

**Understanding Academic Standing**  
**USM Academic Probation & Suspension Policy**

<b>Academic Standards for GPA</b>	
<b>Total Hours Attempted</b> (Including transfer credit)	<b>Minimum Cumulative GPA Required</b> (Southern Miss work only)
0 - 14	1.50
15 - 29	1.75
30 and above	2.00

<b>Initial Academic Standing</b>	<b>Semester Academic Results</b>	<b>Consequence</b>
<b>First time ...</b>	· Cumulative GPA < specified above	<b>Academic probation</b>
While on <b>academic probation...</b>	· Cumulative GPA < specified above OR · Semester GPA $\geq$ 2.0	<b>Academic probation continued</b> Requires approval of Chair/Director + Dean to enroll in subsequent semester.
While on <b>academic probation <i>continued</i> ...</b>	· Successfully continues to earn semester GPA $\geq$ 2.0	<b>Gets to remain on academic probation continued</b> Student on <i>academic probation continued</i> who fulfills their contract's conditions requires approval of the chair/director to enroll in subsequent semester.
	· Semester GPA < 2.0	<b>Academic suspension</b> · Requires sitting out one semester. · Must achieve semester GPA $\geq$ 2.25 upon return <i>OR</i> required cumulative GPA.
<b>For any semester ...</b>  That is, on probation or not.	· Semester GPA = 0.00 PLUS · Cumulative GPA < specified above	<b>Academic suspension</b> · Requires sitting out one semester. · Must achieve semester GPA $\geq$ 2.25 upon return <i>OR</i> required cumulative GPA.  That is, student directly moves to suspension, bypassing probation stage.
<b>After readmission following academic suspension ...</b>	· Fails to earn required semester GPA	<b>Academic suspension II</b>

	(i.e., $\geq 2.25$ upon return, minimum specified in Bulletin.)  <i>(NOTE: This last cycle may repeat if cumulative GPA stays &lt; 2.0.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Requires sitting out <i>two</i> semesters</li> <li>· Readmission suspension period requires reinstatement to the university through "the change of academic status" process (Chair/Director + Dean approval)</li> </ul>
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Notes:

- While on suspension leave, student may choose to take **courses at another regionally accredited institution** of higher education and may transfer credits earned at that university or college assuming the courses meet USM criteria for transfer credits. (Note that these transfer credits will not affect the cumulative USM GPA.)
- Readmission after the required suspension period requires reinstatement to the university through "**the change of academic status**" process initiated with the chair/director of the student's current department/school and the dean of the college in which the student was enrolled as a major.
- Students who are suspended may **appeal the suspension** through their college process. If readmitted under a suspension appeal contract, a minimum term GPA will be required by the college. Students meeting the term GPA will be able to have continued enrollment each subsequent term. The contract will be re-evaluated each term against the student's term GPA until the overall GPA is obtained.