

Collegepond Prospect Webinar

Wednesday, November 12
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm IST (9:30 am – 11:30 am EST)

Mike Nazareth, Director of Graduate Recruiting
Kristina Sapp, Graduate Staff for Computer Science
University of Florida
Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering

A wide-angle photograph of a University of Florida campus. A paved walkway leads through a lush green lawn lined with tall palm trees. In the distance, a large, historic-style building with a central tower is visible under a clear blue sky. A bright sun flare is present in the upper left corner.

UF

Herbert Wertheim
College of Engineering
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

*LEADING THE CHARGE,
CHARGING AHEAD.*

Have You Registered with UF Engineering?



Interested in a Master's Degree?
Scan here!



Interested in a Ph.D. Degree?
Scan here!

Presenters & Contacts



Mike Nazareth

Director for Graduate Recruitment
mikenaz@eng.ufl.edu



Kristina Sapp

Graduate Staff
Computer & Information Science & Engineering
klsapp@ufl.edu

Current Graduate Student Panelists



Yagnesh Challagundla
M.S. Student, IGSA Representative
Applied Data Science



Satya Krishna Pothapragada
Ph.D. Student
Electrical & Computer Engineering



Palaque Sharma
M.S. Student
Computer Science

Where Gator Innovation Meets Global Impact

- UF Engineering ranks in the **top 10 for doctoral degrees awarded**
- Nationally Recognized Innovation Hub
- UF Engineering generates **100+ new inventions annually**
- **Top 5 public university in research expenditures**
- Strong industry collaborations
- Leading producer of patents & licenses
- 60,000+ alumni network worldwide
- Home to HiPerGator: One of the **most powerful supercomputers in U.S. higher education**





BY THE NUMBERS



2,000 acres

900
buildings



60,795
students

19,743
graduate
students



\$1.33+ billion
in annual
research
expenditures



14 colleges
& schools

5,000+
faculty

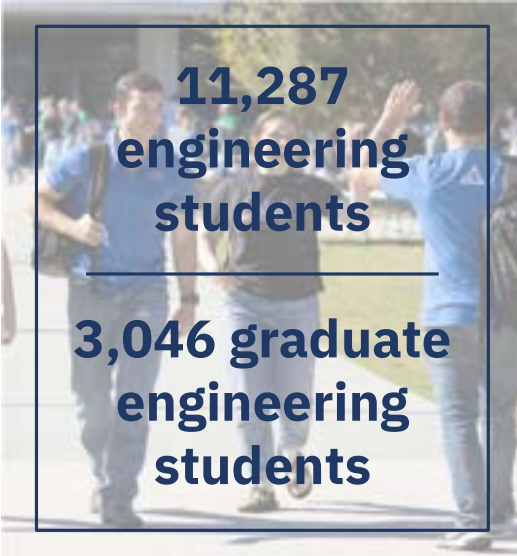
Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

BY THE NUMBERS



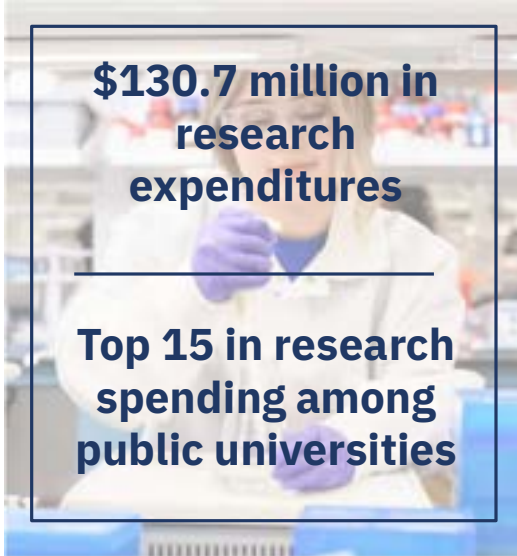
**25 on-campus
buildings**

**1 million gross
square feet**



**11,287
engineering
students**

**3,046 graduate
engineering
students**



**\$130.7 million in
research
expenditures**

**Top 15 in research
spending among
public universities**



**11
Departments**

**20+ Degree
Programs**



Aerospace Engineering
Agricultural & Biological Engineering

Biomedical Engineering
Chemical Engineering

Applied Data Science (MS)
Artificial Intelligence Systems (MS)

Civil Engineering
Coastal & Oceanographic Engineering

Computer Engineering
Computer Science

Human-Centered Computing
Industrial & Systems Engineering

Electrical & Computer Engineering
Engineering Education
Environmental Engineering Sciences

Materials Science & Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
Nuclear Engineering Sciences

NEW for Fall 2026
MS Programs based in Jacksonville, FL

- **Computer Science**
- **Engineering Management**

CAREER GROWTH | COASTAL LIFESTYLE | CONNECTIONS

MOMENTUM FUELED BY EXCELLENCE

1

Forbes Military-Friendly Online College (2024)

Heartland Forward Tech Transfer (2022)

5

Public University in the U.S. by Forbes (2025)

Niche Top Public Universities (2023)

Best College in America by Money Magazine (2024)

10

Top 10 Public University in the U.S. by USNWR (2026)

Top 10 of New Ivy's by Forbes (2024)

25

Top 25 High Earning Potential for Relatively Low Price by Forbes (2025)

Graduate Students in UF Engineering

Dept	Concentrations	MS	Ph.D.	Total	%
ADS	Applied Data Science	49	n/a	49	2%
AIS	Artificial Intelligence Systems	70	n/a	70	2%
ABE	Agricultural, Biological	8	28	36	1%
BME	Biomedical	50	121	171	6%
CHE	Chemical	52	96	148	5%
CISE	Computer Science, Human-Centered	522	167	689	23%
ECE	Electrical, Computer	368	262	630	21%
EED	Engineering Education	1	18	19	1%
ESSIE	Civil, Coastal, Environmental	182	123	305	10%
ISE	Industrial, Systems	171	47	218	7%
MAE	Mechanical, Aerospace	301	177	478	16%
MSE	Materials, Nuclear	139	94	233	8%
	Total	1,913	1,133	3,046	

Unstoppable Research. Unrivalled **impact**.



**Smart
Manufacturing**

**Experiential
Learning**



**Leader in
Cybersecurity
Research, Big Data,
Advanced Modeling**

**Fastest supercomputer
on U.S. university
campus**

**AI & Data-
Centric
Research
through
AI Initiative**



**AI + Medicine
Interface**

Smart ICU



Future-focused. Transformative **innovation.**

Water Pollution
Remediation

Sustainable Energy
Systems

Coastal Ecosystems
Dynamics



Florida
Semiconductor
Institute

Light-Based Chip for
AI Applications

Human-Systems
Interface

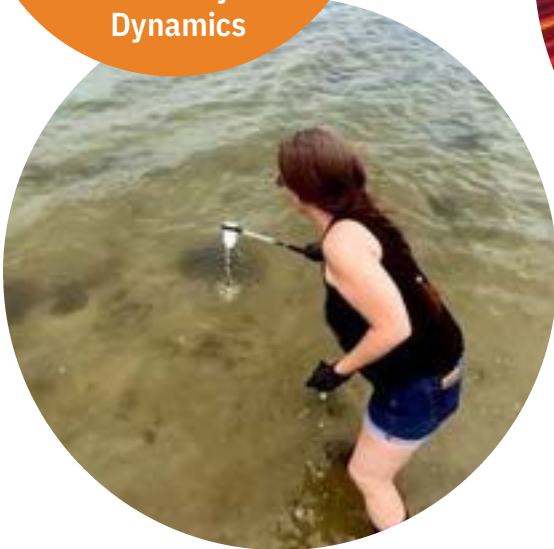
Team-Tech Interaction

Engineering Student
Success



UF Training
Reactor

Leader in
radiochemistry &
nuclear security





UF

F-1 International Student Compliance Services

UF International Center



Incoming F-1 Students

- [Estimated Start-Up Costs](#)
- [I-20 Process for F-1 Degree Students](#)
- [F-1 Visa: U.S. Embassies and Consulate Offices](#)
- [UF Critical Dates & Deadlines](#)
- [Arriving In Gainesville](#)
- [Mandatory Online Check-In Process](#)
- [F-1 Student Status Requirements](#)
 - [Maintaining F-1 Visa Status](#)
 - [Registration Requirements](#)
 - [Employment/Training Restrictions](#)

(Detailed information provided at each link!)



Estimated Start-Up Costs:

- Grad Students: \$57,555* per year
 - If you have the \$4,500 Achievement Award: \$53,055* per year

**Numbers subject to change.*

I-20 Process

- 1) I-20 request submitted in the ISSS Portal by Academic Department
- 2) ISS reviews request, sends email with instructions to student
 - Sent to same email address student used to apply to UF
- 3) Student receives email with instructions to log into the ISSS portal
 - Remember to click *SUBMIT APPLICATION*
- 4) Student's F1 Advisor reviews I-20 application & documents, follows up as needed, issues I-20
- 5) Email sent to student with instructions to download & print the I-20 through ISSS portal

U.S. Embassy and Consulates

- Receive I-20 → Pay SEVIS fee → *Complete and Save Form DS-160 Visa Application Form* → Schedule F-1 visa appointment at U.S. Embassy or Consular office
 - Among any other documents required for the visa appointment, make sure to have your PRINTED documents with you: I-20, admission letter, proof of funds, and passport
- Obtain F1 visa → Schedule flight → Enter the U.S. → Complete the MANDATORY UFIC Online Check-In → Register full-time for classes



Arriving In Gainesville, FL

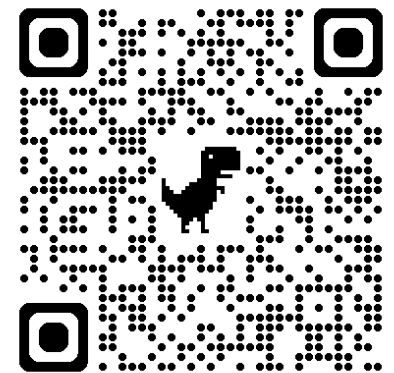
- Travel with your I-20, admission letter, F1 visa, passport, and proof of funds on your person; DO NOT PACK DOCUMENTS IN CHECKED LUGGAGE, DO NOT LOSE! Scan a copy of all documents to keep digitally just in case.
- May enter U.S. up to 30 days prior to program start date stated on your I-20
- Keep in mind, many affordable off-campus apartments are leased through July 31 or December 31, need turn-over/cleaning time, and may not be available for move-in until ~ 10-15 days prior to start of classes

Mandatory Check-In Process

- Must complete the F-1 online check-in process in the ISSS Portal
<https://internationalcenter.ufl.edu/f-1-student/new-f-1-students/check-process>
- Must be completed before the start of classes or by the drop/add deadline
- If the mandatory check-in is not completed within deadline, your F1 status is terminated

UF Critical Dates & Deadlines

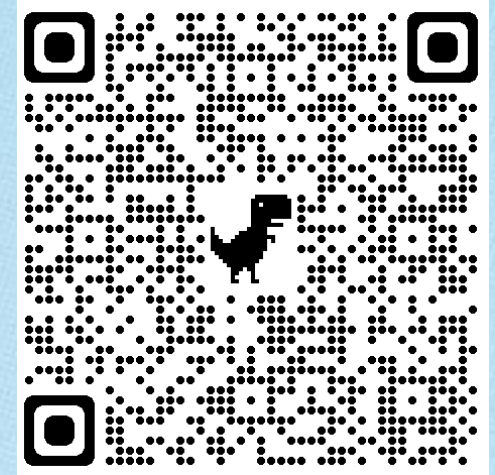
- Advance/Regular registration (no late fee)
- First day of classes (must be registered full time and in compliance - this is an F1 status issue)
- Drop/Add registration adjustments (late fee applied if not previously registered)
- Fee payment deadline (late fee added if not paid in full; courses dropped if no fees paid - this is an F1 status issue)



Maintaining F1 Student Status

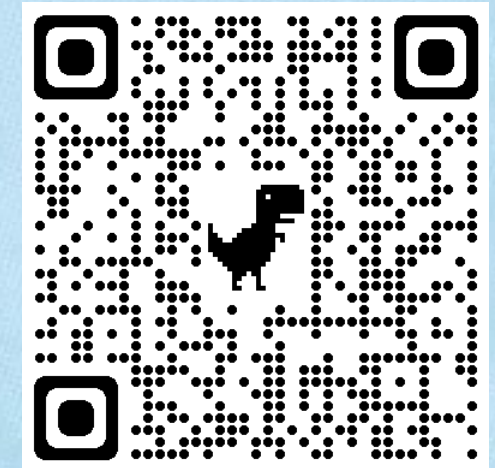
Full Time Registration:

- Fall and Spring Semesters
 - Graduate students: 9 credits each semester
 - This includes 3 credits online maximum per semester
- Summer Semester (If admitted to a summer semester)
 - Graduate students: 6 credits
 - This includes 3 credits online maximum per semester



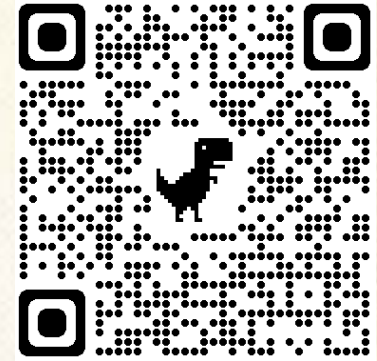
Employment/Training as an F1 Student

- Limited to 20 hours per week and on the UF campus
- Cannot work off campus at all in first academic year; authorization always required for off campus work/training
- Must apply for and receive CPT authorization on I-20 to work/train off campus prior to graduation
- Must apply for and receive OPT Employment Authorization Card to work/train after graduation



F-1 Advisors

Questions? Contact [your specific F1 international student advisor](#)
according to the first letter of your **Surname/Family Name**
(Scan QR Code for contact information)



More Information

- Click "[I-20 Process](#)" for general yet informative information.
- All I-20 instructions (including Proof of Funds information) is in the email you'll receive from the ISSS Portal *if you're admitted and if the academic department submits an I-20 request for you.*
- Please read and follow the instructions carefully to then submit your I-20 application.
 - *If you do not click SUBMIT APPLICATION at the top of the application window once complete, we will not receive your I-20 application.*

MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Master's Degrees

- Masters with on-campus studies
 - Average of 1.5 to 2 years (3 to 4 semesters)
 - Course based, more technical expertise
 - Thesis/research based
- Online Masters via EDGE
 - Average of 1.5 to 2 years (3 to 4 semesters)
 - Entirely distance-learning based
 - Up to 50% reduced tuition discounts
- Pathway to Ph.D.
 - Many HWCOE MS students continue to the Ph.D. at UF
 - Distinct advantage for MS students performing well vs. new Ph.D. applicants



Master's Admissions

- **Fall 2025 Master's Enrollment**
 - 3,518 Applications
 - 2,202 Admitted (63%)
 - 636 Enrolling (30%)
 - Averages Cumulative GPA = 3.52
 - **GRE Waived for All Depts (except CISE/Computer Science)**
- **Fall 2026 Application Requirements**
 - Online Application via UF Office of Admissions
 - Priority Deadline January 5, 2026
 - Unofficial Transcripts and Degree Documents
 - 2-3 Letters of Recommendation (most 3, some 2, ask Dept)
 - on official letterhead, if possible
 - Statement of Purpose
 - TOEFL = 80+; IELTS = 6+, GRE Verbal = 140+
 - ****Departments may have additional, individual requirements – check websites!**



MS Application Fee Waivers

Priority Consideration Deadline of January 5, 2026

Department	International Students	U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents	Contact Info
ABE	Available	Available	
BME	Available	Available	
CHE	Available	Available	grad@che.ufl.edu
CISE	Not Available	Not Available	
ECE	Available	Available	
EED (ADS, AIS, EE)	Available	Available	
ESSIE	Available	Available	gradoffice@essie.ufl.edu
ISE	Available	Available	
MAE	Available	Available	
MSE	Available	Available	

Waiver Details: <https://www.eng.ufl.edu/graduate/prospects/masters-admission/>

Waiver Request: <https://www.eng.ufl.edu/graduate/mswaiver/>

\$30 U.S. for UF MS Admissions Application Fee; one of most economical in U.S.





PH.D. PROGRAMS

Ph.D. Degrees

- **Ph.D. & Master's = average of 4.5 – 5 years**
 - - direct entry from Bachelor's degree
- **Ph.D. = average of 3 - 4 years**
 - Direct entry from Master's
 - Review of each MS course completed
- **Ph.D (continuing from UF Master's) avg of 3 years**



Ph.D. Admissions

- Fall 2025 Ph.D. Enrollment
 - 1,953 Applications
 - 453 Admitted (23%)
 - 198 Enrolling (44%)
 - Averages Cumulative GPA = 3.69
 - GRE Waived for ALL Depts
 - TOEFL = 80+; IELTS = 6+, GRE Verbal = 140+
- Fall 2026 Application Requirements
 - Online Application via UF Office of Admissions
 - Domestic Ph.D. Application Fee Waivers for many by College (Mike)
 - International Ph.D. Application Fee Waivers for some by Departments
 - Priority Deadline of December 5, 2025 for HWCOE
 - Official Transcripts
 - 3 Letters of Recommendation (on official letterhead if possible)
 - Statement of Purpose
 - **GRE WAIVED FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS**





Ph.D. Application Fee Waivers

Priority Consideration Deadline of December 5, 2025

Department	International Students	U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents	Contact Info
ABE	Not Available	Available	
BME	Available (contact dept)	Available	grad@bme.ufl.edu
CHE	Available (contact dept)	Available	grad@che.ufl.edu
CISE	Not Available	Available	
ECE	Not Available	Available	
EED	Not Available	Available	
ESSIE	Available (contact dept)	Available	gradoffice@essie.ufl.edu
ISE	Available (contact dept)	Available	isegradapps@ise.ufl.edu
MAE	Available (contact dept)	Available	gradadmissions@mae.ufl.edu
MSE	Available (contact dept)	Available	grad-admissions@mse.ufl.edu

Waiver Details: <https://www.eng.ufl.edu/graduate/prospects/ph-d-admissions/>

Waiver Request: <https://www.eng.ufl.edu/graduate/phdwaiver/>

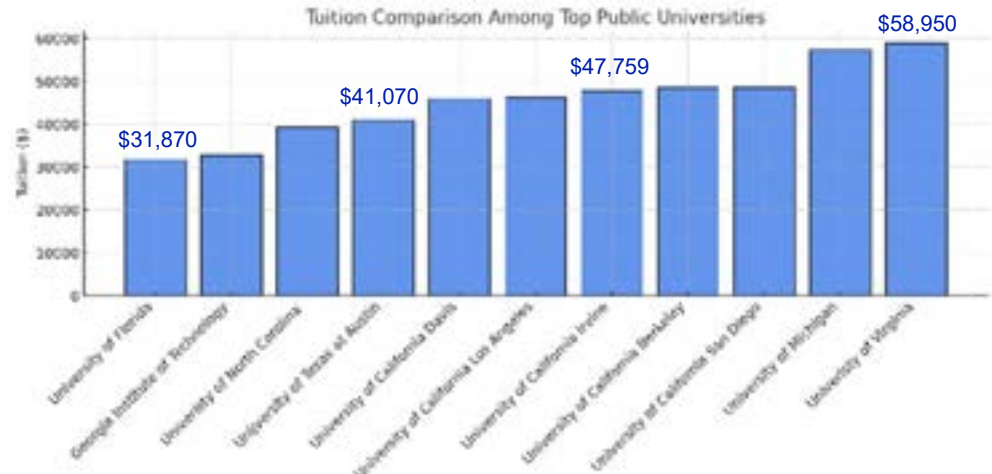
\$30 U.S. for UF PhD Admissions Application Fee; one of most economical in U.S.

Cost of Attendance



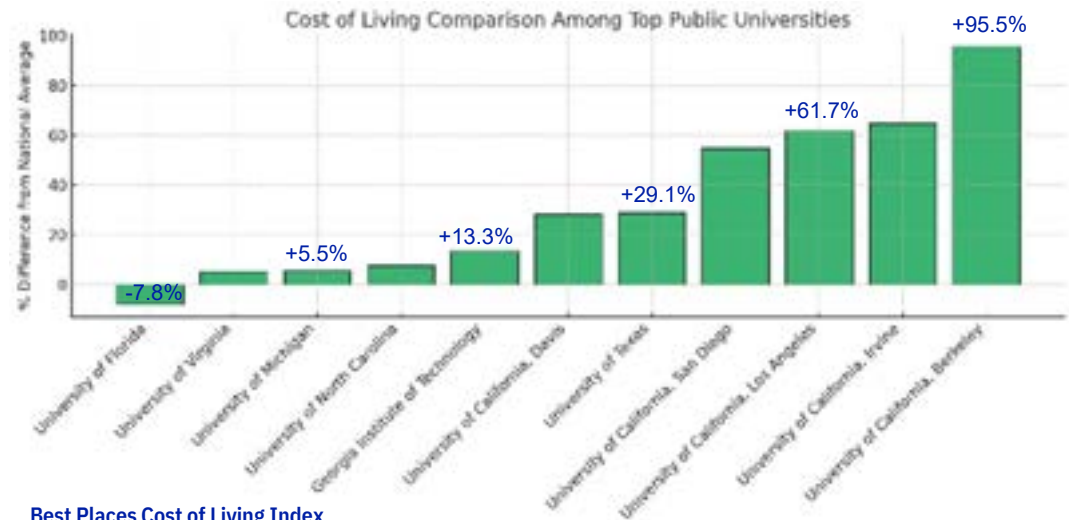
Non-Florida Resident = ~\$31,872 Annual Tuition
Florida Resident = \$12,740 Annual Tuition

<https://www.sfa.ufl.edu/cost/graduate-costs/>



2026 U.S. News & World Report Top Public Universities

<https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/rankings/national-universities/top-public>



Best Places Cost of Living Index

<https://www.bestplaces.net/city/florida/gainesville>

Funding

- Master's Students **(NEW UPDATES STARTING FALL 2026)**
 - Achievement Award (\$3,300 starting Fall 2026)
 - \$1,100 for 3 semesters for all enrolling on-campus Non-Florida residents
 - Spring 2026 admits are final cohort of \$4,500 award
 - Any Defer Admit with \$4,500 will be honored
 - EDGE Online Distance Learning
 - Significantly discounted tuition
 - Cannot be combined with Academic Achievement Award
- PhD Students
 - Assistantships
 - 3-5 year fully funded awards
 - Tuition waiver
 - Health insurance benefits
 - Competitive annual stipend; minimum \$32,000; many ~\$35,000
 - Every award renewed annually per satisfactory progress
 - Fellowships
 - Top-offs provided for students with external fellowships



Industry Connections

- UF Career Connection Center
- UF Career Showcase Twice Annually
- Individual Company Visits - Weekly Year Round
- Largest in Southeast U.S.A. with 600+ Companies
- Some Companies Recruiting International Students with VISA options: Intel, Citrix, Paypal, Oak Ridge National Labs, InfoTech, Fanatics, etc.
- Jobs, Internships, Resume Writing, Interviewing Practice, Professional Attire, etc.
- Engineering Departments with Separate Career Fairs
 - BME Industry & Alumni Connect
 - CISE Career Fair & Development Workshop
 - ESSIE Evening with Industry
 - UF AI Fair
 - ISE Career Fair
 - MAE Internship Course
 - MAE Webinar Industry Insights



Companies at Career Showcase



Goldman Sachs

AECOM

ExxonMobil

KraftHeinz



BOHLER //



DURACELL



Deloitte



Sandia National Laboratories

Honeywell



J.P.Morgan

Zonda

CAE

Piper
amazon



IBM



EY



Google



Microsoft

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS



AMGEN



tropicana brands group

Walmart



Southwest



International Paper

HERSHEY
THE HERSHEY COMPANY



SIEMENS



LOCKHEED MARTIN

Housing

- **On Campus**
 - The Continuum for Graduate Students or UF Working Professionals
 - On-Campus Housing (graduate and family): Corry Village (1-3 bedroom options), Diamond Village (1-2 bedroom options), Tanglewood Village (1-2 bedroom options)
- **Off Campus**
 - <https://offcampus.ufl.edu/>
 - <https://www.swamprentals.com/>
 - <https://www.apartments.com/gainesville-fl/>
 - Housing Options:
 - The Pavilion
 - Stoneridge Apartments
 - Greenviche
 - Housing Locator: <https://housing.offcampus.ufl.edu/>





Gainesville, Florida

Local Restaurants/Breweries
Live Music Venues
Theatres
Hiking/Biking Trails
Immersed in Nature
Museums



FLORIDA ADVENTURES AWAIT

St. Augustine, Florida: Oldest City in U.S.
Famous Florida Theme Parks
60 Miles from a Beach
Natural Florida Springs
Kennedy Space Center
Museums
Zoos/Aquariums

Indian Graduate Student Association



- Cater to the needs and concerns of Indian Graduate Students
- Provide accessible platform to present Indian identity within the international community at the University of Florida
- Provide smooth assimilation and orientation for Indian graduate students into the UF environment and Gainesville community



Indian Graduate Student Association (IGSA)

- The Indian Graduate Student Association is a non-profit (student) organization committed to cater to the needs and concerns of Indian graduate students and provide an accessible platform to present their identity within the international community at the University of Florida (UF).
- IGSA promotes the smooth assimilation of Indian graduate students, primarily of international student status into the UF environment and local Gainesville community.
- IGSA provides student pickups (spring/fall), conducts webinars for incoming students, maintains dedicated WhatsApp group for every intake to answer and guide incoming students, conducts various fun and academic events, guides as a medium between student and UF and much more.



IGSA Resources

NAME	UFL CONTACT	ROLE
YAGNESH CHALLAGUNDLA	y.challagundla@ufl.edu	President
SHAMIT SAVANT	s.savant@ufl.edu	Vice President
ANNESHA PALIT	anneshapalit@ufl.edu	Secretary
LAKSHAMI BHARGAVI KODUGANTI	lkoduganti@ufl.edu	Treasurer
PRIYA Mittal	mittal.priya@ufl.edu	Social Media Manager
ANANYA RAMESH	ananya_ramesh@ufl.edu	Public Relations Director
RIDDHI NIJHAWAN	nijhawanr@ufl.edu	Events Director
TANMAYEE KULKARNI	kulkarnitanmayee@ufl.edu	Events Manager

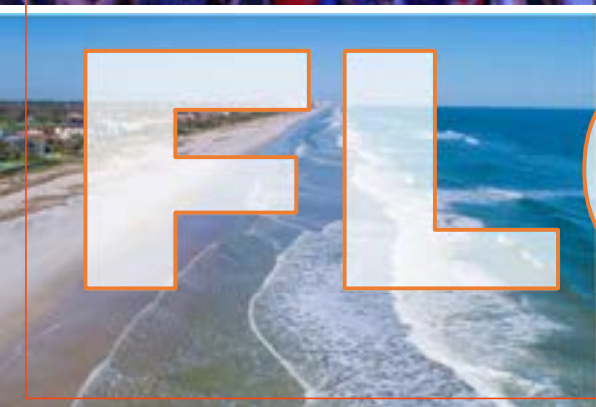
- **UF Spring & Fall 2026 Admits WhatsApp Groups:**
 - Help with VISA, housing, course selection etc. These groups have Indian students who are currently studying at UF and prospective students.
- **University of Florida Guidebook to New Students from India:**
<http://dreamersion.com/ufl-guidebook-for-freshers/>

Website: <https://igsauf.weebly.com/>
 Email: igsa.uf@gmail.com
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IGSAUFL>
 Instagram: @igsa.uf





***LEAD.
DISCOVER.
THRIVE.***



FLORIDA



HWCOE Graduate Staff & Faculty Contacts

Status	Dept	First	Last Name	Email
Staff	HWCOE	Mike	Nazareth	mikenaz@eng.ufl.edu
Staff	HWCOE	Krista	Smith	kristasmith@eng.ufl.edu
Staff	Int. Center	Martine	Angrand	https://uf.tfaforms.net/f/UFIC-ISS-Contact-Us
Staff	ABE	Jessica	Dalzell	jdalzell@ufl.edu
Staff	ADS/AIS/EED	Pam	Simon	phs@ufl.edu
Staff	BME	Ade	Kumuyi	grad@bme.ufl.edu
Faculty	CHE	Sumant	Patankar	spatankar@ufl.edu
Staff	CISE	Kristina	Sapp	klsapp@ufl.edu
Staff	ECE	Julissa	Nunez	office@ece.ufl.edu
Staff	ESSIE	Paula	Hendrix	gradoffice@essie.ufl.edu
Staff	ISE	Jordan	Sharpshair	isegradapps@ise.ufl.edu
Staff	MAE	Brittney	Guerrier	gradadmissions@mae.ufl.edu
Staff	MSE	Tahara	Franklin	grad-admissions@mse.ufl.edu

Have You Registered with UF Engineering?



Interested in a Master's Degree?
Scan here!



Interested in a Ph.D. Degree?
Scan here!

The background of the slide is a photograph of a modern, multi-story building with a grid-like facade, possibly a university building. The image is heavily overlaid with a dark blue color, making the building details somewhat muted but still recognizable. The text is white, providing a strong contrast against the blue background.

Thank You for Attending!

UF | Herbert Wertheim
College of Engineering
UNIVERSITY *of* FLORIDA

POWERING THE NEW ENGINEER TO TRANSFORM THE FUTURE