

Speaking **UGA's** Language

When you first arrive on campus, you'll hear people using some terms you didn't use at your previous institution. It's almost like being in a foreign country until you learn the language, so let's get comfortable with the vocabulary before you get here. Here are some common terms used at UGA:

Academic Calendar The academic calendar is a list of important dates for the school year and includes Fall, Spring and Summer semester dates. Here is where you will find drop/add dates, holidays and breaks, withdrawal deadline, reading day and exam dates. It can be found on the [Registrar's website](#).

Academic Coaching Academic Coaching is an appointment-based program offering UGA students the opportunity to meet with certified and trained academic coaches to discuss common challenges like test preparation, performance anxiety, note-taking and text comprehension.

Academic Status This is the status of a student with respect to academic performance. A student may be in Good Standing with a cumulative average of 2.0 or higher, on Scholastic Probation with a cumulative average below a 2.0, on Continued Probation if you remain on probation for more than one semester, or Dismissed after several semesters on probation. Your advisor can explain the nuances of academic status.

Athena UGA's course registration system. Students will find class schedules and other important information in Athena. Advisors use Athena to clear students' advising holds so they can register.

Audit Attend a class without receiving academic credit for it. If you wish to audit a class, you must get permission of the dean of the college and the department head first. Be sure to read policies about auditing in the bulletin and speak to your advisor, as it may not be in your best interest to audit a class. Audited classes do appear on your transcript, and you will be charged for them. **HOPE does not pay for audited classes.**

Award Letter When you have completed your FAFSA and any additional aid applications and the money has been awarded, you will receive an email (your award letter) with instructions to log in to Athena to view the amount of money you have been awarded.

Bulletin The UGA Bulletin is an online catalog that describes every major, minor and certificate program offered, outlines all the requirements for the degree or program and describes each course. Every UGA student should be familiar with the [Bulletin](#).

Bursar's Office The office that bills students for tuition, housing and other fees related to college expenses.

Certificate Program Certificate programs are generally multidisciplinary programs of approximately 15 hours designed to give students specific skills in an area of interest. Some examples include Digital Humanities, Historic Preservation and Organic Agriculture. You will find a complete list of [Certificate Programs](#) in the Bulletin.

Clear holds Holds that keep you from registering for classes can be placed on your account for a variety of reasons including unpaid fees, parking tickets or student conduct infractions. Every student at UGA has an advising hold every semester, until the student meets with his advisor. Once the student is advised, the advisor clears the hold and the student will be able to register when his time ticket comes up. Holds placed by other offices, such as Parking Services, must be cleared through the office that places them.

College At the University of Georgia, a college is an organizational unit of the institution that specializes in a certain type of education, such as the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences or the College of Public Health. Every major is associated with a college. UGA is composed of sixteen schools and colleges.

Core The first 60 hours of your degree requirements are in the core and are sometimes referred to as General Education requirements, a designated group of foundation courses in six disciplinary areas. The Core is intended to provide the broad based liberal arts education critical to career success, improving writing and quantitative skills and encouraging global citizenship.

Co-requisite A course that must be taken at the same time as another course; for example, a Chemistry lab may be a co-requisite to a Chemistry lecture class.

Course Load The total number of courses/credit hours the student is enrolled in per term.

CRN This abbreviation stands for Course Reference Number, and it is used to specify a particular section of a course, that is, a section that is taught at a particular day and time. Biology 1103 lab, for example, may be taught in twenty different time slots on three different days. The CRN you choose will decide which of these times you will attend class and where.

CUM The abbreviation used for cumulative average, that is, the grade point average of all courses taken at UGA only. The CUM does not include courses transferred in from other institutions.

CURO The Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities (CURO) offers UGA undergraduate students the opportunity to engage in faculty-mentored research regardless of discipline. Students may begin in CURO even in their first year. For more information, go to the [CURO website](#).

Curriculum The sequence of courses in a program of study that leads to receiving a Bachelor's degree in a particular major.

D2L An acronym for Desire To Learn (eLC/e Learning Commons), an online program used by professors and instructors to record assignments, grades, post readings and discussions for their class. Students are automatically enrolled in an eLC class by their instructor and should check the site regularly for assignments and readings.

Dawgs A colloquial spelling and pronunciation of ‘dog’ in an exaggerated Southern accent, intended to refer to students, fans and alumni of the University of Georgia Bulldogs.

Dean’s List An honor reserved for students who earn a 3.5 or higher on 14 or more credit hours in a semester.

Degree Works Degree Works is the online degree audit system used by UGA to record a student’s progress in satisfying degree requirements. Students can see their degree audit by logging into [DegreeWorks](#) with their MyID and password.

Discipline An academic field of study.

Dismissal The process of denying enrollment to a student for a prescribed length of time when the student has not been able to meet the academic standards of Continued Probation.

Double Major Students with a double major are planning to earn two Bachelor’s degrees of the same type, such as a BS in Biology and a BS in Psychology. This differs from a dual degree (below).

Double Dawgs An academic program that allows students to earn both a Bachelor’s degree and a Master’s degree in five years or less. This program is designed for highly motivated students who wish to increase their opportunities after graduation. Taking advantage of these opportunities requires intensive degree planning, so you should talk with your advisor as early as possible.

Drop/Add The period of time at the beginning of each semester when students can change the courses they registered for without incurring a penalty. At UGA, Drop/Add takes place in the first week of classes. Students should always talk to their advisor before dropping or adding classes.

Dual Degree Students earning a dual degree are earning two Bachelor’s degrees of different types, for example a BS in Psychology and an AB in Spanish. They must complete the requirements in both majors.

Elective A class you choose to take that is not required for your major. Most majors have some room in their degree program for elective classes. They are an opportunity for you to study something that interests you outside your major.

Experiential Learning Experiential learning gives students hands-on opportunities to connect their academic foundations to the world beyond the classroom through creative

endeavors, study abroad and field schools, internship and leadership opportunities, faculty-mentored research, and service-learning. All UGA students are required to engage in at least one experiential learning activity. Your advisor will help you decide what is best for you.

FAFSA This acronym stands for **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**, and is the basic form you must fill out to receive financial aid from the federal government to pay for college. The [Financial Aid Office](#) at UGA can help you with this process.

FERPA This acronym stands for Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act, a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA affords students the right to inspect and review their education records, request the correction of inaccurate or misleading records, consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in their education record and file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if the institution does not comply with this law. **It is important to note that student records are protected from parents, family members and outside parties unless the students signs a waiver giving explicit permission for the records to be revealed to a particular party. Any student who is taking, or has taken a course at UGA, is protected by FERPA.**

Grading Scale A grading scale is a range of quality points that comprise a course grade and delineate it as Excellent, Good, Satisfactory, Poor or Failing. The University of Georgia uses plus and minus grading to further define the student's performance and to calculate GPA. **It is important to note that HOPE does not use plus/minus grading in calculating the HOPE GPA.** Professors also have individual grading scales for tests, presentations and papers, and these vary among professors. Always check the syllabus to understand the professor's grading scale and expectations.

Grant Financial assistance that does not have to be paid back, for instance the Pell Grant. See Pell Grant below.

Hardship Withdrawal When a student experiences a medical, financial or family crisis that seriously affects the student's academic performance, he may seek a hardship withdrawal and be removed from all classes for the semester without penalty to his grades. Hardship withdrawals require documentation of a problem and can be sought through the Office of Student Care and Outreach.

Honor Societies An honor society is a group formed to recognize scholarship and achievement in academics. Some honor societies are specific to a discipline and some are based upon demographics such as gender. UGA has many honor societies.

In residence Classes taken in residence refer to classes taught and taken in a UGA program or campus. These may include classes taken in Study Abroad if they are part of a UGA program, such as in our Costa Rica program. UGA requires 45 of a student's last 60 hours to be taken in residence.

Late Add A process for adding a course to a student's schedule after the Drop/Add period has closed. Late adding requires the permission of both the instructor for the course and the head of the department or program that houses the course. [Late add forms](#) can be found on the Registrar's website.

Lower Division Courses numbered in the 1000 and 2000 range, usually taken by first and second year students.

Matriculation The payment of fees and tuition required to enroll in a college or university. The matriculation date is the date when the student officially becomes a Bulldawg at UGA.

Maymester A short, intense semester consisting of four weeks during which students attend a single class three or more hours every day. Students should choose classes for Maymester very carefully.

Minor A minor is a secondary field of study that requires fewer hours. Students do not earn a degree in their minor, but it is noted on their transcript.

MyID At UGA, every student and employee has a MyID that is used with a password to access email and use other computer programs and sites at the University. Your MyID is usually the first part of your University email address.

Office Hours The time set aside by professors and instructors to meet with their students and answer questions. Office hours are usually at a set time every week. You can usually find a professor's office hours on his syllabus.

Overall Average The average of grades in every college level course the student has taken regardless of institution. For transfer students, the overall average includes classes taken at their former and current institutions.

Pell Grant A Federal financial aid grant that does not have to be paid back as long as the student was and remains eligible for it. Pell grants are designed for low income students.

Placement Tests Tests used by the institution to gauge a student's level of proficiency in a subject area in order to place him in the next level of coursework. Sometimes a student can exempt courses by doing well on placement tests.

Plagiarism The act of using someone else's work, ideas, thoughts or language and representing it as your own by failing to give credit to the original author. Plagiarism is academically dishonest and a violation of the Student Honor Code that may result in penalties such as a failing grade on the test or in the course.

Presidential Scholar An honor reserved for students who earn a 4.0 grade point average on 14 or more credit hours in a semester.

Probation The academic status of a student when their CUM falls below a 2.0. At UGA there are two types of probation—Scholastic and Continued Probation—and specific rules and expectations apply to student performance. A student on either type of probation should **always** see their advisor early in the semester for assistance.

Quality Points Quality points are the cumulative points for each credit hour that are used to calculate GPA. An A=4 points, a B=3 points, a C=2 points and a D=1 point. GPA is calculated by multiplying the quality points for your grade in a class by the number of credit hours in the class (e.g. an A in a 3 hour class is worth 12 points). This calculation is repeated for all of your classes, and all the quality points are totaled. Your GPA is equal to the total quality points divided by the number of credit hours you have taken in the semester. You can find an explanation of UGA's quality point system on the Registrar's ["Grades" page](#).

Registrar The person and office responsible for maintaining student records, administering policies and procedures, maintaining class schedules and course enrollment information. The Registrar's office verifies degree completion before a student can graduate.

Registration Registration is the process of choosing courses and creating a class schedule for the next semester using Athena. Your registration date and time depends on the number of credit hours you have accumulated, with priority given to students who are farther along in their degree program. Students should be sure to have their academic advisement appointment before their registration date. Advisors do not register students for classes.

Research 1 University (R1) A category of universities labeled by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions to designate a high level of research activity by university faculty and a high number of Master's and Doctorate degrees conferred. UGA is an R1 institution.

SAGE Our Student Advisement and Guidance Expert (SAGE) is an advising platform that allows advisors to keep notes about their students' interests and plans. It is used in all colleges at the University of Georgia, so the student's academic record travels with him from one major to another. Students make their advising appointments by logging into [SAGE](#) and selecting an appointment on the advisor's calendar.

Short Session An abbreviated summer semester. Two four week short sessions are offered every summer after the conclusion of Maymester.

Student Honor Code A pledge taken by all students at the University of Georgia when they apply, stating "I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others."

Syllabus An outline of the professor's plans for the course that includes assignments, exam dates and projects. The syllabus also includes the learning objectives for the course and class policies like attendance. It is very important to read the syllabus carefully at the beginning of the semester. The syllabus outlines the expectations and requirements of the course.

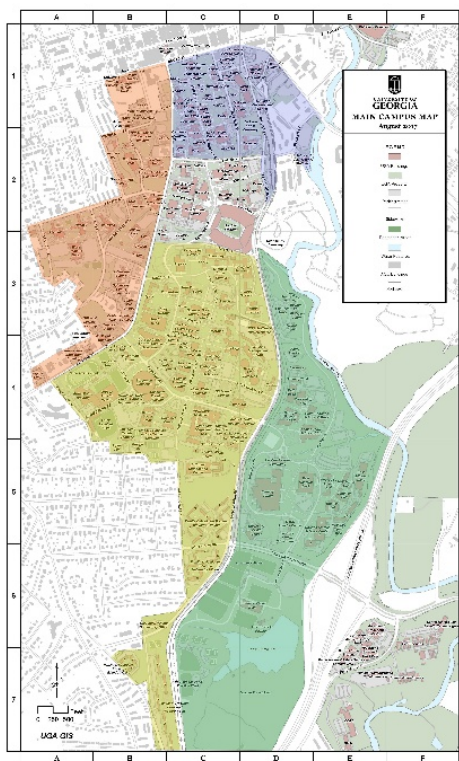
Teaching Assistant (TA) A teaching assistant is generally a graduate student who assists a professor in teaching a class. A TA may run discussion sections, labs or other breakout sessions for a professor and may assist in grading exams and homework and keeping records.

Thru Session An eight week summer term that runs concurrently with both short sessions.

Upper Division Courses in the 3000 and 4000 range, usually taken by juniors and seniors to fulfill degree requirements in their major or minor.

Withdrawal The student's decision to remove themselves from a class after the drop/add period is over. If the student withdraws prior to the withdrawal deadline, they receive a W on their transcript. If the student withdraws after the deadline (usually soon after the semester midpoint), they will receive a WF on their transcript. **A W has no effect on GPA, but a WF grade will factor into the student's GPA as an F.**

Work Study A federal program that provides jobs for students in financial need to help pay for their expenses. Work study jobs are usually on campus and part of a student's financial aid package.



UGA Campus

Historic **North Campus** houses many humanities and social science departments in Franklin, as well as UGA Administration, the UGA Chapel & Main Library. It is bordered by Broad St. and the Arch to the north.

South Campus is the home of science and computational departments and professional schools in related fields and the Stegeman Coliseum.

East Campus, off East Campus Road is where you'll find Ramsey Recreation Center, Parking Services, University Health Services (often simply referred to as the Health Center), Franklin's Music and Art programs, as well as the Performing Arts Center, Georgia Museum of Arts, East Campus Village residence and dining halls.

West Campus, on the west side of Lumpkin St. includes the high rise residence halls, the Terry College complex, the Special Collections Library and various chapels and organizations.

Health Sciences, located at the former Navy School on Prince Avenue houses the Augusta University/University of Georgia Medical Partnership. It is not visible on the map.

UGA Alphabet Soup

CAPS Counseling and Psychiatric Services, mental health and well-being services for students, located in the Student Health Center

COE College of Education, located in Aderhold Hall

DAE The Division of Academic Enhancement, found in Milledge Hall, is the central location for free academic coaching, tutoring and other student success initiatives.

DRC The Disability Resource Center strives to promote a welcoming academic, physical, and social environment for students with disabilities at UGA. The DRC provides such services as notetakers, alternative formats and assistive technology.

EL Experiential Learning requirement to engage in hands-on, experiential learning within a domestic or global setting.

eLC e Learning Commons, the online learning management system used by professors and instructors to record assignments, grades, post readings and discussions for their class.

FACS College of Family and Consumer Sciences, located in Dawson Hall,

GA Graduate Assistant, a graduate student who assists a professor in teaching a class, a lab or in research.

MLC The Miller Learning Center, a center set aside specifically for student learning use with defined study spaces, computer labs and small group meeting rooms, next door to the Tate Center.

MSP Multicultural Services and Programs, located in Memorial Hall, provides advice and leadership to multicultural organizations and social justice education to members of the campus community.

OER Open Educational Resources, i.e. textbooks available online at no cost and used by some professors at UGA

OIE Office of International Education, assists students with immigration services and study abroad

OSAS Office of Student Academic Services, in Franklin College, located in Brooks Hall.

OTAS Office of Transfer Academic Services for Franklin College, located in Brooks Hall,

RSVP The Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Center provides information, advocacy and support for victims of sexual violence.

SGA Student Government Association

SLC The Science Learning Center, a modern, efficient and flexible space for undergraduate laboratory teaching in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) disciplines, located on south campus.

SPIA School of Public and International Affairs.

WSP Washington Semester Program, an opportunity to live, work and study in Washington, DC for a semester.