



*Parent
and Family*
**CALENDAR AND
HANDBOOK**
2021-22



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI.

Welcome TO THE Golden Eagle FAMILY!

Dear Parents and Family Members,

We are excited to welcome you as partners in your student's journey at The University of Southern Mississippi! We know that you play an important role in your student's success in college. It is our goal to provide you with information about the people, places and resources that are going to help you and your student transition to college at Southern Miss.

Keep up to date with information pertinent to you and your student. Check out the Southern Miss Parent and Family Facebook page and regularly refer to usm.edu/registrar/calendars. If you have questions throughout the year, contact the Center for Student Success at parentsandfamily@usm.edu.

Welcome to the Southern Miss family. Best wishes for the upcoming year!

Southern Miss... To The Top!

- Orientation and Transition Programs

iSouthernMiss APP

Although this guide will be an excellent resource for you as you begin your journey as a member of the Southern Miss family, we recommend you regularly check the iSouthernMiss app to stay informed of campus events and news that's pertinent to you!

The Center for Student Success PARENT AND FAMILY ASSOCIATION

PARENTSANDFAMILY@USM.EDU
601.266.6405
f SOUTHERN MISS
PARENT & FAMILY

The Center for Student Success assists students and families with their transition into the university community and supports students on their journey to graduation. Through the Parent and Family Association, a free resource for families, the center offers programs and events allowing you to stay informed and involved as partners in your student's education. Members of the Parent and Family Association are provided monthly e-newsletters, invited to on-campus events, have access to a monthly web series, and so much more. Connect with us via social media!

Parent and Family CHECKLIST

- Once dates are confirmed, register for Parent and Family Weekend 2021 through the Center for Student Success website.
- Stay advised on current campus safety information by signing up for Eagle Alerts on the University Police Department's website.
- Review the USM Payment Policy, pay fall semester bill or establish a payment plan with Business Services at usm.edu/business-services.
- Discuss finances, academic expectations, class attendance, campus resources, and behavioral expectations related to college freedom with your student. Open and honest conversations equip them to meet the challenges ahead.
- Encourage your student to have a conversation with their roommate to discuss roommate expectations and creating a mutually beneficial living space.
- Prepare for Move-In Day. South Mississippi is hot in August, so please plan accordingly. Review the move-in tips and reminders provided by the Department of Housing and Residence Life.
- Plan to send a month's supply of your student's required medications (allergy, diabetes, etc.), as a precaution and bring a prescription transfer from your local pharmacy to the Moffitt Health Center Pharmacy (campus clinic).
- Encourage your student to check their Southern Miss email account daily to receive important information from the University.
- Discuss which activities your student might find interesting, and encourage them to attend the fall Student Involvement Fair. Research shows that students who get involved during their first six weeks of class do better academically than students who do not get involved.
- Encourage your student to be an active participant at Golden Eagle Welcome Week (August 15 - 22)!
- Make plans to attend Parent and Family Weekend, November 5 - 7, 2021.
- Be on the lookout for Parent and Family Appreciation Week, September 26 - October 2, 2021!

Taking Care OF BUSINESS

Meal Plans

EAGLEDINING.COM

**THAD COCHRAN CENTER,
GROUND FLOOR
601.266.5376**

Eagle Dining has a variety of meal plans that allow a student to regularly dine at our all-you-care-to-eat facility, the Fresh Food Company, and at favorites across campus like Chick-Fil-A, Freshens, Subway and Starbucks. Additional Dining Dollars can be purchased to add more spending power to a student's plan. Meal plans are available for both on-campus (residential) and off-campus (commuter) students. Students who live on campus are automatically assigned a meal plan.

Accommodations

USM.EDU/ODA

BOND HALL, 1ST FLOOR | 601.266.5024

The Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) is Southern Miss' designated office to verify students' eligibility for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). ODA works with eligible registered students on an individual basis to provide classroom and housing accommodations that are specific to their disability. ODA works with faculty and staff on campus to ensure that students with disabilities have full access and the encouragement to participate in all university activities. ODA strives to create a positive campus environment where students with disabilities are supported in their pursuit of careers on the basis of their personal interest and ability.

Parking Permits

USM.EDU/PARKING

MCLEMORE HALL, 1ST FLOOR | 601.266.4943

Parking and Transit Services is responsible for overseeing the multiple aspects of parking and transit for The University of Southern Mississippi campuses, including zone enforcement, event parking, and combined maintenance and improvements of all parking areas on our campuses. All vehicles parked on campus must be registered online and a parking permit purchased. The permit cost is not included in the cost of tuition and fees. Students are required to register their vehicles and purchase parking permits online at usm.edu/parking.

Textbooks

SHOPSOUTHERNMISS.COM

BARNES & NOBLE | THAD COCHRAN CENTER | 601.266.4381

Barnes & Noble at Southern Miss acts as a complete support system for the campus community and ensures students are equipped with the tools they need for success in the school year. The bookstore provides a wide variety of affordable course materials, including new, used, digital and rental textbooks. Barnes & Noble at Southern Miss also offers a best-in-class retail experience, providing an unmatched assortment of Golden Eagle apparel, including shirts, hats, sweatshirts and more.

Access to Student Records

USM.EDU/REGISTRAR

KENNARD-WASHINGTON HALL, 1ST FLOOR | 601.266.5006

Students can grant access to any authorized person to view their student information inside our online student record system, SOAR. This portal is view-only access and does not allow the authorized person to perform any activity for his or her student, except to make payments. However, important information such as grades, financial aid and class schedules can be accessed.

- Log on to SOAR and locate the Parent/Guardian Access tile.
- The student will create a family member account login and password. This password will not expire.
- Once activated, family members can log into SOAR using their newly created login and password to view their student's information.
- For further assistance related to SOAR family member portal access, contact the Office of the Registrar at registrar@usm.edu or 601.266.5006.

Dean of Students

USM.EDU/STUDENT-AFFAIRS/ABOUT-DEAN-STUDENTS-OFFICE

R.C. COOK UNION 210 | 601.266.6028

The Office of the Dean of Students strives to be proactive in providing a safe, secure learning environment for all. The Campus Action Referral and Evaluation System (CARES) is a team of campus professionals who respond to reports of concern regarding the academic progress and well-being of students. Anyone is able to submit a concern about a student using CARES at usm.edu/student-affairs/cares.

Encourage your student to review the Student Code of Conduct, which can be accessed at usm.edu/student-affairs/division-policies.

University Advisement CENTER

USM.EDU/UAC

601.266.4626

f SOUTHERN MISS - UNIVERSITY ADVISEMENT CENTER

@ @USM_ADVISEMENT

The University Advisement Center provides holistic guidance to all freshman students to help them navigate SOAR and their degree plans, understand University policies, and learn about resources that can support their academic success.

The University Advisement Center also provides walk-in support to any Southern Miss student with questions or interest in changing their major.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Any student can visit usm.edu/ask to ask a question about advisement and who to contact.
- The University Advisement Center website has quick links and tutorials for online campus tools, including SOAR, Outlook and Canvas.
- The University Advisement Center even has open hours on the weekend!



Ask Your Student

- *Have you looked at each class syllabus and put important dates in your calendar? Which parts of the semester will be the busiest for you?*
- *Is there a campus organization you're interested in joining?*

AUGUST 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Classes begin <i>(intercession)</i>	3 Last day to add/drop without academic/ financial penalty <i>(intercession)</i>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Last day to add/ drop course request or withdraw from the University and receive a grade of W <i>(intercession)</i>	14 Move-In
15 Move-In	16	17	18 Final exams <i>(intercession)</i>	19 College Panhellenic Council Recruitment	20	21
Golden Eagle Welcome Week						
22 College Panhellenic Council Recruitment Golden Eagle Welcome Week	23 Classes begin <i>(full term)</i>	24	25 Last day to add/drop without academic/ financial penalty <i>(BWI)</i>	26	27	28
29	30 Last day to add/drop without academic/ financial penalty <i>(full term)</i>	31				

All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu.



OFFICE OF Financial Aid

USM.EDU/FINANCIAL-AID

601.266.4774

f SOUTHERN MISS FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid provides information regarding federal funding, like work study, federal PLUS loans for parents and private student loans. Current students and prospective students are encouraged to research all opportunities for funding, apply by the deadlines, and submit payment in full or set up a payment plan before the beginning of the academic year or term in which you plan to attend.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is available October 1 every year at studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa
- Visit the Parent Resources page to learn more about cost of attendance and information about loans for parents and families.

Ask Your Student

- Which classes are you enjoying the most? Which classes are turning out to be more work than you thought?
- What places have you found that you study best?

SEPTEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Southern Miss vs. South Alabama (Away)
5	6 Labor Day - Classes dismissed (Southern Miss offices closed)	7	8	9	10 Payment plan installment due	11 Southern Miss vs. Grambling State (Home)
12	13	14	15 State of Mississippi Financial Aid: MTAG and MESH application deadline	16	17	18 Southern Miss vs. Troy (Home)
19	20 Last day to add/drop course request or withdraw from the University and receive a grade of W (SW)	21	22	23	24	25 Southern Miss vs. Alabama (Away)
26	27	28	29	30		 <i>All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu.</i>

Office of **UNDERGRADUATE** Scholarships

USM.EDU/SCHOLARSHIPS

601.266.4540

f USM OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

@ USMSCHOLARSHIPS

The Office of Undergraduate Scholarships provides and rewards scholarly students with resources and tools to pursue academic and financial goals. Students can get help with the general scholarship application process in order to help make paying for college easier.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Submit your Golden Opportunities (GO) general scholarship application every year.
- Utilize the FLIGHT financial literacy program to help you get control of your personal finances.
- Stay informed regarding University financial deadlines at usm.edu/financial-aid and click on Financial Calendars.



Ask Your Student

- Have you scheduled an appointment with your academic advisor?
- Have you submitted your general scholarship application in the GO System?

OCTOBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available GO scholarship application available	2 Southern Miss vs. Rice (Away)
3	4	5	6	7 Tu/Th final exams (online) (8W1)	8	9 Payment plan installment due HOMECOMING! Southern Miss vs. UTEP (Home)
Homecoming Week						
10	11 M/W final exams (online) (8W1)	12 Classes begin (8W2)	13	14	15	16 Southern Miss vs. UAB (Home)
17	18	19 Last day to add/drop without academic/financial penalty (8W2)	20	21 Classes Dismissed - Fall Break (Southern Miss offices opened)		23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31					All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu .	Southern Miss vs. Middle Tennessee (Home)



Moffitt Health **CENTER**

USM.EDU/STUDENT-HEALTH-SERVICES

601.266.5390

f MOFFITT HEALTH USM

t @USMHEALTH

@ MOFFITT_HEALTH

Student Health Services exists to enhance student success by providing high-quality, cost-effective healthcare while promoting a culture of wellness through outreach programs and patient education. Moffitt Health Center is a multi-service healthcare facility located on the Hattiesburg campus. It is accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care Inc. (AAAHC) and has served the University community for more than 40 years. Qualified staff includes physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and registered nurses with a student-focused mission to provide quality, cost-effective, comprehensive healthcare and educational services to the University community.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- A \$20 student fee is charged for each visit to see a healthcare provider and can be placed on a student's ID.
- Moffitt Health Center has a full-service laboratory, an X-ray facility, and a pharmacy located within the clinic facility.
- Insurance is accepted and filed for students. It is recommended that students call their insurance providers to find out if the clinic is covered in their network.

Ask Your Student

- Do you need to visit any of your professors during their office hours to ask for assistance?
- What does the end of the semester look like for you? Will you have a lot of assignments due at once?

NOVEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Last day to add/drop course request or withdraw from the University and receive a grade of W (ful term)	3	4	5	6 Southern Miss vs. North Texas (Home)
7	8	9 Payment plan installment due	10 Last day to add/drop course request or withdraw from the University and receive a grade of W (8W2)	11	12	13 Southern Miss vs. UTSA (Away)
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Southern Miss vs. Louisiana Tech (Away)
21	22 M/W final exams (online) (8W2)	23	24 Thanksgiving - Classes dismissed (Southern Miss offices open)	25 (Southern Miss offices closed)	26	27 Southern Miss vs. FIU (Home)
28	29 Monday night examinations	30 Tuesday night examinations				All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu .

Counseling CENTER

USM.EDU/STUDENT-COUNSELING-SERVICES
601.266.4829

f USM STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES
t @SCS_USM
@ @USMSTUDENTCOUNSELINGCENTER

Student Counseling Services provides quality services to Southern Miss students by promoting sound mental health and the coping skills necessary for successful pursuit of educational and life goals. Mental health professionals work in a spirit of collaboration within the Division of Student Affairs to support individual responsibility, personal growth, and wellness of all members of the student body. Services are free and confidential.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Student Counseling Center works in collaboration with students to determine which wellness services will best meet students' needs.
- Staff will assist students in accessing services, which may include referrals to campus or community partners or any current resources available to help with out-of-pocket expenses.
- We offer in person, telehealth and crisis services and are free to all enrolled Southern Miss students.
- Students may call to make an appointment or come by the office.

Ask Your Student

- What classes did you enjoy the most? Which classes are you looking forward to next semester?
- What is the most important thing you learned about yourself this semester?



DECEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Wednesday night examinations MW Final Exams (8W2)	2 Thursday night examinations Tu/Th final exams (online) (8W2) Last day of classes (full term)	3 Reading Day	4
5	6 Final exams (online) (full term)	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Grades available to view in SOAR for students who have completed their course evaluations	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Winter Holiday (Southern Miss offices closed)			
26 Winter Holiday (Southern Miss offices closed)	27	28	29	30	31	

All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu.



HOUSING and RESIDENCE LIFE

USM.EDU/HOUSING

601.266.4783

f SOUTHERN MISS HOUSING

t @LIFEUSM

Housing and Residence Life offers a convenient and safe place for students to live while making the most of their social and academic lives. The department's mission is to provide a high-quality physical, social and cultural environment that encourages and supports the holistic development of the residential student. The department is comprised of 350 staff who help oversee operations in 14 residence halls, 10 sorority houses and nine fraternity houses. They employ their own maintenance team and housekeeping staff, and the student population living on campus numbers more than 3,500 students.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Students who live on campus show a higher scholastic performance and are more likely to graduate than those who live off campus.
- The Residence Hall Association (RHA) organizes many fun activities to help build relationships and memories that will last a lifetime! Living on campus means being at the center of classes, student activities and more!
- Beginning fall 2020, vaccinations for Meningitis B and Meningitis ACYW will be encouraged for all students living on campus.

Ask Your Student

- *What are some of your goals for this semester? What do you hope to have accomplished by May?*
- *Have you looked at each class syllabus and put important dates in your calendar? Which parts of the semester will be the busiest for you?*

JANUARY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Classes dismissed (Southern Miss offices closed)	18	19 Classes begin	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu .

LEADERSHIP *and* STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

USM.EDU/LSI
601.266.4403

f SOUTHERN MISS OFFICE OF LEADERSHIP
AND STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

t @USM_LSI

@ @USM_LSI

The Office of Leadership and Student Involvement provides valuable co-curricular experiences that exist to foster student growth and development while creating pathways for students to engage in their community. The office is home to over 200 student organizations, the Southern Miss Activities Council (SMAC) programming board and the Student Government Association. Located in the Student Activities Hub, the office space is a central hangout spot for all students. Stop by to find out ways you can get involved on campus!

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Involvement in college is a predictor of success! Students who are involved outside of the classroom tend to perform better academically and feel more connected to campus. Highly engaged students are more invested, which means they are more likely to come back to school each semester than less engaged students.
- Whether it's attending a free outdoor concert event put on by SMAC, becoming a senator for the Student Government Association, or visiting with a Student Involvement Ambassador in the office, involvement comes in many shapes and sizes!
- Throughout the year, the office hosts various leadership development workshops and events for students, as well as student involvement fairs at the beginning of each semester. Be sure to follow us on social media so you don't miss out!

Ask Your Student

- How are you adjusting to your new schedule this semester?
- What campus organizations are you getting more involved in this semester?



FEBRUARY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					
	Mardi Gras Break - Classes dismissed					All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu .

Inclusion AND Multicultural ENGAGEMENT

USM.EDU/STUDENT-AFFAIRS/OFFICE-INCLUSION-MULTICULTURAL-ENGAGEMENT

601.266.6037

f IMEUSM

@IMEUSM

Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement provides transformative experiences to foster the growth and development of historically underserved communities. As advocates for institutional and cultural change, we promote a supportive and inclusive community for professional and personal development by cultivating globally aware citizens.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- The office sponsors Black History Month on campus. IME collaborates with student organizations and campus partners to develop a month of exciting programs.
- Southern Miss ALLIES is a network of people on campus willing to be visibly supportive and affirming of students who are members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Students, faculty and staff can participate in ALLIES training to learn how to assist in creating a more just society.
- We celebrate African American students by hosting annual award ceremonies like the COSE (Celebration of Scholastic Excellence) Awards and the Kente Ceremony.



Ask Your Student

- *Have you found favorite local spots in Hattiesburg?*
- *What are your plans for this summer? Are you interested in summer classes or finding an internship?*

MARCH 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Classes Dismissed - Mardi Gras Break Deadline to apply for Pathway Experiences Scholarships	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Classes Dismissed - Spring Break						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu.



Fraternity AND Sorority LIFE

USM.EDU/FRATERNITY-SORORITY-LIFE
 601.266.4823
 f USM FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE
 t @USM_FSL
 i @USM_FSL

Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) at Southern Miss is home to three student governing bodies: the College Panhellenic Council, the Interfraternity Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Council. FSL supports its members by promoting personal growth and intellectual development and providing members with connections that will last throughout college and beyond. The community values academic success and consistently has a higher cumulative GPA than their unaffiliated counterparts.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- The connections made by joining a fraternity or sorority can assist students long after their time in college ends – it's for a lifetime!
- The cost of joining a fraternity and sorority varies by chapter. It is important that your student ask questions regarding the financial commitment of each organization.

Ask Your Student

- How is preparation for your finals going? Are you getting enough rest?
- What is the biggest lesson you learned this year?

APRIL 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
						Classes Dismissed - Good Friday
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu .

CENTER FOR Pathway Experiences

USM.EDU/PATHWAYS

601.266.4976

 PATHWAYSUSM

 @USMPATHWAYS

The goal of the Center for Pathway Experiences is to assist undergraduate students in finding, funding and finishing pathway experiences, such as internships and research opportunities, that connect to the student's post-graduation goals. Students are able to schedule one-on-one appointments for help finding resources and résumé assistance to help them secure a pathway experience. Students can also apply for competitive summer scholarships for pathway experiences through the GO System.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- The center helps undergraduates connect the dots and become ready for life after college through hands-on experiences, which can include internships, externships and research opportunities.
- After students reflect on their pathway experiences, they are eligible for free graduation cords when they get ready to graduate!

Ask Your Student

- Are you planning to visit one of your friends over the summer?
- Are there any opportunities over the summer that can build on what you learned during your first year?



MAY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu.



Career SERVICES

USM.EDU/CAREER-SERVICES

601.266.4153

f USM CAREER SERVICES

t @USMCAREERSRVCS

@ USMCAREERSERVICES

Career Services aims to prepare students for life after college by guiding them along their paths while they are here. Career counselors and staff help students choose a major, take interest assessments and explore career options. Staff members also critique résumés and cover letters and help students prepare for interviews. The office is also home to Handshake, the online career center database that allows students to search for all part-time employment needs, including on-campus, off-campus and temporary jobs. To learn more, visit usm.joinhandshake.com

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Career Services hosts career and internship expos with opportunities for full-time careers, part-time jobs and internships to help place students in a work setting that aligns with their long-term career goals.
- The office has multiple online tools to help students plan and prepare for life after college.

Ask Your Student

- What are you most excited about for this fall semester?
- Have you mapped out your classes?

JUNE 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu.



Alumni ASSOCIATION

SOUTHERNMISSALUMNI.COM

601.266.4153

f SOUTHERN MISS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

t @USMALUMNI

@ @USMALUMNI

The Southern Miss Alumni Association serves as a driving force in the efforts to advance the University and provides alumni with a deep connection to their alma mater. The Association's student organization, the Student Alumni Association (SAA), emphasizes the value of USM traditions throughout the student experience – beginning with Painting the Eagle Walk during their very first week on campus to Grads & Crawdads during their final semester before graduation.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Involved students become loyal alumni who remain connected to their alma mater for life.
- Membership in the Student Alumni Association is \$20 per academic year and may be paid via student accounts, credit/debit cards or cash.
- SAA members and children/grandchildren of Southern Miss alumni are eligible for Southern Miss Alumni Scholarships.

Ask Your Student

- What are you most excited about for this fall semester?
- Have you mapped out your classes?

JULY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

All dates are subject to change. Stay up to date at usm.edu.

College Lingo

Academic Advisor | A faculty or staff member in your academic area who is assigned to help you with your academic planning is your advisor.

Academic Calendar | Found on the Registrar's website, this calendar highlights all of the important academic deadlines and campus holidays.

Academic College | Academic colleges are clusters of courses of study available to students at Southern Miss.

Advisement | Advisement occurs when you meet with your academic advisor each semester to discuss how you are progressing toward your degree, to finalize your class schedule for the upcoming term, and to talk about your plans after graduation.

Canvas | Canvas is a website that you will log into using your SOAR ID and password to access online classes and supplemental material for your courses.

Commencement | Also known as graduation, Commencement is the ceremony that honors the completion of your degree.

Credit Hour | A credit hour is equivalent to one hour of class time per week. Courses are usually measured in credit hours, with the average being three or four. Students may refer to how many credit hours or credits they are carrying for a particular semester. Graduation requirements are usually measured in credit hours, e.g. "120 credit hours required for graduation."

Dean | A dean is an administrator in charge of an academic college or other major area of student life.

Degree Progress Report | This is a report that shows the progress a student has made toward degree completion.

Disburse | When funds (like your financial aid and/or a scholarship) have been applied to your account in Business Services, this is referred to as a disbursement.

The Dome | The Aubrey K. Lucas Administration Building, referred to as "The Dome," is the focal point of campus and houses the offices of the University president and vice presidents.

FAFSA | The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required to be considered for federal student loans, grants and some scholarships.

FERPA | The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects the confidentiality of your educational records. You must waive your FERPA rights in order for your parents or guardians to have access to your Southern Miss records.

The Fresh | The Fresh is the nickname for the Fresh Food Company, the main cafeteria-style eatery on campus, and is located on the first floor of the Thad Cochran Center.

Full-Time Status | This status refers to enrollment in 12 or more credit hours for the fall/spring semester and nine or more credit hours for the summer semester. Mississippi residents receiving some forms of state aid and many scholarship students, however, must enroll in 15 credit hours.

General Education Curriculum | General Education Curriculum (GEC) refers to course requirements designed to help you have a general background in several areas outside of your major area of study.

GEWW | GEWW is an abbreviation for Golden Eagle Welcome Week, a week-long extended orientation program for all new students.

GPA | GPA is an abbreviation for grade point average.

Intersession | Intersession is a mini-term between the traditional, standard academic terms.

Major | A subject or career field that serves as the focus of study in a degree plan is called a major.

Meal Plan | A prepaid meal plan is selected at the beginning of each semester through Eagle Dining.

Minor | A secondary concentration in a specific subject or career field is called a minor.

OTP | OTP is the abbreviation for the Office of Orientation and Transition Programs.

Prerequisite | Prerequisites are courses that students are required to take prior to registering for an upper-level course.

RA | A resident assistant (RA) is someone who lives on your floor in your residence hall and is available to help you.

Registrar | The Office of the Registrar is responsible for the official records of all University students.

The Rock | The Rock is the nickname for M.M. Roberts Stadium.

SOAR | SOAR, the University's online records system, is a website where you can add/drop classes, view degree progress, accept/decline financial aid and view grades.

SGA | The Student Government Association (SGA) represents student concerns and serves as the voice for Southern Miss students.

SMTTT | The University's official motto is "Southern Miss To The Top" and is commonly abbreviated, SMTTT.

Syllabus | Each instructor distributes an outline or overview of the course at the beginning of each semester. The syllabus usually includes course expectations, exam and project dates, and the instructor's office hours.

Transcript | Your official academic record, also known as a transcript, can be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.

Tuition | Tuition is the amount of money charged for classes. (This does not include residence hall or meal plan fees.)

Verification | Verification occurs when the Office of Financial Aid requires additional documentation from you in order to evaluate your eligibility for federal financial aid.

Withdrawal | The withdrawal process means to formally drop all of your courses so that you are no longer a student at the University.

WHO CAN HELP

Leadership and Student Involvement	usm.edu/lsi	601.266.4403	The Hub
Fraternity and Sorority Life	usm.edu/fraternity-sorority-life	601.266.4823	R.C. Cook Union
Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement	usm.edu/student-affairs/office-inclusion-multicultural-engagement	601.266.6037	The Hub
Dean of Students	usm.edu/student-affairs/about-dean-students-office	601.266.6401	R.C. Cook Union
Career Services	usm.edu/career-services	601.266.4153	McLemore Hall
University Police Department	usm.edu/police	601.266.4986	Bond Hall
Financial Aid	usm.edu/financial-aid	601.266.4774	Kennard-Washington Hall
Housing and Residence Life	usm.edu/housing	601.266.4783	Hickman Hall
iTech	usm.edu/itech	601.266.4357	Cook Library
Business Services	usm.edu/business-services	601.266.4137	Forrest County Hall
Admissions	usm.edu/admissions	601.266.5000	Kennard-Washington Hall
Registrar	usm.edu/registrar	601.266.5006	Kennard-Washington Hall
Moffitt Health Center	usm.edu/student-health-services	601.266.5390	Century Park South
Counseling Center	usm.edu/student-counseling-services	601.266.4829	Bond Hall
Eagle Dining	eagledining.com	601.266.5376	Thad Cochran Center
Parking and Transit Services	usm.edu/parking	601.266.5447	McLemore Hall
Student Support Services/TRIO	usm.edu/federal-trio-programs	601.266.6920	McLemore Hall
The Writing Center	usm.edu/writing-center	601.266.4821	Cook Library
The Speaking Center	usm.edu/speaking-center	601.266.4965	Cook Library
Office of Undergraduate Scholarships	usm.edu/scholarships	601.266.4540	Kennard-Washington Hall
Center for Military Veterans, Service Members and Families	usm.edu/military-veterans	601.264.4629	3503 Morningside Drive Hattiesburg, Miss.

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 Office of Orientation and Transition Programs

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