exactly what I wanted to know. Is there a maximum amount of credit that they can drop. It seems like his new found independence and fraternity is taking a tow on his academic performance</p>
<p>marivicabrera: The courses he wants to drop he doesn't even need them for his major. Actually we recommended to him not to register for them</p>
<p>depwife: Does bright futures require full time status??</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor):</b> slouCHAT, bringing in 45 credits doesn't affect the summer requirement. But, yes, UF study abroad credits can apply to the summer requirement, and in some cases fulfill it completely. See this link and note there are different kinds of UF programs.  <a href="https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/graduation.aspx#summer">https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/graduation.aspx#summer</a> However, students who earn six credits through UF-sponsored, UF exchange or approved SUS study-abroad programs during one or two summer terms completely satisfy the summer-term enrollment requirement. In addition, credits earned through any of the study-abroad programs approved by UF during a summer term count toward satisfaction of the summer-term enrollment requirement.</p>

<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): depwife, the deadline is November 21, so your student has ample time to make a decision. I encourage everyone to bookmark the deadlines link: <a href="https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/adfall1617.aspx">https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/adfall1617.aspx</a></b></p>
<p>slouCHAT: My understanding is when you drop below 12 credits minimum per semester, you have to repaid all of the Bright Future\$ for that semester. Am I correct?</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): marivica, students may drop two courses in their first 60 hours attempted at UF (only UF courses count for this policy). Students do need the approval of their college to drop. In most cases, it's just a matter of getting advising, in some, they do a petition. After they use their two drops, they would definitely have to petition with a good, documented reason for additional drops. And, yes, the adjustment to college, independent living, a new set of standards in classes, etc. often mean that students get behind or struggle a bit academically in their first term. If they work to adapt, they'll bounce back.</b></p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): depwife, as I mentioned, BF has different rules for renewal depending on how many credits they funded. <a href="http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf/">http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf/</a> see Chapter 3</b></p>
<p>marivicabrera: what about slouCHAT comment: slouCHAT: My understanding is when you drop below 12 credits minimum per semester, you have to repaid all of the Bright Future\$ for that semester. Am I correct?</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): slouCHAT, that is NOT what I have been told. But Financial Aid is not my area of expertise, so students should absolutely go and see their Fin Aid counselor.</b></p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): slouCHAT and marivica, is is possible that is a new rule, but that is not what I have been told, what SFA normally tells us is that students have to repay the BF amount for that course.</b></p>
<p>marivicabrera: Thank you very much for the advise Lynn</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): marivica, of course, that's what we're here for.</b></p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): marivica and slouCHAT, did you look at the BF site I listed? <a href="http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf/">http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf/</a> The answer may be there, too.</b></p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): Do folks have any other questions?</b></p>
<p>rkubat: Hi there! Do the AP courses credits have a limit to be reported to UF to be counted towards the course credit?</p>
<p>depwife: yes hang on!</p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): rkubat, they are supposed to be reported by the end of the first term (fall for summer B/fall admits, spring for spring admits).</b></p>
<p><b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): depwife...not going anywhere, just checking :-)</b></p>
<p>slouCHAT: What is the rationale of the 9 credit requirement for the summer? My daughter satisfied a lot of gen ed requirement and is on track for graduation. Does she have to take additional classes for just the sake of the summer requirement?</p>
<p>depwife: I am texting my daughter now with info I have received tonight. She said she received an email with an appt scheduled for her but it doesn't explain who she is supposed to meet with. She also said CLAS doesn't offer "personal advising" because there are so many students. ?</p>
<p>rkubat: Thank you! good information.</p>
<p>Vance: My son just went to see his advisor and the advisor recommended having a minor. He is a freshman and barely knows what he wants to major in; are there any tools available that measure a students strengths and weakness and match these up with possible careers?</p>

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** slouCHAT, the 9 credit summer requirement was implemented by the State of Florida, in an effort see students utilize university resources all year round. Since it is required, it has to be done. Many students end up taking summer work to earn credit for internships, study abroad, online courses, etc. But they have to do it even if they don't need it to graduate on time.

marivicabrera: Lynn....check the website and definitively he needs counselor advise to clarify de credit hours to be able to renew FB...Thank you very much.

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** depwife, the email she received explained how to access her 'registration start-time', not her 'appointment' with anyone. That said, we ABSOLUTELY offer personal advising, I just did three hours of one-on-one advising before heading home to join this chat! What we don't do is assign advisors...but students may request an advisor or just see the first advisor available. more...

jmc123: Hello Lynn as of now, but I think that's part of what he needs to discuss (if his GPA not high enough he has to change college)College:PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH PROFESSIONSMajor:<td class="data" style="padding: 5px; margin: 0px; border: none;

jmc123: Major Health Science

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** depwife, right now we are seeing students as walk-ins, 8-11:30 and 1:30-4:30 daily. We are already getting busy - the wait for the line of students who sign in at 1:30 can be 45 minutes to an hour, but if a student is there at 8 or 8:30 or 9:00, they may wait only 10 minutes. Waits will get longer as we approach registration - so your student should come in now.

depwife: THANK YOU!!!!

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** depwife, <https://www.advising.ufl.edu/advising/onthemove/>

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** rkubat, you're welcome.

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** Vance, the advisor would normally recommend a minor if the student expressed an interest in a specific area and/or career path for which that minor makes sense. It's fine to begin exploring possible minors even when you're unsure of your major...more...

Vance: and tools to determine possible careers?

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** Vance, we absolutely have many tools to help students explore majors and careers. To start, your student can look at our exploratory website:

<https://www.advising.ufl.edu/exploratory/> in particular, Top Ten Ways to Explore with Purpose.

<https://www.advising.ufl.edu/exploratory/...more...>

rkubat: Does UF have a test where the student can discover his/her skills and inclinations towards a determined career? If yes, where can he/she take it?

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** folks, if I seem slow it's because I am trying to type in a ton of info and also get you links, so be patient and I promise I'll get it all to you.

Vance: thanks. I will ask that he follow up at this site

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** Vance, the Career Resource Center has ways to explore majors and careers, he can look at <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/students/explore-majors-careers/>

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** Vance, he can seek one-on-one assistance for exploratory advising at our Center <https://www.advising.ufl.edu/advising/onthemove/> and career counseling at the CRC.

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** jmc123, He should see a PPHP advisor, <http://www.ufadvising.ufl.edu/advisors.aspx> click on Public Health and Health Professions.

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** rkubat, see the Career Resource Center info I just posted.

rkubat: Thank you Lynn!

**familychatmoderator(Lynn\_Advisor):** :-)

jmc123: thank you Lynn. And did you say there is no specific assigned advisor but the student can request a specific one if they have rapor already/
slouCHAT: Thanks for you help!
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): jmc, in that college, they may assign advisors, so please have your student look at that college's info.</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): slouCHAT, sure thing :-)</b>
marivicabrera: Thank you..Great advising chat
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): marivica, you're welcome. I'm a college parent too as well as a UF advisor for 20+ years, so I know what it's like on both sides :-)</b>
marivicabrera: :D
marivicabrera: is really hard to watch a lifetime excellent student drifting lost on the new adventures.
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): marivica, try not to worry too much. Part of the process of becoming an adult is having the opportunity to make your own mistakes and to learn from them and figure out how to bounce back. Life rarely pitches us non-stop softballs, better to develop those skills now, and move up from there...and, of course, we're only halfway through the term, so there's time to recover now in many if not all courses.</b>
rccrawford@reneeccrawford.com: It's hard not to worry when they get to the point of loosing scholarship money.
marivicabrera: thank you Lynn...and YES rccrawford@reneeccrawford.com EXACTLY
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): rccrawford, I don't know the details of your student's situation, of course, but many scholarships renew at the end of spring, so even if your student has a tough fall, if your student bounces back in spring he/she may retain the scholarship. That's true of Bright Futures.</b>
rccrawford@reneeccrawford.com: Isn't Bright Futures based on the cumulative GPA?
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): rccrawford, again not a Fin Aid counselor but BF has always renewed after the first year not first semester. So if your student drops a course and ends up with a 2.5 GPA fall but gets in 3.5 in the same number of credits in spring, the ***** GPA is a 3.0.</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): Sorry, that was cumulative GPA, not sure why it shows as ***** :-)</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): rccrawford, have your student see their fin aid counselor, but here's what the BF handbook says: A student who receives funding during the current academic year (fall through spring) is automatically evaluated for renewal at the end of the spring term and does not submit a renewal application.</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): cccrawford, C</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): Chapter 3</b>
<b><a href="http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/PDF/BFHandbookChapter3.pdf">http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/PDF/BFHandbookChapter3.pdf</a></b>
rccrawford@reneeccrawford.com: He's in his 3 semester at UF and has decided he has no idea what he wants to major in. I've been trying since he started to get him to go to the Career Center with no luck.
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): rccrawford, if you think you can get him to come and see me, I would be happy to advise him even if it's just to point him in the right direction. losickey@advising.ufl.edu</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): *point him</b>
rccrawford@reneeccrawford.com: That would be great.
rccrawford@reneeccrawford.com: I will ask him to contact you.
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): rccrawford, :-)</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): Hi folks, 5 minutes left...any last questions?</b>

marivicabrera: good night
rkubat: Thank you very much again!
<b>familychatmoderator(Lynn_Advisor): Thank you all for supporting your students! They may not always say it, but they do appreciate you!</b>

## Online Family Chat - Disability Resource Center

Thursday, October 20, 2016

MGUELLER01: Does your office have any advice for parents on supporting LD students from out of state? We've set up follow up meetings with DRC advisor. He is in the LD3 program and has a mentor through your office. Set tutoring times each week with tutoring center.

**familychatmoderator(Tara\_DisabilityResourceCenter): Those are all great steps, that can really aid in his support. I would continue to encourage your student to meet regularly with their learning specialist**

MGUELLER01: When does the open registration begin for the Spring semester? I've heard October 31, then I heard November 2.

**familychatmoderator(Tara\_DisabilityResourceCenter): is their mentor through cs3LD or the DRC mentor program? Either way, I would encourage them to stay in touch with their mentor. In addition the Teaching Center offers some great workshops, outside of just tutoring, here is a link <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/study-skills/workshops/>**

## Online Family Chat - Recreational Sports

Thursday, October 20, 2016

<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): Hi all, I am Cat and I work for Recreational Sports - our department works with aquatics, fitness programs, intramural sports, sport clubs, outdoor adventure and recreational facilities. I available to answer any questions.</b>
mrkmak: My daughter tried to get involved in IM volleyball as a free agent but most teams weren't accepting new players. She eventually had girls reach out that were desperate for players to fill a roster. That was already into the season and while she got a few games in, now the season is over. Is there a better way to approach it next go around (timing, connections) if she's serious about playing and trying to find others that are like minded?
Ann3934: My son plays lacrosse. Are there recreational lacrosse games?
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): Hello @mrmark, one way to approach this is connect with other free agent individuals and form a team in that way. Additionally, have her connect directly with the staff in competitive sports and they can assist with placing her on a team. Also encourage her to form a team with her resident halls members or student organization</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): @</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): Hello @ Ann3934 - We do not have intramural leagues for LAX, however we do have a LAX Sport Club he can participate on. Our web address is recsports.ufl.edu for contact information</b>
Ann3934: Thanks!
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): You are very welcome.</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): Curious for all of you - how do you live in motion?</b>
mrkmak: Interesting question to ponder - with a desk job, it's tough during the day so it's about moving as often as I can, not always getting that close parking spot, etc. At night and on weekends, without my student to work out with anymore, I'm less motivated, so it's more about chores and errands instead of just binging on recorded TV shows (but I do admit that happens). I am at least cognizant of the need to move more, sometimes it happens, sometimes not...suggestions?
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): @mrmark, do you work on a 1st floor or second floor?</b>
mrkmak: single story
fondamoll: I was wondering if it was too late to join intramural sports? My son made it sound like his missed his opportunity to do so for fall sports? Any advice I can pass along to him?
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): @mrmark - I understand about working out by myself - I need that external motivation. Here are some suggestions - try mobilizers throughout the day - mobilizers are a way to wake up the body and keep the joints and muscles from tightening (sitting to long is a huge issue),potentially request a standing desk,set an alarm n your computer to remind you to move. I work in recreation and I have to ensure that I schedule my workouts in during the day or I will just work through any free time I may have. Ask someone at work to walk/or any activityduring lunch, start a team event that competes against others (great for building camaraderie)</b>
<b>familychatmoderator(Cat_RecSports): Hello @fondamoll, We did just start new leagues this week. <a href="http://recsports.ufl.edu/sports/intramurals">http://recsports.ufl.edu/sports/intramurals</a></b>

**familychatmoderator(Cat\_RecSports): @fondamoll, your son can check on teams to see if they are accepting players - have him go to the site for the sport of his choice (indoor soccer, kickball and 3v3 basketball). We also offer flash tournaments and he can participate in the remaining activities that are available (track meet, 3v3 soccer, bowling and goalball).**

mrkmak: Thank you Cat!

**familychatmoderator(Cat\_RecSports): Any time- any other questions? I also recommend finding a park where you can partake vitamin D activities. Encourage you to find a sport/activity you are wanting to try like stand up paddle boarding, kayaking, hiking, yoga**

fondamoll: Can you please tell me how the kids can go to that lake area and paddle board, etc on or near campus? I forgot the name of it but heard it was free to UF students?

**familychatmoderator(Cat\_RecSports): @fondamoll, you are referring to Lake Wauburg. During spring and summer semesters, RTS runs a bus route to Lake Wauburg on Saturdays, originating at the Reitz Union. This service is discontinued in the fall semester due to football games. And all activities are free. In the Spring we have a Music in the Park event that is fantastic.**

fondamoll: Super - Thanks Cat!!!

## Online Family Chat - Student Health Care Center

Thursday, October 20, 2016

rkubat: Hi there! I wonder if you have opportunities for my son to volunteer or work in the student health care center? How is the process to apply?

**familychatmoderator(Arie\_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): @rkubat, I would encourage your son put in an application to the student health care center or at UF Health. <https://ufhealth.org/volunteering> Here is a great resource to start.**

rkubat: thank you very much!

**familychatmoderator(Arie\_NewStudentFamilyPrograms): you are very welcome**

Pattaveras: Thanks for the info.