USF Graduate School
Mandatory First Day Course Attendance Policy

Attention
ALL Graduate Students
and Graduate Faculty!

Faculty:
You will be receiving instructions from the Registrar's office with your roster. The process is the same as with undergraduate courses – circle those students not in attendance who have not made arrangements with you and return the roster as instructed.

Effective fall 2008!

Please note this change to policy that impacts your course attendance next week!

All Graduate Students must attend the first class meeting of their courses or they will be dropped from the class roster, unless they have made previous arrangements with the instructor. If you are in an online class, be sure to "log in" with your instructor so they know you intend on staying in the class.

If you are dropped from a class because you do not attend the first class meeting, you will have to “add” the class during the drop/add period (through 8/29/08) and there is potential that the class may be full at that point.

If you desire to drop a class, please follow the official procedures and “drop” the class through OASIS, so the space is freed up for other students to register.

The official policy, from the 2008-09 Graduate Catalog, follows below.

Please note that this policy is being reconsidered for spring 2009.

USF 2008-2009 Graduate Catalog

Course Attendance at First Class Meeting – Policy for Graduate Students
Students are required to attend the first class meeting of structured courses, 5000 and above, for which they registered prior to the first day of the term.

Names of students who register prior to the first day of the term are printed on the first class roll for each course section. The first class roll is used by professors to drop students who do not attend the first day of class (either online or in person). Students having extenuating circumstances beyond their control and who are unable to attend the first class meeting must notify the instructor or the department prior to the end of the first class meeting to request a waiver of the first class attendance requirement. Students who add courses or late-register during the first week of classes will not be on the first class roll and, therefore, will not be dropped for non-attendance by the instructor. Please note that the Registrar’s Office does not add students whose names are handwritten on the first day class rolls to courses, and these students are required to add the course by OASIS. To avoid fee liability and academic penalty, the student is responsible for ensuring that he/she has dropped or been dropped from all undesired courses by the end of the 5th day of classes.

This policy is not applicable to courses in the following categories: Educational Outreach, Open University (TV), FEEDS Program, Community Experiential Learning (CEL), Cooperative Education Training, and courses that do not have regularly scheduled meeting days/times (such as, directed reading/research or study, individual research, thesis, dissertation, internship, practica, etc.). Students are responsible for dropping undesired courses in these categories by the 5th day of classes to avoid fee liability and academic penalty. (See USF Regulation 6C4-4.0101, http://usfweb2.usf.edu/usfgc/oge%20web/currentreg.htm)