

FAQ (Summer Field Program)

Use Ctrl+F to search the document for specific keywords. If you do not find what you are looking for, please email sfp@usm.edu

- What times does my class meet?

A typical meeting pattern for an in-person class is every weekday 8:30-noon and 1:30-

4:00 for a lecture/lab day, but exact times will be communicated to you by your instructor. Field trip days can meet earlier or later. Typical boat trips are 8:00am- 4:00pm, but are weather dependent. Morning rainstorms can delay the start time of a trip, thus delaying the end time. Class meeting patterns for online classes will be communicated by your professor. Some classes take evening trips, night trips, or overnight trips so the meeting pattern is weather-dependent and highly variable.

- When will I be notified of acceptance into SFP?

As application materials are submitted and reviewed students will be notified of acceptance into the program on a rolling basis starting mid to late February. This means a student has met the minimum requirements to be admitted to USM and Summer Field Program.

- When will I be notified what courses, I am accepted into?

A week or two after the application deadline, about mid-April 2024

- Why don't I get notified of my courses at the same time as receiving the program acceptance?

Program acceptance means you have met the minimum requirements to be admitted into USM and into the Summer Field Program. USM staff must carefully review transcripts to ensure pre-requisites are met for specific courses before class assignments are determined.

- How many credit hours can I take?

In each term, students may take up to 6 credit hours of in-person coursework or 11 credit hours of online coursework.

- I have submitted my shot record/app fee/transcript but when I log into the application portal it is not showing as received

The different materials are sent to different offices for processing, an outside health

system reviews shot records, transcripts are reviewed and verified. Allow a couple weeks and if it is still not showing up as submitted in the application portal, email sfp@usm.edu to confirm your document was received.

- Do I have to live on campus?

No. Dormitories are offered with a meal plan that will allow students to spend their time completely on campus however.

- I have a dormitory-related question.

Browse our program handbook: : https://www.usm.edu/ocean-science-engineering/_files/2021-sfp-handbook.pdf use Ctrl+F to search specific keywords. If you still have questions, email our housing coordinator Martha.Brown@usm.edu

- If I live off campus, can I purchase a meal plan?

Not at this time. We are exploring options for a lunch-only meal plan for commuter students.

- If I live in the dorm, do I have to have a meal plan?

Yes

- Do I need to bring food on my field trip?

Students on a meal plan will have 3 meals daily provided for them on all field trips. Commuter students will have meals provided on overnight field trips but will need to pack a lunch for day trips and boat trips.

- I am having technical difficulties with SOAR, setting up USM email, or using Canvas
There is helpful information on the USM iTech web page at: www.usm.edu/itech. The iTech phone number is 601.266.4357.

- I have a different question.

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- How do I have my course credits transferred back to my home institution?

If you are from BGSU, Northwest Missouri State, Auburn, or Southern Arkansas University and enrolled at your courses at your home institution, no action is needed. If you are from another college, request a transcript to be mailed to your home institution either through SOAR (>Student Dashboard > Academics > Order Official Transcript) or at www.transcripts.usm.edu.