The Future Starts Now

Pursuing Your Academics with Pride

New Student Orientation
Center for Academic Resources and Support [CARS]
Mrs. Iris Bazil, Advisor-Advocate
Ms. Sidra Sargent, Advisor-Advocate
Dr. Rebecca Devereaux, Director CARS

Sarah Blocker Hall, Room 111   |   cars@fmuniv.edu
1. Educate & Empower Yourself
   a. Graduation Requirements 101
   b. Be Strategic!

2. Manage your responsibilities

3. Build Success & Support Network
1. Educate and Empower Yourself

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cars@fmuniv.edu
Graduation 101

3 Categories of Coursework
*Every course you take should fulfill a specific requirement, as listed in your “catalog year” (take no more, no fewer!)

1. General Education CORE Courses
2. Major Required Courses
3. Degree Total Units
4. Unrestricted Elective Courses (limited)
5. GPA (minimum)

Example Major: DJ Science

120 Total Units for degree (2021 catalog)
- 50 GE units
- 50 Major units
= 20 Unrestricted Electives

For a 120 unit degree, you can graduate in 4 years if you average 30 degree-applicable units/year

What are Unrestricted Electives?
- Remaining units beyond required GE and Major coursework completed
- Any academic course can apply here (including units toward a Minor)
- Most majors require very few!
- For transfer students, this category is often filled upon admission to FMU!

Courses often build on each other; Pre-requisites courses are taken before more advanced courses.

PRO TIP: Complete units, not years!
Be Strategic: Tools to Monitor Progress

Tell Your CARS Advisor your courses and test scores so he/she can help you plan for your future needs.
## GPA Considerations

**University Academic Standing Policy:**

- **Pride Level:** 3.0  |  **Minimum Level:** 2.0  |  **Academic Warning/Probation:** < 2.0

**Financial Aid – “SAP” Satisfactory Acad. Progress:**

- 24 units/year  |  **Minimum Level:** 2.0  |  67% /attempted units

**Athletics Eligibility (NAIA Regulations):**

- 24 units/year  |  **Minimum Level:** 2.0

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### HOW TO UNDERSTAND YOUR GPA

Multiply course units by the grade points earned for each course; total those grade points; divide by total units attempted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 110</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COM 103</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSC 101</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMU 101</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXP 200</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>

**Units attempted:** 12 units  |  **Grade Points earned:** 33 pts

**33 grade points ÷ 12 units attempted = 2.75 GPA**
HOW TO MAINTAIN A 3.0 GPA  *In consultation with an academic advisor*

- **Contact your faculty prior** to assessments, or immediately after a low grade to gain insights.
- **Seek tutoring or study groups early and regularly!** (Knack tutoring via Blackboard link [https://www.joinknack.com/school/florida-memorial-university](https://www.joinknack.com/school/florida-memorial-university); CircleIn via Blackboard link)
- **Repeat a low grade course (D or F) for “grade forgiveness”** Your second attempt/improved grade (A, B, or C) will replace the failing grade, and will RAISE your GPA more efficiently than taking a different course.
HOW TO GRADUATE ON TIME

1. Self-monitor your degree progress! (Courses you’ve completed and courses left to complete)
2. Regularly communicate with your advisor (First-year: CARS Advisor; Continuing students: Faculty Advisor)
3. Average 32-35 deg-applicable units per year, including Fall, Spring, Summer school
   1. Need a class not offered at FMU? Acadeum.
   2. Need a class at another institution? Transient Student Form
4. Understand your GPA (grade point average) and how your class performance affects it each semester.

Informed students graduate on time
2. Manage Your Responsibilities

Center for Academic Resources and Support [CARS]
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cars@fmuniv.edu
Manage Your Responsibilities

• First Year CARS Advising Conferences
  1. Between Sept 8 – October 1
  2. October 18 – November 12

• Academic Calendar
  • Changing your classes (add/drop) deadline
  • Registration for Classes (October 18, 2021 for Spring 2022)

• Check FMU Email DAILY

• Understand financial responsibilities
  • e.g. separate costs for tuition, housing+meals, books
  • “Clearing (the Business Office)” process, after registration
ACADEMIC PRIDE
Roar in 4!

3. Build Your Success & Support Network

Center for Academic Resources and Support [CARS]
Sarah Blocker Hall, Room 111
cars@fmuniv.edu
Ask, Partner, Network

1. CyberZone  cyberzone@fmuniv.edu  
or (305) 623-1413

2. ADA Accessibility – Dr. Karla Cantu, 
   Testing & Accommodations  
   access@fmuniv.edu  (305) 626-3775

3. University Counseling Services – Dr. 
   Jason-Anthony Prendergast (JC Sams Building) (305) 626-3138

4. CARS – Sarah Blocker Hall, Room 111 (central office) (305)626-3662
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CARS STAFF</th>
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<th>OFFICE</th>
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<td>SBH 111A</td>
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</table>
• CARS: https://www.fmuniv.edu/academics/center-for-academic-resources-and-support/
• CyberZone: https://www.fmuniv.edu/administration/information-management-and-technology/fmu-cyberzone/
• Counseling & Support Services: https://studentaffairs.fmuniv.edu/home/counseling-support-services/
• Housing & Residence Life: https://studentaffairs.fmuniv.edu/home/housing-and-residence-life/
• Financial Aid: https://www.fmuniv.edu/financial-aid/
• Bookstore: https://www.bkstr.com/fmunivstore
• Protecting the Pride Plan: https://online.fliphtml5.com/gjry/emop/#p=1
• iROAR: http://iroar.fmuniv.edu/
• Nathan Collier Library: https://www.fmuniv.edu/library/about-the-library/
• Social Justice Institute: http://socialjustice.fmuniv.edu/
• Susie C. Holley Religious Center: https://www.fmuniv.edu/administration/academic-affairs/campus-ministry/
• Virtual Career Center: https://careersource.fmuniv.edu/vosnet/Default.aspx
• Next Steps Checklist: https://www.fmuniv.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Next-Steps-Accepted-Students.pdf