

Policy on Course Syllabi

To facilitate clear communication about courses between students and faculty, the University of Florida has adopted this policy requiring departments and course instructors to make available for free for each course, a syllabus containing specific information about the structure of the course. Instructors also must submit copies of course syllabi to the departmental office to document compliance with this syllabus policy.

Please note this policy is not course-content oriented. What individual instructors deem important as technical information in their courses and syllabi is a matter of academic freedom and best determined by that instructor. This university policy relates only to information that must appear in common in all course syllabi, independent of course level or discipline.

A. All UF course syllabi must contain:

1. Course title, instructor's contact information including office location, telephone number, and email address; TA contact information if applicable
2. Office hours for the instructor (and TA if applicable) during which students may meet with the instructor(s)
3. Course objectives and/or goals
4. A weekly course schedule of topics and assignments
5. Methods by which students will be evaluated and their grade determined
6. A statement related to class attendance, make-up exams and other work such as:
Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:
catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/
7. A statement related to accommodations for students with disabilities such as:
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.
8. A list of all required and recommended textbooks
9. Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points. This may be achieved by including a link to the web page: catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/.
10. A statement informing students of the online course evaluation process such as:
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.
11. Materials and Supplies Fees, if any

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B. Online course syllabi recommendation.

It is recommended that syllabi include a statement about preferred methods for public and private communication regarding the course and a method for resolving technical issues (e.g. helpdesk.ufl.edu, 352-392-4357).

C. The following content is suggested:

1. Critical dates for exams or other work
2. Class demeanor expected by the professor (late to class, cell phones, etc.)
3. The university's honesty policy regarding cheating, plagiarism, etc. Suggested wording:
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

4. Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu/.

University Police Department: Visit police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.