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The Family Connection

Volume 5, Issue 5



Important Dates:



Saturday, December 10 through Friday, December 16 - Final Exams

Friday, December 16 and Saturday, December 17 - Commencement

Saturday, December 17 - Residence Halls Close at 4 p.m.

Wednesday, December 21 - Fall Semester Grades Available on ISIS.

Monday, December 26 through Friday, December 30 - UF Offices Closed.

Thursday, January 5, 2012 - Residence Halls Open at Noon
Friday, January 6 - GatorNights!

Monday, January 9 - Spring Classes Begin
Friday, January 13 - Drop/Add Ends

Commencement

Fall 2011 Commencement is December 16 and 17. Your students ceremony is dependent on their major and will be held according to college assignment.

Guests are encouraged to take advantage of shuttle service to the O'Connell Center where the ceremonies will be held. Shuttle buses will run to and from the commuter lot on Gale Lemerand Drive.



Questions? Email Us:
family@ufsa.ufl.edu

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Quick Links

Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs

Career Resource Center

Center for Leadership and Service

Counseling & Wellness Center

Dean of Students Office

Florida Opportunity Scholars Program

GatorWell Health Promotion

For information concerning commencement Webcasts, hotel guides, restaurant guides and more visit <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/commencement/>.

Congratulations all our graduates and their families!



Stress Relief for Your Student

At the end of the semester, students' stress levels can soar with the increased amount of school work as deadlines approach.

Providing them with information and resources to manage their stress is an effective way to ensure their happiness, productivity and well-being is a priority.

Encourage your student to fight off end of year blues, prepare for exams and celebrate the end of another successful year at the De-Stress Study Fest in the J. Wayne Reitz Union. Beginning Thursday, December 1 through the end of the semester students can take advantage of tutoring sessions for select classes or study with a group in any of the open meeting rooms. They can also take a break with free bowling or Zumba classes. There will be free massages and lots of nighttime snacks while the Union stays open 24 hours for the safety and benefit of the students.

Learn more at

<https://www.union.ufl.edu/Resources/DeStressStudyFest> or check the Gator Parent and Family Association Facebook Fan Page for up to date schedule of events for the De-Stress Study Fest.

Planning Ahead: Living Off Campus Next Year

During spring semester, students start thinking



GatorWell Health Promotion Services

Housing & Residence Education

J. Wayne Reitz Union

Multicultural & Diversity Affairs

Off Campus Life

Recreational Sports

Student Legal Services



Family Chat

UF's online Family Chat program is a great way to stay connected and informed! Join other UF family members and campus representatives for themed bi-monthly chat sessions. These live online sessions are designed to answer your specific questions and promote discussion about UF and common transition concerns you or your UF student may experience.

Thursday, January 12 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 25 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

ahead to summer and fall living arrangements. While some students stay in the residence halls, many choose to move off campus to apartments, condos, or houses.



Learn more at the [Family Chat Web site](#).

The Office of Off Campus Life provides many resources for students during their housing search and when they are signing contracts. The [Gator Guide to Off Campus Life](#) provides budget and leasing information, as well as tips on how to be a responsible neighbor.



Another resource, [the Gator Locator](#), allows students to search for off campus housing based on location, cost, amenities, and more. This is a free service for students.

Free Flu Shots for UF Students

Student may also schedule an appointment in the [Office of Off Campus Life](#) if they need advising or help with their housing.

Protect your student and remind them to get a flu shot today. Flu shots from the UF Student Health Care Center are free for currently registered students. Shots are available without an appointment from 8-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. at the main campus Student Health Care Center location (Infirmary Building, 1 Fletcher Drive) or SHCC@Shands (Health Science Center, Dental Towers, Room D2-49).

There are also outreach clinics, set up on certain days and times at various locations around campus. For more information, including facts about the flu shot, visit <http://shcc.ufl.edu>.



Florida Alternative Breaks Participant Applications

Is your student looking for a what to do with his/her Spring Break?

Florida Alternative Breaks provides educational service and leadership opportunities for students who want to make a difference during their

academic breaks. Each service trip revolves around a social issue, and students who participate gain valuable real-world experience.

Trips are regional and international. Student can apply now for spring 2012 trips. Learn more at the [Center for Leadership and Service Web site](#).

Planning Ahead: Career Showcase

Is your student looking for a job after graduation or a summer internship? Encourage him/her to attend the Career Resource Center's spring Career Showcase January 24-25 in the Stephen C. O'Connell Center.



Now is the time for your student to start planning for meeting possible employers. A list of employers attending, resume



employers. A list of employers attending, resume workshops and mock interviews are available through the [Career Resource Center](#).

Free On-Campus Tutoring Available

If your student is anxious about finals, extra help is always available at the Broward Teaching Center. Encourage your student to meet with a tutor early. Tutors are proficient in a broad range of subjects including economics, mathematics, statistics, writing, accounting, Spanish, and physical and biological sciences.

They offer individual tutoring and small group tutoring sessions. For more information visit them [online](#).



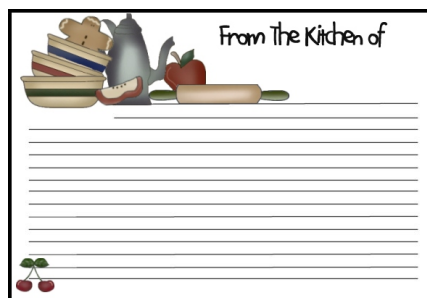
RecSports Group Fitness Online Registration

UF RecSports has moved registration for group fitness classes online. Students will no longer have to wait in line before a class or get a number to secure their spot. Participants may visit the RecSports Web site and register for a class ahead of time.

For directions about how to register and a complete list of fitness classes available, please visit the [UF RecSports Web site](#).

Treat Your Student to a Meal from Home

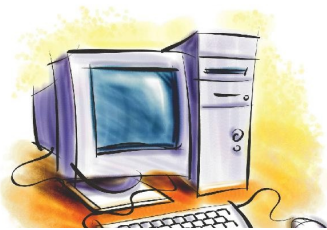
As the Fall 2011 semester draws to a close, Gator Dining has a lot of exciting dining hall events planned for your student in 2012 Spring semester. The events include themes such as Wild Wild West, Mardi Gras, Carnival and Flavors From Home.



For their Flavors From Home event, they are asking you to submit some of your favorite recipes so they can feature them in the dining halls. You can find the recipe [submission form online](#).

Spring meal plan payments are now due. For additional information, please visit www.gatordining.com or call their office at 352-392-7734

Protect Against Laptop Theft



Laptop loss and theft is a common issue for all universities. The University of Florida is addressing this issue with the laptop theft protection and recovery software program FrontDoorSoftware.



FrontDoorSoftware is a laptop security product designed to help with theft prevention, information protection, and laptop recovery. This product is offered free for four years to all University of Florida students, faculty, and staff.

The program can be downloaded at www.frontdoorsoftware.com/ufl. To get the software for free, students can simply use their University of Florida email address to create an account.

The University of Florida has chosen FrontDoorSoftware because it provides ten powerful features designed to protect your laptop in the event it is lost or stolen. The first screen someone will see when they turn on your computer is the theft prevention security ownership display screen, which provides the information needed to return students' laptop to them. This display screen and a visual security label are the first steps in protecting your laptop from theft.

In the event a student's laptop is stolen, he/she should file a theft report with the University of Florida Police Department at (352) 392-1111. After a report is filed, students should log into their FrontDoorSoftware account and report the stolen laptop. Learn more at <http://www.frontdoorsoftware.com/ufl/>

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