

The Southern Miss
Guide to

SOPHOMORE SUCCESS

2023



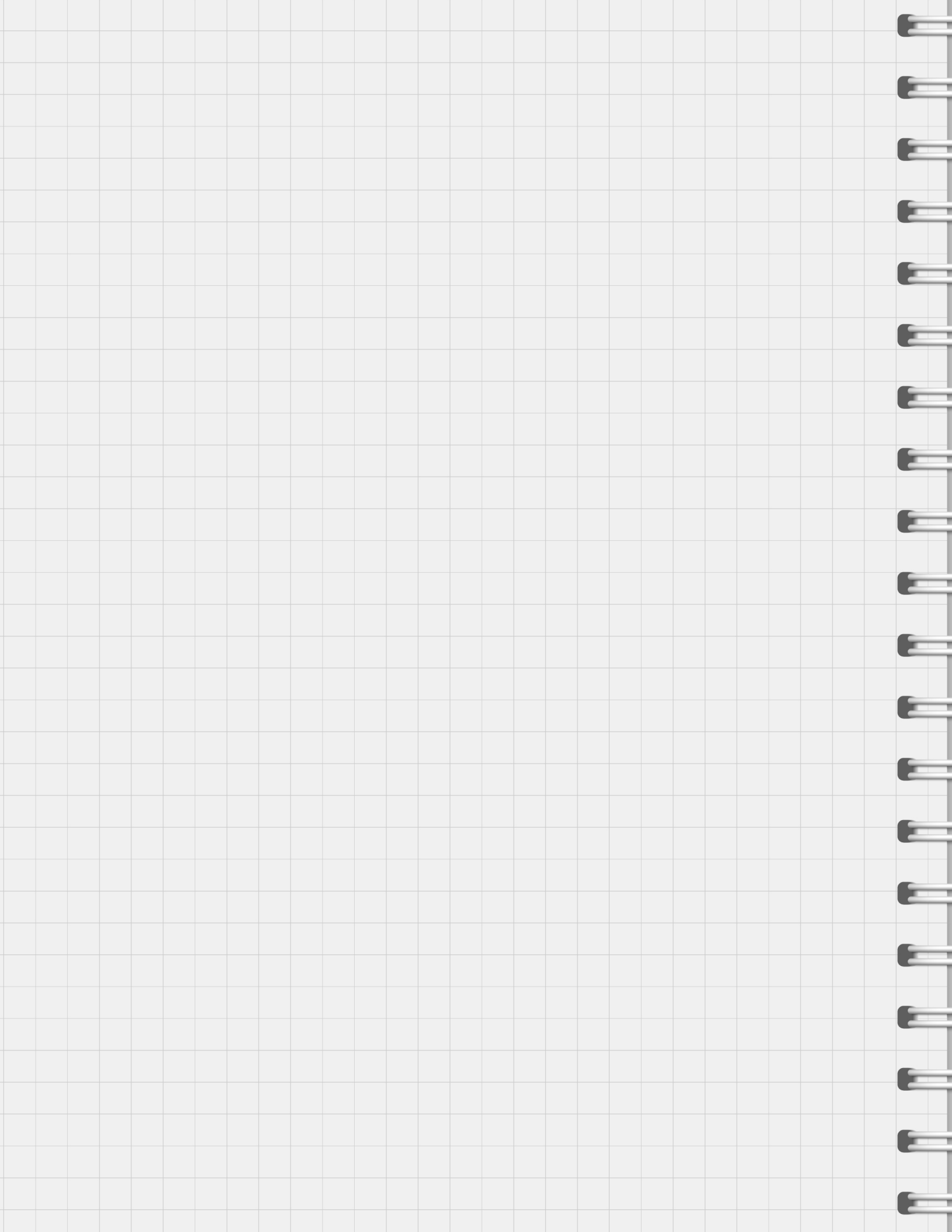


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Hi, sophomore!

Congrats on making it through your first year of college! The last year was likely full of many changes, transitions and challenges, and you've made it through to the other side. You may be thinking that sophomore year is no big deal, but we want you to know what an incredible year of growth it can be for you. You already know the ropes of college; you know how class schedules, the Fresh Food Company and student life at Southern Miss works, so now you can focus your energy on other things.

In your sophomore year, we want you to focus on defining your career goals, improving your academic performance, developing your leadership skills and finding your place as a confident and proud Southern Miss student. Our office, The Center for Student Success, is here to help you along on this journey. We hope you'll participate in our programs and events just for sophomores, and make this year even better than the last.

Southern Miss To The Top!



SOPHOMORE SEPTEMBER

Sophomore September is a month-long celebration just for sophomores on campus. The Center for Student Success will host four events that will benefit you as you begin your second year. All events are free for students, and there will be free food, prizes, buttons and T-shirts!

Mark Your Calendars!



Sophomore Kick-Off

4-6 p.m., Centennial Green – Rain location TBD

Celebrate the start of your sophomore year with free food and tailgate games! T-shirts will be given to the first 50 sophomores in attendance.



Sophomore September Library Escape Room

5 p.m., Cook Library 206Z

Learn more about the University Libraries and all they have to offer through an interactive escape room experience. Prizes will be awarded to the winning teams!



Explore Your Skills

5-6 p.m., Union Room B

Learn about the soft skills you need to find a part-time job or internship with Career Services. Dinner will be provided.



Ask an Eagle

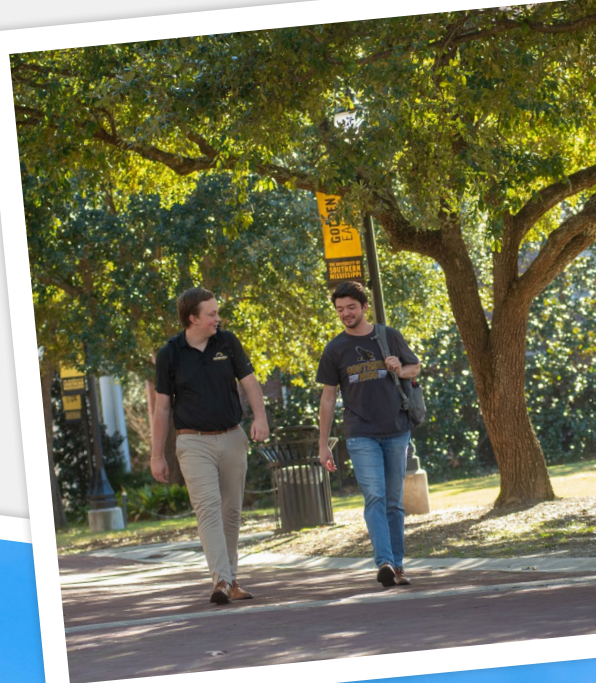
12:30 p.m., The Hub/Office of Leadership and Student Involvement Office

Learn from the experiences of other Southern Miss student leaders at this Q&A student panel. Lunch will be provided.

SPARK SOPHOMORE SUCCESS

Spark is a program just for sophomores at Southern Miss. It's a great way to get connected to other students on campus, feel confident in your career path, and become more involved in your university community.

Any sophomore student can participate in the Spark program by attending the planned events. Just choose one event from each of the four categories, and be sure to check in upon arrival. Students who successfully complete the program will receive a \$200 textbook scholarship to use toward books for the next semester from Barnes & Noble. It's that easy!



Spark

Interested in learning more?

Additional details about the Spark program are available on the CSS website: usm.edu/student-success/spark-sophomore-program.php.

Contact success@usm.edu for more information.

BE CONFIDENT IN YOUR CAREER PATH

How confident are you in your choice of major? Now is the time to explore all your options.

Visit **Career Services at Southern Miss** to explore major and career options through their career counseling services or their FOCUS career assessment. Visit usm.edu/success for more information.

Want to learn more? Attend one of these events this semester and take your major and career confidence to a new level.



Explore Your Skills

5 p.m., Union Room B

How confident are you that you have the skills you need to land a job or an internship this year? Learn about soft skills needed for basic jobs and feel great about your next interview.



Career and Internship Expo

10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Thad Cochran Center

This is your chance to meet future employers. It's never too early to start networking, and many of these employers will have internship opportunities available.



Finding Your Pathway

5 p.m., Thad Cochran Center 214

Need an internship? Learn all you need to know, from when to start an internship to where to find one.

MAKE A CONNECTION

If you didn't get the chance to join a student organization during your freshman year, it's not too late! There are hundreds of student organizations out there waiting for you. The **Office of Leadership and Student Involvement** is located in The Hub and can help you out any time you want to drop in.



Friday Night at Spirit Park

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Spirit Park

Want to meet other sophomores and get connected to your peers? Join us for our sophomore-only kick-off event!



Sophomore Kick-Off

4 - 6 p.m.
Centennial Green
Rain location TBD

SEE THE WORLD

If you're thinking about studying abroad, your sophomore year is a great time to start planning!

Visit the **Study Abroad office** in the International Center or visit their website at usm.edu/study-abroad.



FIND A MENTOR

Did you know that a majority of students report feeling more connected to their university after identifying a faculty, staff or peer mentor? Students with a consistent mentor also achieve higher GPAs and are more likely to graduate.

If you're looking for a faculty or staff mentor to help guide you through college, contact the **Center for Student Success** at success@usm.edu.

Interested in connecting with a peer mentor that's been in your shoes? We've got just the event for you!



Ask an Eagle

12:30 p.m.
The Hub













Listen to fellow upperclassmen students discuss their struggles and successes from their sophomore year.

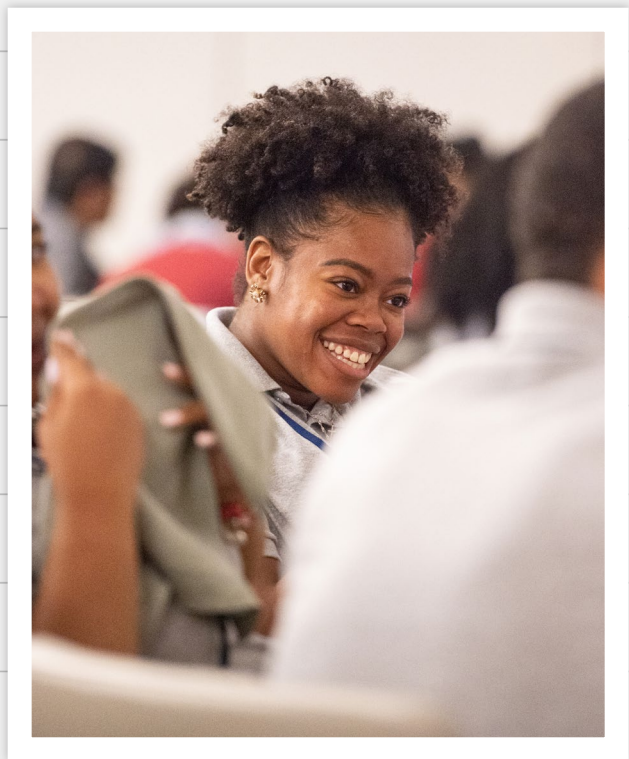


SOPHOMORE CHECKLIST




You may know how to do many of these tasks from last year, but it's a great reminder of all you can do in the next couple of weeks to be as prepared as possible for the start of year two. Complete the list below, and you'll be prepped for success!

Before the First Day of Class

-  Locate your student ID
-  Register for a parking permit
-  Walk around campus and locate your class buildings
-  Log in to Canvas
-  Review syllabi
-  Set and adjust to a schedule (sleeping and work)
-  Gather materials needed for notetaking in class
-  Invest in a planner
-  Check your USM email daily
-  Know who your faculty advisor is
-  Pay bill/sign up for payment plan
-  Accept awards/scholarships



When Classes Begin

-  Attend the first day of class
-  Be aware of the add/drop date
-  Introduce yourself to professors

COME SEE US!

We are happy to offer
numerous resources to you!
We have study and lounge spaces available, too!

THE CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Cook Library 138 (First Floor)

601.266.6405

success@usm.edu

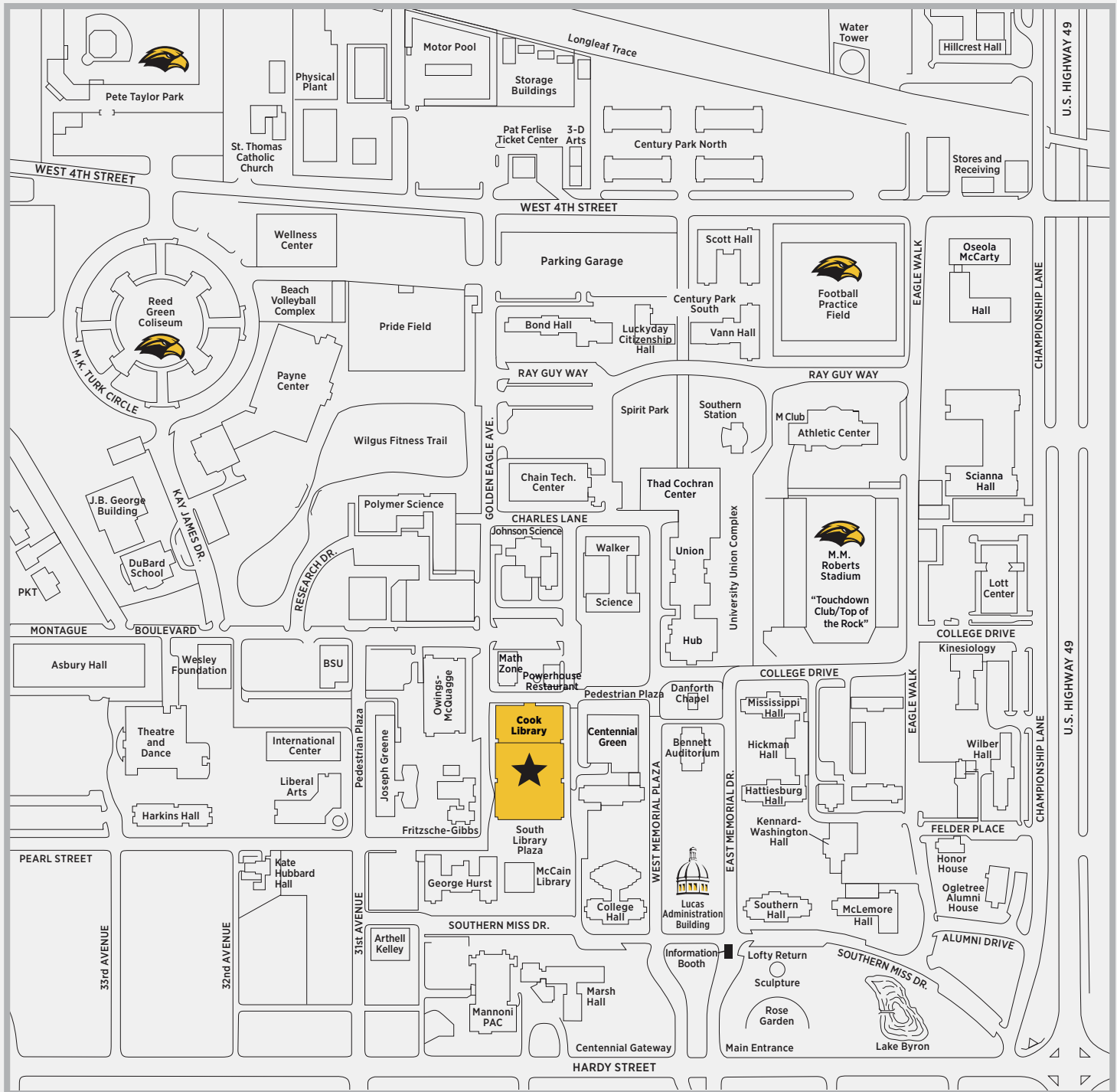
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THE CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Cook Library 138 (First Floor)



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**SOUTHERN
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