

GLOSSARY OF HELPFUL COLLEGE TERMS

One way college is different from other institutions is in the vocabulary used by its employees. Many of the terms you'll find in your admission materials, orientation information, handbooks, and catalogs may be new to you. This glossary will help you understand some of the most frequently used terminology.

University vs. College?

A university is a group of colleges and the degree programs (majors) are within the various colleges. The college is the degree-granting component of a university but different types of colleges exist. Some offer only undergraduate degrees; some offer both undergraduate and graduate degrees while others may offer only graduate degrees. A college of law or medical school is a primary example of the last. Faulkner State is a community college (a two-year college) that awards associate degrees as well as certificates and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

ADA

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provides civil rights protection to people who are considered disabled. Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities act is a priority of Faulkner State Community College. Services and reasonable accommodations are provided pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities act of 1990. Questions or concerns regarding this Act should be directed to:

Vice President of Student Development & Institutional Advancement, ADA Coordinator
1900 Highway 31 South
Bay Minette, AL 36507
(251) 580-2180

ADDRESS CHANGES

Forms to change residence or mailing addresses are available from the Registrar/Admissions Office. It is the student's responsibility to keep information current by informing the College when such items change.

ADVISOR

A faculty member assigned from an academic department in which a student's declared major resides. (If a student's major is "undeclared", he/she will be assigned a faculty advisor in one of the instructional departments). Appointments can be made by calling the advisor's office number. Advisors are also available in the Student Development Office.

ASSET PLACEMENT INVENTORY

An objective test given to students to help in establishment placement in English, Reading and Mathematics classes.

ASSOCIATES DEGREE

A two-year degree offered by colleges throughout the country. FSCC offers three (3) different associate degrees: Associate in Applied Science (AAS), Associate in Arts (AA) and Associate in Science (AS).

Associate in Arts Degree

An "AA" degree is a program of study in preparation for advanced studies to receive a Bachelor's degree

Associate in Science Degree

An "AS" degree is a program of study in preparation for advanced studies to receive a Bachelor's degree and included pre-professional programs.

Associate in Applied Science Degree

An "AAS" degree is a technical program of study.

CATALOG SEMESTER

The catalog containing the program of study under which the student may meet graduation requirements. Students may select any catalog in effect during their academic studies at FSCC. New students are automatically assigned the catalog semester they enter.

CO-REQUISITE

A course that must be taken at the same time as the course for which the co-requisite is required.

CREDIT HOURS

One credit is awarded for each 15 lecture hours of instruction, 30 lab hours or appropriate combinations of lecture and lab hours. Example: a 3-credit English class meets 45 lecture hours during the semester.

DEAN'S LIST

List of full-time students who have earned a GPA of 3.5 or better in all qualifying classes.

DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES

All classes numbered below 100 are considered developmental and are not considered as transfer credit or graduation credit. Scores on the ASSET test are used in determining placement in these courses.

DROP/ADD

Period of time during which students may make schedule adjustments.

FULL-TIME STUDENTS

A student who takes twelve (12) credit hours or more each Fall and Spring semester is considered full-time and therefore qualified for such entitlement programs as the Pell Grant and VA. Persons taking less than twelve credit hours during any semester are classified as part-time students.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Semester: The average (the number of quality points earned divided by the number of hours taken) of all hours attempted during any one semester.

Cumulative: The average (the number of quality points earned divided by the number of hours taken) of all hours attempted at Faulkner State Community College.

INTERNET CLASSES

These classes are taken over the Internet using a course management software system (currently Blackboard). Check the course schedule for complete listings and requirements.

PARKING

All students and staff are required to have decals which are available from the Campus Police Department. Students are permitted to park in spaces not identified as STAFF or blue-lined for handicapped persons. Traffic and parking regulations are enforced and penalties are assessed. Fines must be paid in the Business Office in order to enable continued registration and release of transcripts. Complete traffic and parking regulations are found in the College Catalog.

PART-TIME STUDENT

A student who takes less than twelve (12) credit hours each Fall and Spring semester is considered part-time.

PREREQUISITE

Requirements that must be met before a class may be taken.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Full-time students who have earned a GPA of 4.0 on all qualifying courses.

SELF-PACED CLASS

Self-Paced classes are a student-centered plan designed to make courses more accessible and flexible for students desiring to complete coursework in a nontraditional setting. This program affords students the opportunity to work at their own pace with minimal instructor guidance and maximal technological implementations.

SEMESTER

A semester system divides the school into fall and spring semesters in addition to a summer session.

STARS

The Statewide Articulation Agreement between two-year colleges and public four-year institutions in Alabama that ensures the transferability of your courses to public universities in the State of Alabama. Many private four-year institutions also recognize STARS in Alabama.

To access: Click "Student Login" on FSCC homepage. Select STARS website button. Follow instructions for viewing/printing your transfer guide.

WEB-ENHANCED CLASS

In these classes, an instructor may use Blackboard to electronically post the course syllabus, lecture notes and alternative assignments. Some class work on the computer may be required. Students enrolling in these courses must have access to a computer that meets the appropriate criteria. Students may use FSCC computer labs to access and complete course information.

Computer Lab Locations

Bay Minette Campus

B114, B117, C105, T117, T120 & Success Center located in Memorial Hall

Fairhope Campus

F6 & Learning Resources Center

Gulf Shores Campus

P114 & Learning Resource Center

WITHDRAWALS

CLASS: When a student withdraws from a class, he/she discontinues attending and receives no credit for the course. A student may withdraw from a class up to the last withdrawal day of the semester. An official withdrawal form must be processed in the Registrar's Office or with the Director of the Evening Program in Bay Minette or in the Administration Office on the branch campuses. The date by which a withdrawal must occur is printed in the College Catalog and the Schedule of Classes for each semester.

COLLEGE: The procedure for College withdrawal and refund of fees for such withdrawal is found in the College Catalog and the Schedule of Classes for each semester.