

mechanisms in Rule 6A-10.024, F.A.C., shall be considered to have satisfied the requirements in subsection 6A-10.030(2), F.A.C., to the extent of the college credit awarded.

Transfer students who have taken one or more of the above courses at another Florida institution will have these courses counted toward Gordon Rule requirements only if the course was so designated at the institution where the course was taken.

Note: Courses designated by Florida Gulf Coast University to satisfy the Gordon Rule are subject to change. Students should check with an academic advisor for up-to-date information.

Graduation Requirements

Associate of Arts Degree

The following are minimum requirements for awarding the associate of arts (AA) degree:

- Earn a minimum of 60 semester hours with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 in all coursework attempted at FGCU.
- Satisfy general education requirements (36 hours of required and elective coursework in prescribed areas; see General Education section).
- Satisfy Gordon Rule requirements (see Gordon Rule section).
- Complete 15 of the last 30 credit hours at FGCU.
- Satisfactorily complete the CLAST or an approved alternative to CLAST (as designated by the State Board of Education).
- An AA degree is not automatically awarded. Students are required to apply within the deadline requirement.
- Application for AA degree must be submitted to the appropriate academic advisor for approval within one semester of completion of the requirements.
- The AA degree information and date of award are listed on the academic transcript.

Baccalaureate Degree

The following are minimum requirements for awarding the baccalaureate degree:

- Apply for graduation by the deadline indicated in the Academic Calendar.
- Recommendation by appropriate college advisor.
- Earn a minimum of 120 semester hours (certain majors may require more than 120 hours) with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 in all coursework attempted at FGCU. Colleges and departments may have requirements that exceed these minimums.
- Satisfy general education requirements (36 hours of required and elective coursework in prescribed areas; see General Education section).
- Satisfy Gordon Rule requirements (see Gordon Rule section).
- Satisfactorily complete the CLAST or an approved alternative to CLAST (as designated by the State Board of Education) and the writing and computation course requirements. (Successful completion of the CLAST is an admission requirement for undergraduate programs in the College of Education. Education majors cannot receive an exemption from the CLAST.)
- Earn a minimum of 48 hours of upper division coursework (courses numbered 3000 and above).
- Complete all program requirements.
- Complete the university service learning requirements.
- Complete the University Colloquium.
- At least 25% of the coursework required for the degree and 30 of the last 60 hours must be earned at FGCU.
- All students entering FGCU with fewer than 60 semester hours of credit are required to earn at least 9 semester hours of credit prior to graduation by attendance during

one or more summer terms. The university may waive the application of this rule in cases of unusual hardship (see Summer Enrollment Requirement).

- Satisfy State of Florida foreign language admission requirement.

Minors

Minors are available in some colleges/schools. Minors must be indicated on the Application to Graduate and must be certified in conjunction with the baccalaureate degree. Certification will not be made at a later time even if additional courses have been completed.

Honors Program

The University Honors Program offers special opportunities for superior students to pursue challenging academic work that is tailored to individual interests and abilities. The Honors Program emphasizes more than just courses and grades; it provides opportunities for students to participate in creative activities outside of the classroom. Further, the Honors Program is built around a commitment to community service and civic engagement—guiding principles of Florida Gulf Coast University.

The Honors Program is university wide and open to students entering at the freshman through junior levels. Prospective honors students must meet high academic standards and should be interested in developing themselves beyond the traditional classroom setting. Each honors student has the opportunity to work with an academic mentor and to develop an individual honors program of study. Students in the Honors Program may elect to take honors sections of traditional courses or to develop an honors contract for a regular course that allows the student to engage in more challenging work beyond normal course requirements.

The University Honors Program offers scholarships and special events and activities that are available only to students in the program. Resident students of the Honors Program can request housing in the Honors/Scholars dorm. An Honors Lounge has been established in Whitaker Hall and the Honors Student Organization has offices in the Student Union Building. Laptop computers are available for Honor Student use. The Annual Honors Banquet, held in the spring semester, recognizes student leaders and graduates and is the forum for the Honors Program sponsored "Last Lecture Series". All Honor program students enjoy priority registration and have extended library privileges.

Each student who fulfills Honors Program requirements is given special recognition at graduation, and a certificate is included on the student's official transcript. Successful completion of an honors program curriculum demonstrates an individual's ability to study independently, yet collaboratively, and to achieve excellence; qualities that are valued by professional schools, graduate schools, and employers.

Learning Academy

The Learning Academy at Florida Gulf Coast University is a residential learning community that provides a supportive learning foundation for first-year students. The program is designed to enhance the university-level learning experience by linking first-year courses in which students will register and study together as a cohort. Students live on campus as a shared experience with their common coursework. Dedicated faculty work as a team to integrate the course coverage so that meaningful learning occurs. In addition to coursework, students and faculty participate in specialized field trips, seminars and a Common Hour where they gather each week to discuss the learning experience.