Academic Term and Student Information

Semester System
USF operates on a semester system. Semesters begin in August and January with Summer Sessions beginning in May and June. See Academic Calendar for appropriate dates.

Academic Load
See Enrollment Requirements in the Academic Policies Section

Academic Standing

**Class Standing** - A student’s class standing is determined by the number of credits he/she has earned without relation to his/her GPA.

- **6M** - Graduate student admitted to Master’s Degree Program
- **6A** - Graduate student admitted to Specialist Degree Program
- **6D** - Graduate student admitted to a Doctoral Degree Program (not eligible to register for dissertation hours)
- **6C** - Graduate student admitted to Doctoral Candidacy (eligible to register for dissertation hours)
- **7A-7D** 1st-4th year professional program (M.D.) or post-doctoral status

Also see “In good standing” in the Academic Policies Section

Student Definitions

**Degree Seeking Students:**
Students who have been accepted into a degree program

**Graduate Certificate Seeking Students:**
Students who have been accepted into a Graduate Certificate program. Students who are non-degree seeking, but who are admitted to a Graduate Certificate may register during the same registration period as Degree-Seeking Students. Up to 12 hours of the coursework taken as a Graduate Certificate Seeking Student may be applied to a degree program. For more information about Graduate Certificates and specific requirements, refer to Section 11 Graduate Certificates or go to the Graduate Certificate website at [http://www.outreach.usf.edu/gradcerts/](http://www.outreach.usf.edu/gradcerts/)

**Non-Degree Seeking Students:**
Students who have not been accepted into a degree or Graduate Certificate Program. Non-Degree Seeking students may enroll and enter classes on a space available basis by obtaining appropriate approval from the degree-granting college or academic unit in which the courses are offered. Non-Degree Seeking students must meet all prerequisites for courses in which they wish to enroll. Certain classes are available only to degree seeking students and may not be available for Non-Degree Seeking students.

Should a student be accepted into a graduate degree program, no more than 12 hours of USF credit earned as a Non-Degree Seeking student may be applied to satisfy graduate degree requirements. All coursework transferred into the graduate program must have a grade of B or better. Any application of such credit must be approved by the degree-granting college and must be appropriate to the program. For more information, refer to the Transfer of Credit policy in the Academic Policies Section. Prior to completing twelve (12) hours in a specific degree program it is strongly recommended that a Non-Degree Seeking Student apply for admission and be accepted to the degree program to continue taking courses in the program. Programs may have additional requirements, so check with the program of interest for more information.
Transient Students:
USF 10.001 Transient Student Policy:
http://generalcounsel.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-10-001.pdf

The SUS Transient Student program enables a graduate student to take advantage of resources available on other SUS campuses. A Transient Student, by mutual agreement of the appropriate academic authorities in both the sponsoring and hosting institutions, receives a waiver of admission requirements and application fee at the host institution and a guarantee of acceptance of earned credits by the sponsoring institution. A graduate advisor, who will initiate a visiting arrangement with the appropriate faculty of the host institution, must recommend a Transient Student. USF degree-seeking students who wish to enroll at another regionally accredited institution MUST HAVE PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL from their college academic advisor to receive credit for courses taken. For more information, contact the Registrar’s Office at (813) 974-2000.

Transient Student Form: http://www.registrar.usf.edu/forms/TSF2008-04-07_16_17_06.pdf