

# UGA 101

the ultimate guide for students and parents

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HANDBOOK**

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**LETTERS FROM  
CURRENT STUDENTS**

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**COVER PHOTO BY FELIX SCHEYER**

# UGA 101

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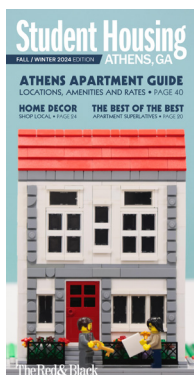
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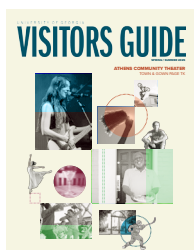
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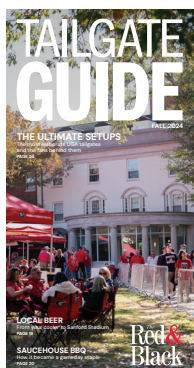
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### EAT & DRINK ATHENS, GA

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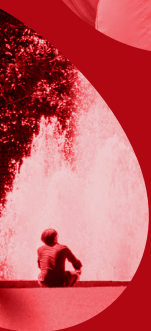
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# STUDENT GUIDE

Learning resources, dorm tips,  
campus guides, gameday info,  
personal advice & more



# REGISTRATION HACKS

7 tips to help you sign up for classes

## CHOOSE YOUR CLASSES

First: Meet with your advisor. Most students take 12 to 15 credit hours per semester. You must take at least 12 to be considered a full-time student, but the HOPE Scholarship only covers up to 15 credit hours per semester. DegreeWorks is a must. It's individualized, showing requirements you may have filled with AP or IB classes and which classes you still need for your degree. The UGA Bulletin contains descriptions for classes, any prerequisites and old syllabi. It will help ensure you're taking what you need now in order to get into higher level courses down the road.

## CREATE YOUR SCHEDULE

Before you start registration, it helps to plan out a couple of different schedule options. Coursicle, an online class schedule-building site, is extremely helpful. You can look up courses DegreeWorks recommends or do a general search for an area you need. Each class will pop up with the current capacity, time, place and professor. Build a few different schedules to see which course load works best for you and which classes are good backups.

## MAP OUT YOUR SCHEDULE

Once you have a list of courses, check how far apart the buildings are. Keep in mind, there are only 20-minute breaks between consecutive classes. For perspective: It takes 24 minutes to walk from Peabody Hall to the Science Learning Center. That same journey could take 15 minutes on a bus, or eight minutes on a bike. Some professors will be lenient about travel logistics, so if you can't get there on time, talk to them.

## RESEARCH PROFESSORS

An instructor can make or break a class. Check out student reviews on Rate My Professor but always take them with a grain of salt. Students who write reviews are usually the ones who had the most extreme experiences — good or bad. Your adviser and other students can give more balanced feedback.

## SIGN UP FOR CLASSES

Log in to Athena before your time ticket starts so that you can register for classes before they fill up. Have some backups—you won't always get your first pick. Entering the Course Reference Numbers for the classes you need is the quickest way to reserve your spot. Go to: Student > Student & Registration > Registration > Register for Classes, then select the semester you're registering for and enter the CRNs.

## ASK YOUR ADVISOR

If you're unsure of what classes to add, how many credits to take, or if you're looking to explore a minor or summer classes, ask your advisor. If you're worried about scholarships, grants or financial concerns, go to the Office of Student Financial Aid.

## MANAGE YOUR EXPECTATIONS

Unfortunately, some classes might be full before you even get to orientation. Sometimes a professor can add you to a course, so it never hurts to email and ask. Make sure you find several alternatives that fulfill your requirements and are of interest to you, and prioritize registering for any classes you missed out on the next time they're offered.

## DROPPING A CLASS

Sometimes, the experience of a class might be different from what you imagined. Dropping or withdrawing may be a necessary choice to salvage your GPA, mental health or navigate an unexpected circumstance. If you are considering withdrawing but are uneasy about how it might impact your track to graduation, schedule a meeting to talk with your advisor. There's no shame in taking the steps that are right for you, but try to decide before the class withdrawal deadline (see page 92). It's more common than you might think to stay at UGA for more than four years.



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# SYLLABUS DAY

## How to decode your syllabus

Sidney Chansamone

Whether you're attending a class in person or online, the first day will consist of reading your syllabus (and hopefully not much else).

Syllabi provide an outline of what a professor feels is most important about the course. In addition to exam dates, they list assignment deadlines, class policies, textbooks and other required reading.

After reading through each syllabus, it's helpful to write project and exam dates in an academic planner to keep track of them. The UGA bookstore and Archer Paper Goods downtown both have a wide range of physical notebooks, but Google Calendar works too.

You might also want to include family responsibilities and social events to better visualize how much time you'll realistically have to work on assignments before they're due.

Because professors provide these due dates months in advance, they'll be more likely to accommodate absences and shift deadlines if you communicate about conflicts at the beginning of the semester.

Check in every month or so to make sure your professor hasn't changed the syllabus from the first week of class. Sometimes, but not often, teachers will alter the original copy without letting the class know, so stay vigilant!

# LEARNING RESOURCES

## Where to find academic help outside of the classroom

### PEER TUTORING

Peer tutoring is completely free through the Division of Academic Enhancement. Students can meet with a peer tutor who has successfully completed the course they're looking for help in. Tutors can discuss class content, offer study tips and resources and answer questions. There are one-on-one sessions as well as study groups. Skoolers, Science Guyz and Varsity Tutors are popular non-UGA options.

### ACADEMIC COACHING

Academic coaches help students assess their school-related and professional goals, connect them with other resources and plan a path toward success. Where peer tutoring is centered around specific classes, academic coaching is more focused on long-term objectives. Coaching is a free service available for all undergraduate students pursuing any major.

### WRITING CENTER

Whether you need assistance with an essay, a research paper or even a cover letter, the writing consultants are there to help. Appointments are free and can take place either online or in-person at several locations across campus. Services include evaluating thesis statements and writing structure, teaching students how to proofread their own work and providing feedback on first drafts.

### CAREER CENTER

Many students aren't sure what they want to do after college, but the Career Center helps you navigate your options. Explore the many majors UGA offers and their respective career paths, utilize resume and cover letter reviews and practice for job interviews. You can even sign up for the mentoring program and find someone in your dream field to connect with.





Photo courtesy  
of Ella Kemmerly

# DORM TIPS

## 7 tips for living in UGA residence halls

Living with hundreds of strangers will be fantastic. Really. Here are a few guidelines for making the most out of your residence hall experience.

### BE FRIENDLY

Don't be afraid to talk to your neighbors. Plenty of people in your dorm are feeling the same awkwardness you are. The universal signal for trying to make friends on your hall is leaving your door propped open on move-in day.

### GO TO DORM EVENTS

Resident Assistants and other staff work hard to create a social atmosphere to promote community. Go to the events and connect with the people on your hall and in your dorm!

### BE PATIENT

Don't worry if you don't find your friend group immediately, you'll find your people in time!

### TALK TO YOUR ROOMMATE

You don't need to be the best friends, but communicate enough to feel comfortable asking them to turn off the light.

### USE THE WASHERS AND DRYERS

Do your laundry at the dorm instead of hauling it back home. Remember, you pay for all these services in your housing fees.

### ENJOY LIVING ON CAMPUS

Take advantage of the fact that you live right on campus, you'll miss some of the conveniences when you move off campus! You don't need a car to get to your classes, the dining hall or even downtown. The buses stop near your dorm, and you have more time to go back to your room between classes or work.

### STAY SAFE

Keep your doors locked, take well-lit paths to the dorm and wear flip-flops in community showers. Take basic steps to ensure the well-being of yourself and your belongings; you'll be living with a lot of different people.

### DO PACK THIS

#### SHOWER SHOES

You can survive for a couple of days without that extra set of sheets. You will not survive without shower shoes.

#### SOFT LIGHTING

There will be times you need to study at night and your roommate insists on sleeping. Lamps and string lights create atmosphere in a room with two settings: pitch dark or glaring fluorescent.

#### A FIRST AID KIT

Create a box with essentials – from Band-Aids and Neosporin to DayQuil, Emergen-C and essential medications.

#### A LONG PHONE CHARGER

This is a game-changer if you have a lofted bed. A 10-foot cord allows you to use your phone in bed at night and minimizes the journey to turn off a blaring alarm.

### DON'T PACK THAT

#### ALL YOUR CLOTHES

It's tempting to bring under-bed storage packed with all your cute winter outfits, but if you're starting in August you won't need them for months. Swap things out when you visit home instead.

#### A PRINTER

You can find printers in residence hall lobbies and around campus that cost just cents per page.

#### TOO MANY PLANTS

Small succulents are low maintenance and will be fine. Forget about plants that need lots of natural light.

#### CANDLES

The dorms unfortunately have a strict no-candle policy, so avoid bringing these fire hazards and opt for air fresheners instead. Wallflowers can usually do more to freshen up a room than candles anyway.

# FIND YOUR PLACE at the

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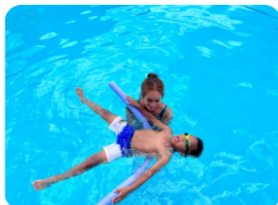
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Freshman Welcome |  
Sidney Chansamone

# TRANSFER TIPS

## Finding your place at UGA

Entering UGA as a transfer student can be daunting. Whether transferring was always part of your plan or a more recent decision, it can be both exciting and scary to start at a new school. At a university as big as UGA, you will be surrounded by students who have been here longer. Here are some tips for finding your way after transferring.

### NAVIGATING UGA AND ATHENS

UGA is an impressive 767 acres sprawled across a large part of Athens, Georgia. Names like North Campus, South Campus and Health Sciences can sound overwhelming, but there are ways to navigate it. Using the bus tracker on the UGA app makes figuring out routes and getting a ride much easier. If you prefer walking, head to page 18 for tips.

### FINDING A COMMUNITY

Finding friends and a community can be intimidating no matter who you are. If you're skipping the normal first-year experience of living in a dorm, you might feel isolated. Luckily, UGA offers a huge variety of clubs, organizations and athletic opportunities to help you find a niche. Getting involved is a great way to find like-minded people that could become fast friends.

Athens has a lot of fun stuff going on off-campus too. Look out for classes, events or trivia around town. It's easier to talk to people at these kinds of things when you have a common interest or goal.

Silent Book Club is especially great for solo outings. Just reserve a seat online beforehand, grab a book and head to that week's cozy location. The first hour is for socializing, after which everyone quiets down. Ask someone next to you about what they're reading, you might hit it off!

### ADJUSTING ACADEMICALLY

UGA's academic rigor can feel like a big change, but there are many resources available for students having trouble with a particular course. The Division of Academic Enhancement offers free tutoring that connects students with other peers who have taken their classes. For more learning resources, head to page 13.

While UGA can seem intimidating at times, don't be afraid to ask for help. Make sure to take advantage of all the resources and opportunities available to you, because you never know which one will bring you closer to finding your community and achieving academic success.



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# WALKING THE WALK

The art of navigating UGA on foot

Sidney Chansamone

BY ELIJAH KING

During your freshman year living at the University of Georgia, a particular savvy is gained. However, in the hubbub of adjusting to college life and making new friends, one skill is often overlooked: the art of walking at UGA.

At a glance, walking sounds like a superfluous aspect of college life; an obligation, not something to notice, antithetical to the fast-paced environment freshmen are thrown into.

However, throughout my freshman year, I found it crucial to take notice of the routes I traveled, when to use transportation services and how to dress for the volatile Georgia weather. Moreover, walking the UGA campus and appreciating the fauna therein, helped me maintain a healthy mental balance during stressful times.

The day before fall classes began, still adjusting to independence, I decided to map out my trek to and from classes. My Monday schedule began with a brisk walk to the Boyd Research and Education Center five minutes from my dorm. Afterward, I undertook what seemed like an expedition to the Miller Learning Center, then uphill to Sanford Hall near the Main Library. At the time, I found the walk arduous – UGA's hilly terrain, sweltering heat and my inexperience navigating a campus this spread out made me dread the next ten months.

While the terrain and weather haven't changed, my perspective has. Despite my initial assumptions, navigating campus became somewhat of an art form. Memorizing routes and no longer relying on maps, I began trusting my internal compass, feeling more at home with each passing day. By timing my walks and checking the weather beforehand, I grew more comfortable with both my attire and pace. I was able to pick up many tips throughout the year: utilizing building pass-throughs, knowing when to use campus transportation, knowing the terrain (watching out for that one pothole or loose brick) and walking with confidence and rhythm.

Beyond navigation, walking became salient to my mental health. Before exams or on stressful days, I took walks with no destination in sight. I took in UGA's abundant flora and fauna, listening to the melodic sounds of nature juxtaposed with the clanging construction. Whether it was in the Founders Memorial Garden or downtown, walking gave me a sense of calm.

Although this frame of reference is more poetic, I found my world of assignment deadlines and coffee-filled all-nighters soothed by walking. A canopy of trees was no longer scenery but a sanctuary. The scent of honeysuckles or falling leaves stopped me in my tracks, allowing me to not just move but experience.

To walk the sprawling UGA campus is to traverse the lines of both a map and a moment; not just to get somewhere but to remember where you are. Soak it all in, because these four years of walking will fly by.



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# PROFESSOR ADVICE

## 10 tips for new students from Dr. Anna S. Rogers

Dr. Anna S. Rogers, a senior lecturer in the University of Georgia's Department of Sociology and a contributor to the Criminal Justice Program, was awarded with both the 2024 Franklin College Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award and the Sandy Beaver Excellence in Teaching Award. Driven by a passion for research-informed teaching, she brings sociology to life in the classroom by making meaningful connections between academic concepts and the real world.

### START WORKING ON YOUR RESUME RIGHT AWAY

Even if you don't know for sure what you want your career or major to be, it is never too early to think about long-term goals and what you'd like your resume to look like. For example, start thinking about opportunities to volunteer, show leadership potential, build skills, network, etc. Keep a list of everything that you do, so that you don't have to try to remember during your senior year when you start applying for jobs, graduate school or professional school.

### REACH OUT TO INSTRUCTORS EARLY IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING

It is much easier for both you and your instructor if you reach out to them for help as soon as you feel you are struggling in a class. Many courses will have material that builds on previous course concepts, theories and lessons, and there can be a bad snowball effect if you let the problem go on for too long. Also, everyone will reach out for help right before a test or assignment is due and there won't be enough time for them to respond to everyone in some cases. Reaching out early for help is always easier and faster for everyone.

### USE THE AMAZING RESOURCES THAT UGA HAS TO OFFER

I regularly refer students to the Office for Student Success and Achievement for tutoring and other programs. The Career Center has exceptional resources to prep you for jobs, interviews and applications. The Office of Student Care and Outreach is there to support during difficult times in your life. The Writing Center can ease anxiety about writing pa-



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## **YOU CAN CHANGE MAJORS**

Most students will change their major at some point — and it is okay! The amount of stress I see from students who want to change their majors but are afraid to do it has always concerned me. Everyone wants to graduate in four years, but I promise that if you have to take one extra semester because you changed to a major that you actually love and will lead to the career that makes you happy and feel fulfilled, it is worth it. One semester in the grand scheme of your life is nothing, but the career you will do for your entire life is a big deal. Find what you are passionate about, but also be realistic about what that means in terms of job, salary and other key factors

## **FIND YOUR PEOPLE**

College is an amazing time to find your people. UGA is a huge school with a diverse group of students, but sometimes you have to know where to look to find your people. There are hundreds of clubs, organizations, sports, charities, internships, etc. where people come together to celebrate a passion or hobby. Find one that fits you and don't be afraid to put yourself out there and join it! If you are looking for a club and it doesn't exist — create it! The steps to start a student-led club or organization are clearly laid out online and chances are if you are looking for something that isn't there, so are other students just like you! Someone just needs to take the initiative and start the club. Also, starting or joining an organization helps build that resume that I mentioned.

## **STUDY ABROAD**

I did not do this as an undergraduate, and it is my biggest regret from my college years. Not having the financial means to pay for one of these trips on my own made me feel that the door was completely closed to me. Experiencing a new place or culture is life-changing. UGA has study abroad programs all over the world, but we also have domestic field study programs that are typically more affordable. There are also many needs-based study abroad scholarships. Look for those opportunities and treat yourself to one of these experiences. New programs are also started every year. I'm currently working on a new domestic field study for Maymester 2026 to Salem, Massachusetts, where we'll study witches sociologically. Reach out to me if you might be interested in that one! There is truly something for everyone!



## **TAKE ELECTIVES FOR FUN**

Give yourself some grace and take electives that you know you will be passionate and happy to learn about — even if they aren't connected to your major. Electives can be a great way to add diversity to your skill set and set aside education time that is solely for the purpose of self-fulfillment and happiness. You deserve that!

## **GO TO A LOCAL CONCERT**

One of the greatest things Athens has to offer is its music scene. We have every genre of music you could imagine and there is something for everyone. Porchfest, an annual, free event, is a time where local residents literally offer their porches to local bands to perform a concert. Over 100 bands perform each year! Take advantage of the amazing music scene you have right outside your door.

## **TRY NEW THINGS**

Meet new types of people. The world is a beautiful place due to all the amazing, different types of people out there doing different things with their lives. Try to introduce yourself to someone in a class who might have a different worldview, culture, aesthetic, hobby, or anything that is unique from your own. Never judge a book by its cover. There is always something to be learned from other people, just take the time to listen to them and see what you might find out.

## **TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**

Take care of your mental health just as much as your physical health. College is an amazing time in your life, but that doesn't mean there won't be hard times. Everyone has hard times and it is important to take care of yourself. Be mindful of your stress levels and make taking care of yourself one of your top priorities. If you ever feel like you are struggling to do that, reach out to someone for help. There are so many people here who would be happy to help you navigate university resources when you need them, myself included. Also, be there for others when they're having a hard time.



# GET INVOLVED

Explore UGA's extracurricular activities

The University of Georgia offers hundreds of clubs and organizations that help students find their niche. As you look for ways to get involved, consider what's important to you.

## I WANT TO TRY SOMETHING NEW

College is a time to experiment. There's probably no other phase of your life where you'll be offered so many different activities and experiences to try. UGA's hundreds of clubs allow you to learn skills ranging from the intricate to the obscure. A few examples include the Ballroom Dance Club, Aviation Club, Juggling Club and Knit and Crochet at UGA.

## I'VE GOT TO GET OUTDOORS

Head outside with ag clubs like Block and Bridle, a livestock club affiliated with the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. There are hiking and rock climbing groups too, like the Outdoor Adventure Club.

## I'M COMPETITIVE, BUT NOT A JOCK

Exercise your competitive nature with groups like eSports at UGA or the Board Game Club. The Tate Student Center also has a game room with multiple screens, a rotating selection of video games and old-school arcade units.

## I'M A JOCK, BUT NOT A DI ATHLETE

Join one of the 40+ UGA club sports teams. This will allow you to hone skills, meet new people and travel to compete. Hockey, lacrosse and rugby are just a few of the teams you can join.





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## I WANT TO GIVE BACK

Take part in events like UGA Miracle's 24-hour Dance Marathon, which in March raised more than \$1.2 million for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, or the SDT Greek Grind dance contest, which raised over \$120,000 for Prevent Child Abuse America in 2024. Fundraising doesn't always have to be a dance-related event, of course. Local restaurants and breweries host percentage nights or benefit concerts in which a portion of sales benefits a club or cause. Almost every weekend brings a 5K or fun run. Not all runners are human — in the Pre-Veterinary Medicine Club's annual Dawg Jog 5K, dogs and owners compete to raise funds for animal-related causes.

## I WANT TO SERVE

Several groups let you help students or Athens residents. Designated Dawgs provide safe rides home for students. Extra Special People supports people with developmental disabilities. The UGArden Club works with the student-run organic farm to raise sustainably-grown produce, which is then distributed to the community. The Backpack Project of Athens distributes meals, necessities and care packages to local people experiencing homelessness. You can also volunteer (and pick up groceries) at the UGA Student Food Pantry in the Tate Center. If you have a car, head over to the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia to lend a hand there.

## I'M FOCUSED ON MY FUTURE CAREER

Just about every field has a student group at UGA. They offer education about what it takes to transition into your intended career. Clubs often organize networking events, speakers and workshops. A few examples are UGA's student chapter of the American Society of Microbiology and the UGA Economics Society.

## I WANT TO FIND COMMUNITY

There's no shortage of cultural organizations or communities to join at UGA. The Pride Alliance and Pride Center offer support and advocacy for the university's LGBTQ+ community and its allies. ASL Dawgs provides resources for UGA's Deaf community and anyone interested in learning about American Sign Language and Deaf culture. Cultural organizations include the Asian American Student Association, the Hispanic Student Association, the African Student Union, the Filipino Student Association, the Indian Cultural Exchange and the Russian Club. The International Student Life office at UGA offers resources and hosts events like the annual International Street Festival.

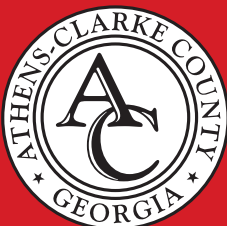


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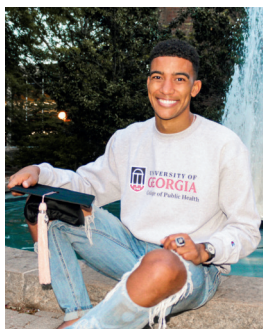
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## **I'M SEEKING A SPIRITUAL HOME**

There are a number of religious organizations on UGA's campus serving many faith communities. The Wesley Foundation, which meets at the Wesley Main Chapel on Wednesday evenings, is one of the largest Christian organizations on campus. Others include Baptist Collegiate Ministries and The Catholic Center. The Muslim Student Association serves as both a network for Muslim students and a voice for their community on campus. Many Jewish students will gather at Hillel to enjoy free Shabbat dinners and services, and Catholic students can find a home at the Catholic Center.

## **I LIKE TO DEBATE**

Some of the oldest organizations on campus are the Demosthenian and Phi Kappa literary societies, which fuse debate and discussion with social activities. For a more competitive focus, consider the Mock Trial team.

## **I WANT TO REPRESENT UGA**

You can get involved in the Student Government Association and represent your class and your interests at the university level. The Residence Hall Association represents more than 9,000 students. You can take part as a committee member, floor representative or on the executive committee. You can also join a group that focuses on your area of study, like Ag Hill Council, which advocates for South Campus. If you've got a free summer, look into becoming an orientation leader or a Dawg Camp counselor.





Caroline Barnes

# FIRST-GEN EXPERIENCES

## Attending UGA as a first-generation student

BY GUINEVERE GRANT

In a world where higher education is often seen as the key to success, first generation college students face a unique college experience. For these students, college isn't just about academics or socializing. It's about paving their own path.

For Zaire Morgan, a fourth year biological science major, college wasn't even on his mind until his senior year of highschool, but once he came to the University of Georgia he never looked back.

"As a first-gen student, we have the challenges of being the first in your family and wanting to be the one to break the cycle of not having higher education," Morgan said.

First-generation students can often feel the need to over-achieve. Morgan said that this pressure can blur the line between pursuing your own goals and meeting the expectations of others.

He emphasized that the challenging part of wanting to make your family proud is not knowing if you're doing it for yourself or so that others can live vicariously through you.

Gigi Fisher, a third year marketing major, feels these conflicting emotions as well. In her family, she is the first among not only her parents, but her extended family, to attend college. This milestone brought a mixture of pride and pressure as she felt the weight of her family's expectations.

"While yes, it is good to think about your family, really do think about yourself at the same time," Fisher said. "You have put in the work to get here in the first place."

The desire to succeed – for her family and for herself – motivates Fisher, but it can get overwhelming as she navigates higher education on her own.

Morgan experienced imposter syndrome, especially during his sophomore year as he delved further into his major. He started to feel as though he wasn't as prepared as his peers.



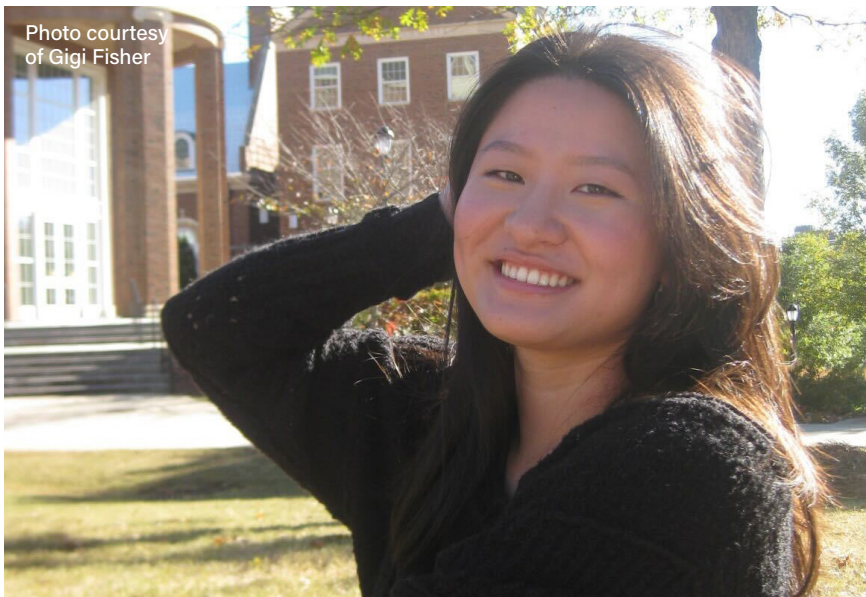


Photo courtesy  
of Gigi Fisher

Despite these mental obstacles, Morgan was able to receive guidance through the UGA mentorship program that drastically changed his outlook. He stressed the benefit of having mentors like his for any first-gen student facing similar difficulties.

“UGA is a huge school, with near unlimited resources,” Morgan said. “There’s almost always going to be something or someone that you can reach out to that can help you in whatever situation you might be in.”

To many, being first-gen is a badge of honor that is worn as a sign of strength. However, Fisher stressed that first-gen students shouldn’t feel the need to confine themselves to only that label. “It’s just one part of what makes you, you,” Fisher said.

“It’s just one part  
of what makes  
you, you.”

### GIGI FISHER

Reaching out to various first-gen student organizations is a good way to find a similar community, but Fisher also recommended students join organizations that follow their hobbies or interests. For some tips on how to get involved on campus, head to page 22.

Despite obstacles first-gen students may face, there is also resilience, determination and the drive to succeed.

“I think honestly just seeing it through to the end, being a senior with three weeks left, it’s kind of

amazing to see how hyped my family is to come see me graduate, and how excited they are to see that my dream and goals are coming to fruition,” Morgan said. “I am one step closer to becoming the first doctor in my family.”



Photo courtesy  
of Zaire Morgan



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Sidney Chansamone

# KNOWING YOUR LIMIT

## The reality of drinking in college

BY MARY RYAN HOWARTH

My relationship with alcohol has been one of the biggest challenges I have had to overcome in my college career.

In the four years I've been in college, I've followed my passion of writing and reporting, video production and audio storytelling. I've made some lifelong friends and incredible memories.

But there are also things I will never remember. There are parties, nights out, football games — even my 21st birthday — where my mind is blank. I know I was at these events, but I couldn't tell you who I talked to or if I acted out of character. People laughed at what I did or said, and I liked the attention, so I kept drinking.

Binge drinking was a way for me to forget about my stress or sadness. I could always wake up the next day, be fine to go to class and still get good grades. I never viewed it as a problem, and I never wanted to give up drinking completely. How could I? Who would I be without alcohol to push me to be more outgoing, to be cool, to be wanted?

It wasn't until I saw one of my friends get treated for alcoholism my freshman year that I was slapped awake. I was only able to see what I needed to change for myself after I saw someone I love go through it as well.

It took me so long to realize that anyone who is laughing at me — not with me — is not a close friend, and that I don't need alcohol to feel confident. I had to find the people around me that are genuine with their love. I had to look for friends doing things that I enjoy — writing, reading, storytelling — not drinking at bars or big parties. People that challenge me to grow, who listen to me, and I listen to them.

Being young, it's easy to get wrapped up in the idea of social drinking, but it should never be something to rely on to get through life. I will never be perfect, but there are things I try to do to hold myself accountable. Finding ways to mentally ground myself from anxious thoughts before going into a social situation helps me feel in control. My grandfather always told my mom, and she now tells me, to know that you belong anywhere. Letting go of fear without relying on alcohol allowed me to truly be myself.





# FEELING FOMO

It's OK to like your comfort zone

BY GUINEVERE GRANT

The first year of college is intimidating for everyone — a new home, new friends, new classes and the potential to discover more about yourself. When I stepped through the doors of my freshman year dorm, I was ready for this change. I wanted to reinvent myself in college, to become someone fun and open to anything. However, along the way I lost touch with the core of who I am and the hobbies that once brought me comfort.

As an introvert, I spent most of my high school years in my room — nothing felt as comfortable as the four familiar walls around me. Because of this, I craved something different my first semester at UGA.

I tried to be a social butterfly, but always felt like I fell short. It never felt natural, and I found myself constantly yearning for the quiet refuge of my dorm. At the same time, I couldn't shake the feeling that by not socializing, I was missing out on the "college experience." I always ended up feeling a sense of guilt or disconnect regardless of what I chose to do.

The fear of missing out is common among college students, causing anxiety and worry. Because of the FOMO I faced, I began neglecting the hobbies I once cherished. I went from reading a book a week to barely picking one up every couple of months. So focused on social gatherings, parties and new experiences, I forgot to set aside time for myself.

In the first few weeks, I found myself hanging out with someone or attending a new event nearly every day. When I wasn't with others, I started to fear that I was slipping back into my old habits.

Stepping outside your comfort zone is a valuable experience, but doing it constantly without taking breaks can lead to burnout. I had such unrealistic expectations of reinventing myself that it quickly became exhausting. The desire to retreat into my own space never really went away; I just ignored it.

As a junior about to enter my senior year, I feel confident in saying that I've finally found a balance. It took me three years to get here, but the key lesson I learned is that I don't always have to go out. It's easy to feel lonely in college, but being alone doesn't mean you're lonely. It's perfectly fine to say no to a party or a night out in favor of spending time on something you truly enjoy. For me, dedicating just two hours of my evening to reading or watching a show has become the favorite part of my day.

As I approach the end of my college journey, I still have to remind myself daily that it's okay to not go out. Taking a moment to check in with myself and assess my emotions helps me decide if I want to socialize. If you've ever felt the same, know that it's completely normal. Try not to see your time alone as a period of disconnection. Instead, see it as quality time with yourself to strengthen your independence.



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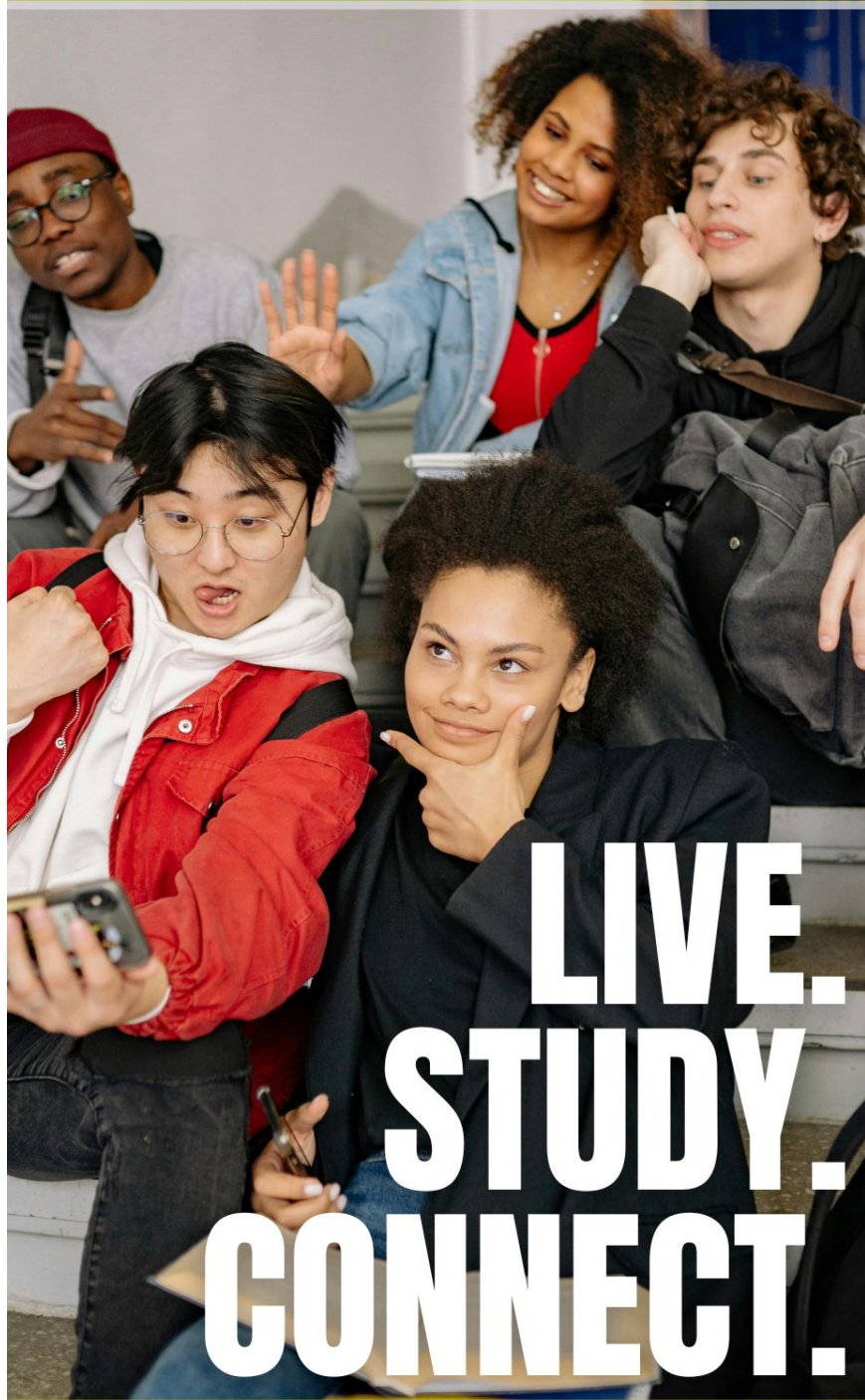
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Gamma Phi Beta | Gabriella Audi

# READY TO RUSH

It's never too late to get involved with Greek Life

BY JULES AQEEL

As I finish my sophomore year at the University of Georgia, I'm incredibly grateful to have so many meaningful aspects of this journey to reflect on. It's hard to believe that two school years have already flown by, but it's even harder to imagine them without the people who are now in my life.

When I came to UGA, I was extremely nervous to step out of my comfort zone and form new friendships, especially as an out-of-state student.

What I did know was that a good number of girls were rushing a sorority during the fall of our freshman year. However, I decided that it wasn't the right choice for me at the time and I chose not to rush.

Fall rush is a vital and wonderful experience for many students at UGA, but I think it's important to recognize that it isn't the right path for everyone. There are so many other ways to get involved and build friendships — with people both inside and outside of Greek life.

My fall semester had its ups and downs of course, but by joining clubs aligned with my interests and making an effort to introduce myself to new people, I formed strong, lasting connections that I still cherish today.

In my second semester, I yearned for more of these connections and was introduced to the concept of spring rush. Once again, rushing a sorority was a concept I was very hesitant about. However, a couple of my friends, including my roommate, decided to give it a try, so I did as well.

Today, my closest friends are the people I went through spring rush with, as well as those who joined in the semester that followed. I want to emphasize to the girls who feel hesitant about the fall rush process but still hope to join the Greek life community that spring rush may be an opportunity worth considering. Though it's a more relaxed process, that doesn't diminish its value. Spring rush still centers on building genuine connections — just within a smaller group of girls.

Not a day passes without sharing time with one of my closest friends from spring recruitment or my sorority. We sleep over at each other's apartments, enjoy our spring breaks together, visit each other's hometowns, try new activities and food around Athens, celebrate each other's birthdays, host movie nights and on the harder days, we are there for each other.

These are the kinds of memories that stay with you forever, the kind of bond every person dreams of finding when they come to college. Looking back, I reflect on how much I've grown as a student here at UGA and on the people I've grown alongside. We helped each other become the individuals we are today, and I wouldn't change my decision to go through spring rush for anything.



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# CHEAP EATS

Take a break from the meal plan

Dining hall food at UGA can actually be pretty great, but you'll get familiar with the rotating menu eventually. Here are some cheap and cheap-ish spots close to campus recommended by our Eat & Drink team.

## ORDER A PIZZA

Yes, there are the national chains that line Baxter Street, but for something unique to Athens, order a pizza from DePalma's, which has three locations around town. For a late night snack, head to Little Italy, where pizza is served by the slice until 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. If you happen to be near Five Points, stop by Fully Loaded. This pizza place serves slices and full pies. Grab a seat at the outdoor patio when the weather is nice — and don't miss out on Wing Wednesday for 90¢ wings.

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### SOUTHERN COOKING

Dawg Gone Good BBQ is a counter-service barbecue spot specializing in pulled pork, ribs and mac and cheese. Grab a meal to sit at one of their outdoor tables or take a plate to go. Located off of East Broad Street, Weaver D's Delicious Fine Foods boasts classic Southern cooking – and a connection to famed Athens band R.E.M. Big City Bread Cafe serves comfort food with creative twists made from locally-sourced ingredients.

### TEA TIME

Stop at Ding Tea, a Taiwanese establishment, for one of its many boba options. Want lunch or dinner too? Bubble Cafe offers a full dining menu alongside snacks like dumplings and edamame to pair with its huge selection of boba teas in dozens of flavors.



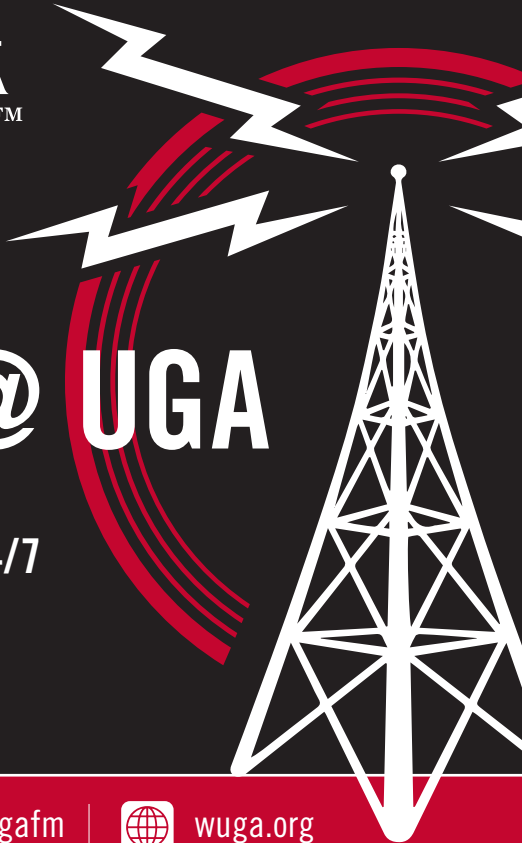
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## TACO NIGHT

Check out Barberitos, an Athens-based restaurant chain offering burritos, tacos, quesadillas and more at multiple Athens locations. Tlaloc is a beloved family-owned restaurant on North Chase Street that serves Mexican and Salvadoran food. Cali n' Titos is an Athens favorite that serves affordable Cuban and Latin food at locations in Five Points and on the East Side.

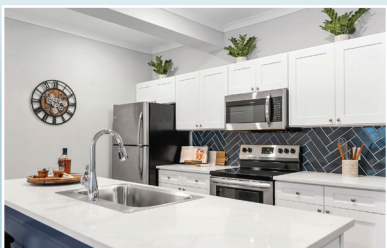
## GO INTERNATIONAL

Stop by Athens Wok for an expansive and affordable menu offering Chinese, Japanese and Thai options. Head next door to pick up a poke bowl from Ahi Hibachi and Poke, or try their hibachi and sushi offerings. Mediterranean Grill on Lumpkin Street has a menu featuring authentic entrees including spanakopita, gyros and kabobs — all for \$15 or less.

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# FINDING YOUR PASSION

Don't be afraid to add a major or minor

BY CAROLINE NEWBERN

"What am I going to do with my life?"

As a freshman in college, you're bombarded with questions about your life goals, despite not truly having lived yet. When I got to the University of Georgia, I knew I liked writing and decided a good start would be to pursue an English major.

In theory, it was perfect. To stick with the familiar, to hide in the comfort of what I was good at. I could spend my time stepping into worlds that weren't the ones I was living in. I could run from the looming pressure to decide my future.

But I wasn't living. That isn't to say that I wasn't academically challenged or learning new things. In my time as a student in the English department, I've tackled the arduous. From the works of John Milton to T.S. Eliot and Mina Loy, I've explored both the traditional literary canon and non-traditional, experimental. I've grown as a writer. But I was comfortable. I hadn't pushed myself. I ignored the unknown.

For me, that was journalism. In a usual semester check-in, my advisor asked "What else?" "You're going to graduate next semester with just English."

What else? Graduate? I'd barely gotten used to living away from home, let alone thought of stepping into the real world.

"Well, what are your other interests?" I had no real idea. I took a shot in the dark, "Um. Journalism?" "Great."

I signed up for an introductory course to test the waters. It was in a large lecture hall, and I didn't know anybody, much different from the intimacy of the 15 to 30-person English classes. If it was discomfort I was looking for, this was it.

Only after this did I start to grow in a different way; I wasn't just growing as a writer but as a person. Each class, I started to find my footing again all the while wanting to know more. I began to chase the unknown.

I decided to join The Red & Black as a contributor. I'd never interviewed anyone or knew what AP style was. I had little experience, but whether it be in my English classes or simply talking to family and friends, I have a knack and passion for storytelling.

My first stories were far from perfect. During interviews, I stumbled over my words. I constantly wondered if I was in over my head. And yet, there was an undeniable sense of purpose. I had to keep going.

I applied to the Grady School of Journalism and Mass Communications and was accepted to the journalism major in spring 2024. I consistently picked up stories from The Red & Black. Journalism lit a fire in me.

A year later, I've written 19 stories, conducted countless interviews and snapped thousands of photos. I'm finishing the semester as a recruitment manager, have helped onboard over 40 new contributors and am stepping into the role of managing editor for the summer.

If I had the chance to speak to my freshman self, scared and clinging to what I knew, I would say, "The unknown is terrifying, but go after it anyway. It's how you grow." After all, you don't know what you don't know.



# A QUIET PLACE

Where to take a breather on campus

BY ANNA KAPUSTAY

Everyone gets overwhelmed at college, whether it's because of piled up schoolwork or a busy work schedule. Freshman year can be a big adjustment, and sometimes there's just no time to go back to your dorm to decompress. Luckily, UGA has plenty of quiet places on campus to take a breather.

## FINE ARTS BUILDING

One of the quieter buildings on North Campus, the Fine Arts Building has beautiful architecture and peaceful spots to decompress. The staircases on either side of the main entrance lead to smaller lobbies with seating, sunlight and access to restrooms.

## FOUNDERS MEMORIAL GARDEN

UGA's campus is dotted with historic lawns and sunny quads, but if you're looking to relax somewhere that feels more private, head to the Founders Memorial Garden. Located on North Campus off of South Jackson Street, it's one of the most picturesque spots on campus. Filled with a wide variety of beautiful botany, there's a fountain, a small maze and plenty of benches and lawns to sit on. It's the perfect place to get a breath of fresh air and reconnect with nature.

## THE GEORGIA CENTER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

You may be familiar with the Georgia Center as a hotel and event venue, but it's also a convenient spot to work or unwind. Located off South Lumpkin Street, near Snelling Dining Commons and Myers Quad, stop by to enjoy ample seating, a relaxed courtyard (with fire pits) and the Bulldog Bistro, where you can order a meal or grab a snack to go.

## HERTY FIELD

The location of the first Georgia football game, Herty Field is a secluded spot on North Campus where you can enjoy the rushing of the iconic fountain and the sun shimmering on the water. There's a solar-powered charging station and plenty of benches to sit back and enjoy the view.

## TRIAL GARDENS

Behind the Science Learning Center and in between College of Pharmacy and Snelling Dining Commons are the UGA Horticulture Trial Gardens. A hidden gem on South Campus, this garden puts both annual and perennial plants on trial to see how they thrive in the southern heat. It's the perfect place for a stroll to clear your head while taking in the colorful flowers.

## WELL-BEING HUBS

UGA's Well-Being Hubs are private and semi-private rooms where students can study, meditate, pray or just take a break between classes. Located all around campus, you can find them at the University Health Center, the Disability Resource Center, Milledge Hall, the College of Environment and Design, University Testing Services, Sanford Stadium and the College of Pharmacy. Features include comfortable seating, nap pods, massage chairs and art supplies. Some are first come, first served, and others can be reserved online.



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All photos courtesy of  
Mary Ryan Howarth

# STUDY ABROAD

## First-hand experiences from the Croatia Maymester

BY MARY RYAN HOWARTH

The University of Georgia offers a huge variety of StudyAway programs. Students have the opportunity to participate in exchange programs, domestic field studies, international internships, and more. You can choose one within your major or minor, or look outside of your regular field. Many study abroad experiences offer needs-based scholarships as well.

During the summer going into my junior year, I was scared out of my mind to travel outside of the country for the first time. I knew no one in my Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication Maymester program. Croatia was somewhere I had vaguely heard of, but I had no idea what to expect. This trip ended up being one of the most influential experiences I had in college. I left Croatia with a new level of confidence and self-worth, as well as friendships that have lasted almost two years to date. I asked two of these friends, Paige Clarke and Ella Kroll, to share their experience of our summer abroad together.

---

Going abroad changed my life. It's the most cliché thing said by nearly everyone who has gone abroad, however, I have no shame in adding to the stereotype. I am beyond grateful to have experienced the first Grady Croatia Maymester, and the people I got to experience it with made it even better.

I was nervous to go at first. I knew two other girls, but was about to fly across the globe to spend three weeks with strangers in a country I knew so little about. I was scared I wouldn't make friends or would close myself off.

Then, I met some of my favorite people from all of college. Our small but mighty group of women was everything and more than I could have asked for. We celebrated birthdays, experimented with new foods, participated in radio broadcasts in Croatia, encouraged each other to venture beyond our comfort zones, and shared abundant laughter. I came home from the trip not only with pictures and souvenirs but also with my new best

friends. Two years after the program, I still cherish the relationships I created on that trip and would do it again if I could.

My most significant advice would be to say yes to everything and go in with no expectations. You never know who you will meet or what these experiences will mean to you years later, even if it's just a short Maymester program. This is the ideal moment to explore new avenues and venture beyond your comfort zone. Everyone else in your program is in the same position and probably has some of the same worries as you. So, say yes to coffee with the girl you met in the airport, go to the random museum next to your hotel with your new roommate, and even go cliff diving when you're afraid of heights. These memories will last a lifetime, and I am so excited for you to live your StudyAway dreams!

**PAIGE CLARKE**  
FOURTH YEAR JOURNALISM MAJOR

---

I can echo everyone else's words and say I was far more nervous than excited to embark on my study away program — while most people knew at least one person, I knew not a single soul going on the trip, and was a lot shyer at that point in my life than I am now.

If you're an overthinker and/or an introvert like me, you will have to put in a little extra effort in this already new and different setting to connect with people and make the most of your experience, but it's so worth it.

I pushed myself to ask Mary Ryan and another student, Katie, if I could hang out the first night, and the rest is history. I then met Paige and some other students, and we became a tight-knit friend group. Most importantly, we bonded with our entire study abroad program of only women, which was so fun and unique.

My key point of advice would be to never judge who you think people are based on observations from the first day or two, or even three weeks on your program. I definitely was not in my truest form in that first week of our trip, and I am so thankful that the friends I made continued to get to know me and have remained my close friends until now, almost at graduation, two years later. I am also so lucky that the bonds we made over in Croatia have stretched and lasted back to Athens, and I know they will continue to last even after college.

Get to know people, eat all the new foods, try the things you think you'll look stupid doing, and say yes to every opportunity — you truly never know what is waiting for you behind the door that you have yet to walk through.

**ELLA KROLL**  
FOURTH YEAR JOURNALISM MAJOR





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# CAMPUS MAP

- 1 The Arch
- 2 North Campus Quad
- 3 The Chapel
- 4 Old College
- 5 Herty Field
- 6 Founders Memorial Garden
- 7 Special Collections Libraries
- 8 Main Library
- 9 Jackson Street Cemetery
- 10 Zell B. Miller Learning Center
- 11 Campus Bookstore
- 12 Tate Student Center
- 13 Sanford Stadium
- 14 Georgia Museum of Natural History
- 15 Georgia Center
- 16 Trial Gardens
- 17 Stegeman Coliseum
- 18 Science Learning Center
- 19 Butts-Mehre Heritage Hall
- 20 Performing Arts Center
- 21 Georgia Museum of Art
- 22 Lamar Dodd School of Art
- 23 Ramsey Student Center
- 24 UGA Visitors Center
- 25 Intramural Fields Area

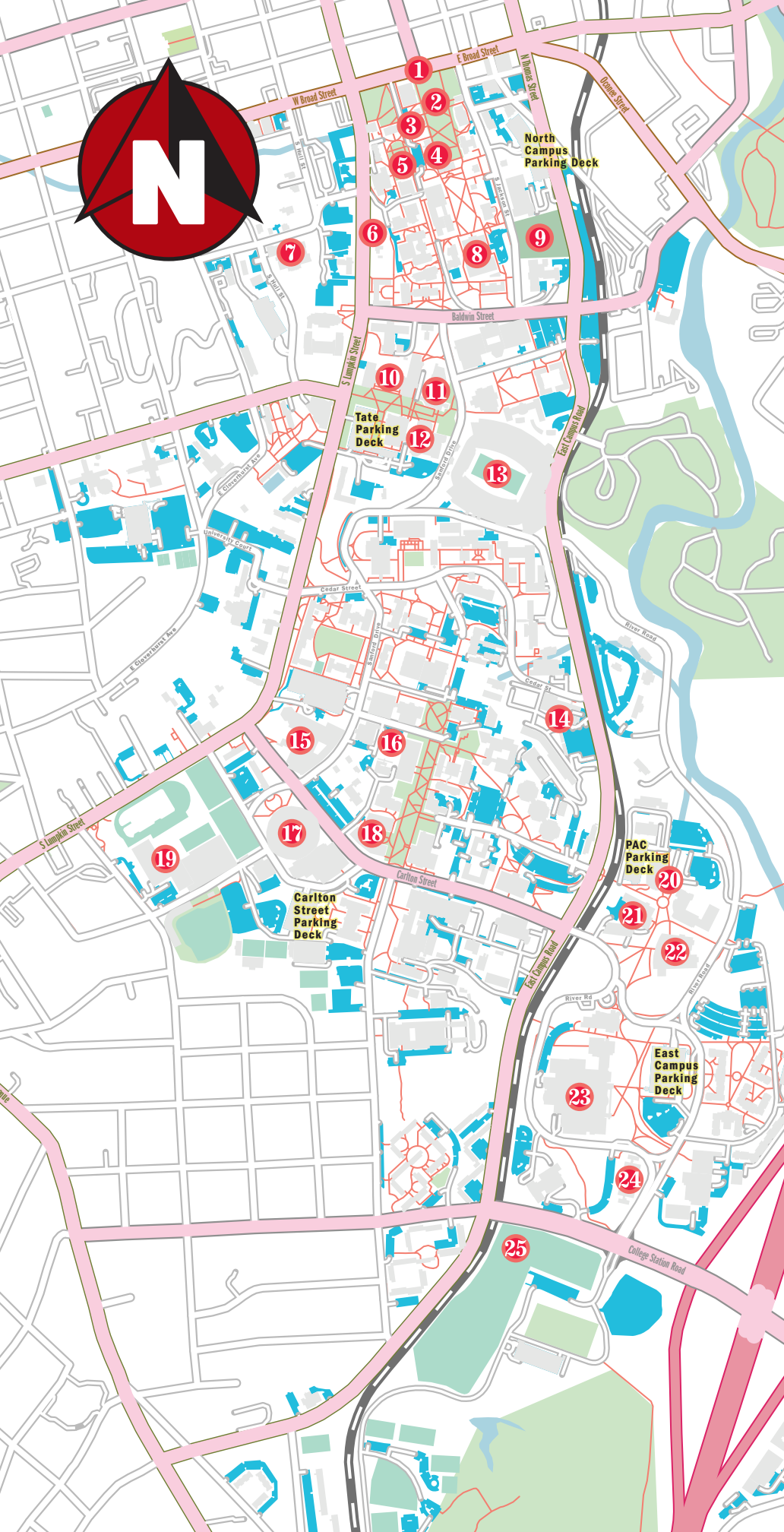
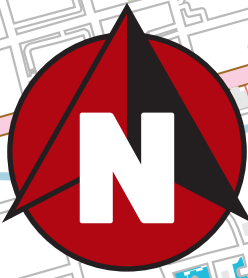
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# WHERE TO FIND HELP

Resources both on and off campus

## ON CAMPUS

### **ACCESSIBILITY AND TESTING**

Accessibility and Testing (formerly the Disability Resource Center) aims to create a welcoming academic and social environment for students with disabilities and connect them with resources to improve their experience at UGA. The staff works with each student to develop an individualized accommodation plan for attendance, testing and more.

[accessibility.uga.edu](https://accessibility.uga.edu) | 706-542-8719

### **COUNSELING AND PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES**

This service, referred to as CAPS, offers short-term individual and group counseling. An initial screening is free, with reduced rates for visits afterward if the student has paid health fees. CAPS also offers mental health workshops and a 24-hour hotline.

[caps.uga.edu](https://caps.uga.edu) | 706-542-2273

### **THE FONTAINE CENTER**

This center is dedicated to alcohol and substance abuse prevention and recovery. They offer learning tools, programming and advocacy services.

[healthpromotion.uga.edu/fontaine-center](https://healthpromotion.uga.edu/fontaine-center) | 706-542-8690

### **THE LOVE AND MONEY CENTER**

This UGA College of Family and Consumer Sciences clinic can help with everything from managing student loans to couples counseling. The financial planning, legal advice and nutrition services are free. Other programs, like therapy, are offered on a sliding scale.

[fcs.uga.edu/loveandmoneycenter](https://fcs.uga.edu/loveandmoneycenter) | 706-542-4486

### **NUTRITION SERVICES**

The University Health Center's Nutrition Teaching Kitchen offers \$5 cooking classes focused on healthy and simple meals. The department also offers appointments with nutritionists.

[healthpromotion.uga.edu/nutrition/kitchen](https://healthpromotion.uga.edu/nutrition/kitchen) | 706-542-8690

### **PRIDE CENTER**

The Pride Center was formed to foster an inclusive and informed community for LGBTQ+ individuals in Athens. It offers a list of resources on its website and provides safe spaces like a student lounge and a quiet study room on campus. They also have a library, a staff of helpful Pride Ambassadors and a calendar full of fun events.

[pride.uga.edu](https://pride.uga.edu) | 706-542-4077

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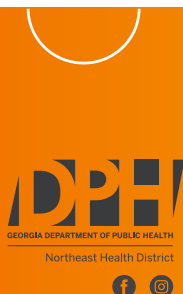
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[healthpromotion.uga.edu/rsvp](http://healthpromotion.uga.edu/rsvp) | 706-542-8690

## STUDENT CARE AND OUTREACH

This division's mission is to assist students with any kind of hardship. Get help for a fellow student, find mental health resources and learn about hardship withdrawals.

[sco.uga.edu](http://sco.uga.edu) | 706-542-8479

## UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTER

Many programs are operated by the UHC, which offers medical services through four clinics with services from general checkups to dental, vision and gynecology services. They also offer vaccinations.

[healthcenter.uga.edu](http://healthcenter.uga.edu) | 706-542-1162

## OFF CAMPUS

### THE COTTAGE

A sexual assault center and children's advocacy organization, The Cottage operates a 24-hour help line, conducts legal and medical advocacy, provides referrals for survivors and offers crisis counseling. It also supports education about sexual assault and other issues.

[northgeorgiacottage.org](http://northgeorgiacottage.org) | 1-877-363-1912

### NORTHEAST HEALTH DISTRICT

The public health department offers many free or low-cost services, such as long-term birth control, contraceptive pills, condoms, STI testing and vaccinations.

[northeasthealthdistrict.org/locations/clarke-county](http://northeasthealthdistrict.org/locations/clarke-county) | 706-389-6921

### NUÇI'S SPACE

With an emphasis on helping musicians, this nonprofit named for Athenian Nuçi Phillips is dedicated to preventing suicide and removing stigma around mental illness. It offers health referrals, supports groups and workshops.

[nuci.org](http://nuci.org) | 706-227-1515





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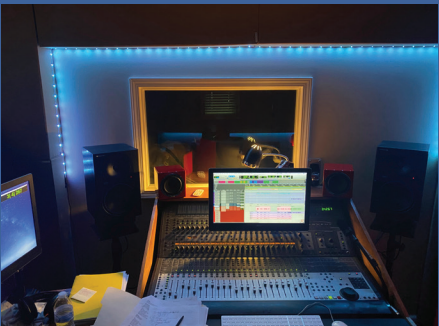
# DOWNTOWN ATHENS

Places to go (that aren't bars)

Sidney Chansamone

## CATCH A SHOW

There are more than a dozen concert venues within a half-mile of downtown Athens, each with its own rich history and character. On the corner of Washington and Pulaski Streets sits the fifth location of the historic 40 Watt Club. A likely stop for any big-name artist coming through Athens, the Georgia Theatre offers a ground floor and several balconies to watch bigger shows from, as well as a rooftop bar with its own stage. Hendershot's on Prince Avenue hosts events like album release shows, intimate concerts and open mic nights for musicians and comedians. Athens also puts on many festivals — like AthFest and Twilight — that include free performances in the streets.



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## SEE A MOVIE

Local independent movie theater Ciné is the best place in town to catch harder-to-find films and documentaries, but they also frequently show the newest A24 releases and select blockbusters. The entertainment doesn't stop at movies, however; Ciné also hosts art exhibits and concerts.

## BROWSE BOUTIQUES

Although Athens has national chain stores like Urban Outfitters and Target, the streets downtown are also lined with Athens originals. Community offers locally sourced products and sustainable fashion. Get vintage pieces at stores like Dynamite and Agora Vintage. You'll find gameday outfits at shops like Cheeky Peach and Pitaya. Wuxtry Records and Low Yo Yo have hundreds of records, books, comics and collectibles, while Cillies stocks second hand clothes and pop culture gifts.

## GRAB SOME COFFEE OR TEA

There are plenty of places to get a drink to cool off or warm yourself up. Cafes and coffee bars like Walker's Pub, Hendershot's and Jittery Joe's offer a place to study, hang out or just get your caffeine fix. Bubble Cafe and Taichi Bubble Tea offer a variety of teas served with boba, popping pearls and other toppings.

## HIT THE ICE

A popular activity at the end of fall semester is ice skating at the Classic Center. If you don't know how to skate, no fear: you can always be pushed around on a plastic seat.

## PLAY SOME GAMES

Grab some friends and head to board game cafe The Rook & Pawn on Washington Street. Their impressive selection of over 600 games ranges from classics like Scrabble and Clue to strategy challenges like Catan and Ticket to Ride. Cranium and The Chameleon are favorites for larger parties. They also have snacks, drinks and a lunch and dinner menu.



The Rook & Pawn |  
Samantha Hurley





Sidney Chansamone

# GAMEDAY GUIDE

## How to navigate your first Georgia football season

There's really nothing like a Saturday in Athens in the fall. Georgia fans arrive by the tens of thousands to Sanford Stadium to watch the Bulldogs play between the hedges, while the surrounding Athens population seems to triple in the process.

Georgia's season opener will be against Marshall on August 30 right here in Athens. Other key matchups in Sanford Stadium include Alabama, Ole Miss and Texas. Here are some tips on how to navigate these games and have the best student section experience possible.

### HYDRATE

The only drink that you should be heavily consuming on gameday is some good old H<sub>2</sub>O! While the only thing they'll let you bring into Sanford is one unopened water bottle, there are plenty of drink kiosks and concession stands throughout the stadium that will allow you to remain hydrated. Water is the fuel that will get you through a long day between the hedges.

### CHECK THE WEATHER

The September heat can be pretty grueling early in the season, especially in the student section that rarely gets any shade. Wear a hat that provides shade, bring sunscreen and reapply as needed. As the season progresses and the weather cools down, pack layers and hand warmers.

Rain is a possibility all semester long, but umbrellas aren't allowed in Sanford Stadium. A poncho or rain jacket could be the difference between a great gameday and a cold, uncomfortable one.

### GET THERE EARLY

The process of getting through the student gate and into the stadium before a big game isn't always fast. Don't arrive at the gates 20 minutes before kickoff expecting a short wait. Get there around an hour (or more, suit yourself) early, find some good seats in the student section and soak in the pregame atmosphere. Georgia is also frequently featured in ESPN's College GameDay. For marquee matchups, it's probably necessary to get there even earlier if you want decent seats.

### DRIP OR DROWN

A good gameday outfit is essential. One of the best parts of any Saturday in Athens is seeing the thousands of Bulldog fans decked out in red and black. If you don't have a jersey or Bulldog-themed attire, opt for head-to-toe red and black.

## STAY FOR THE LONG HAUL

Scanning your student ticket and immediately leaving the stadium to avoid getting a strike is a move that should only be made in the most dire of circumstances. Heading home at halftime is more common, but staying for the whole game isn't the impossible feat that some students act like it is. If you've got the energy, it's worth it to celebrate a win in-person and hear the Redcoat Marching Band play both the halftime show and the post-game concert.

## LEARN THE LORE

A storied program like Georgia understandably has a laundry list of rituals, chants and cheers that date back to the days of leather helmets. Unless you want Larry Munson rolling in his grave, you need to know the two simple words which express the sentiments of the entire Bulldog nation: Go Dawgs. Get ready to call the dawgs, spell "Georgia," point towards the upper South Deck as the Battle Hymn is played and light up Sanford before the fourth quarter.

## GET LOUD AND HAVE FUN

If you forget any of the above tips, all can be forgiven if you go to Sanford Stadium and root for the Bulldogs like your life depends on it. Be respectful to your fellow fans as well as those of the other team, but when it's time to cheer, be a part of the reason Sanford is one of the hardest stadiums to play in all of college football. Have fun with it and enjoy your time between the hedges!

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A photograph of two young women sitting on a green lawn in a garden-like setting. They are both looking at their laptops. The woman on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a white t-shirt. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing a teal t-shirt. They are sitting on a blue blanket. In the background, there are various plants and flowers.

# LIVING ON CAMPUS

## Pros and cons of dorm life

BY ALLISON MAWN

As someone who has lived on campus at the University of Georgia for four years — and is set for one more—I feel qualified to speak on the realities of dorm life in freshman year and beyond. Here are a few key lessons I've learned.

### **PARKING SPOTS**

You have a better chance of getting a parking spot in a good location if you live on campus. Plus, you never have to worry about being late to class or missing a test because you couldn't find a spot in the Tate deck!

However, most lots get taken over by the Athletic Association for home football games. Unless you park by the freshman high rises, odds are you'll be forced to move your car for every gameday, which can get annoying.

### **PROXIMITY TO EVERYTHING**

One of the nicest things about still living on campus is how calm my mornings are. As mentioned above, I don't have to worry about leaving early enough to find a parking spot. If you like to sleep a little later, you'll probably value the fact that you can roll out of bed 15 minutes before class and still make it on time. Plus, between my feet and the buses, I can get anywhere on campus or downtown that I need to go.

Living on campus also makes scheduling less stressful; if I have a long break between classes, I easily can (and do) just go home and eat lunch or do homework. If I have a meeting a few hours after my day is done, I don't have to linger at the Miller Learning Center, I can go take a nap.

### **LIMITED SPACE**

Newsflash: dorm rooms are small, and they get even smaller once you remember you have to share with a roommate. This makes you get creative with storage and learn to be organized, something absolutely vital to success in college.

Plus, alone time becomes almost entirely dependent on your roommate's schedule. If you're more of a homebody, take that into consideration when you're matching with a roommate, or deciding if you're even going to stay on campus after freshman year.

### **SHARED BATHROOMS**

As disgusting as they are, communal bathrooms build character. It's a right of passage that forces a reckoning with germs, shyness and the realization that you are not the center of the universe.

In many halls, you share only with your roommate or suitemates, which is much easier to manage (especially for folks who, unlike me, grew up with siblings). However, if you're a freshman aiming for the high rises, just go ahead and buy some shower shoes, because a public bathroom is in your future.

### **NO MONTHLY BILLS**

This is one of the best and least talked about benefits of dorm living: all my bills are wrapped into my semester fees. I pay everything at once, with the help of my loans and scholarships, and then I'm done. My friends living off campus have to worry about making sure they pay their water, electricity and internet bills every month. Meanwhile, I take long, hot showers knowing I won't pay any more than I already have.



BY FELIX SCHEYER

Sometimes, you're so focused on what's ahead and where you're going that you forget to see the beauty in what's beneath your feet.

As I began to run the emotional gauntlet of college admission letters, I thought I had a clear choice in mind. I was going to move to the West Coast, where I'd begin my new life at the University of California, Berkeley.

I loved my family, and I loved the town that had raised me, but I'd always longed for a place where I didn't feel like the exception. Growing up as a queer individual in the South, I'd adopted a rather dismissive attitude toward all things Georgia. Over the years, I'd found a tight-knit group of other individuals who saw the world the way I did. A perspective that was larger than football, frat parties and the -isms and -phobias that we'd been forced to endure.

But my parents are both teachers, and in order to try and alleviate some of the strain that my dreams put on our family, I decided to apply to some in-state universities as well. The University of Georgia — the "football party school" that was so many of my tormentors' greatest desire — became my new best bet.

My parents suggested a family trip to Athens to tour the campus. Though I was not overly thrilled, I agreed. And to my surprise, I found people like me — different, weird and proud.

Suddenly, I saw the dream that I'd thought would only ever bloom far away from home sprouting under my feet. The soil had been there all along; I just hadn't allowed myself to appreciate my roots.

By counting out the South, I was choosing to not see the beauty in what was here. I had done to Georgia what I believed it had done to me — intentionally seeking out the most unpleasant aspects of the entity. I'd come at it with bias and negativity, the exact reality I believed I was leaving behind.

Since that first visit, I've found people who love me, in an environment that helps me build toward success. The fears I had coming to this school have been replaced by pride.





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Haleigh Terhune

# JOB HUNTING

Use these UGA resources to find a job

## HANDSHAKE

Create a profile and let UGA's job search platform connect you to thousands of part-time roles, internships, employers and events. It's also the best place to find jobs on campus, but be sure to send a follow-up email after you apply.

## LINKEDIN LEARNING

LinkedIn is a great tool to connect with people and find jobs, but UGA also provides free LinkedIn Learning with your student ID. This service provides over 16,000 video courses taught by industry experts. Once completed, certifications are automatically posted to your profile.

## SGA PROFESSIONAL CLOTHING CLOSET

The Student Government Association provides students with one free professional outfit per academic year. Select the desired items on the SGA website and you'll receive an email to schedule a pick-up at one of the designated pop-up shops.

## UGA MENTOR PROGRAM

This program connects students and alumni to form meaningful relationships. When selecting a mentor, students create a profile and are linked to mentors who relate to them based on their industry, major, location and more. Once connected, mentees and mentors can meet anytime, anywhere.

## STUDENT DISCOUNTS

Students have free or discounted access to The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Cloud.





Sidney Chansamone

# BUILDING CONFIDENCE

Comparison is the thief of joy

BY THAMES CRANZ

I want to start off by saying that you are entering the most exciting, pivotal time in your life, so enjoy it. Ask any upperclassman or adult, and they'll tell you they would give anything to be in your position right now. With that being said, appreciate it. Make mistakes, try new things and step out of your comfort zone.

Entering freshman year can be lonely. You may be living in a high-rise with 900 other freshmen, but ultimately, you only have yourself. That's scary, I know, but get out, get involved and find things that make you happy.

Being alone and building confidence is a big part of freshman year. It may be awkward and weird at first, but once you find comfort in doing things by yourself, it becomes easier. If I had waited for someone to do things with, I would never be a part of the communities I am in today. You'll find where you belong, even if it's not where you think you need to be.

Literally be yourself. I know it's easier said than done, but people can tell when you're being fake. I promise. People will be more accepting of your real self than of the version you think they want. Coming to terms with the idea that you are enough and worthy of healthy relationships and opportunities is daunting but key to maintaining confidence and respect for yourself.

Comparing yourself to others is easy, especially freshman year. You are put in a position where you are privy to everyone's business, especially with social media. Don't take what others post as absolute truth. People are only putting out what they want you to see. Everyone is going through their own struggles, ones they are surely not airing on social media for everyone to know.

Remember that everyone's experience is different, but stay true to yourself and have confidence in who you are. You got this!



# UGA BUCKET LIST

Try these Athens activities and UGA traditions

## DO THE DAWG DAY OF SERVICE

You'll support a worthy cause of your choosing while learning about volunteer opportunities and meeting new people.

## GO TO THE GEORGIA THEATRE

There are concerts happening downtown almost every night of the week. Check out the center of the Athens music scene at the Georgia Theatre or its iconic rooftop to see a show and a spectacular view.

## GO INSIDE THE CHAPEL

You'll definitely stop by the chapel to ring the iconic bell or take pictures, but this 1830's building also hosts special lectures, student organization events and even the occasional wedding.

## LEARN ABOUT ALUMNI

The Hunter-Holmes building was named for Charlayne Hunter-Gault and Hamilton Holmes, who integrated the University of Georgia in 1961. Learn about them and other notable alumni who have made campus a more inclusive community.

## MEET UGA

He's somewhat elusive, but it's entirely possible to meet college football's best mascot in real life, either at a special event or before a game.

## VISIT BEAR HOLLOW ZOO

A must for animal lovers, this free zoo in Memorial Park is a refuge for injured and rehabilitated native Georgia species.

## GO TO THE GMOA

Spend an afternoon walking through the tranquil halls of the Georgia Museum of Art. The best part? Admission is free.

## SHOP AT A MARKET

You can find a farmers market, craft fair, vintage sale or restaurant pop-up almost every weekend in Athens.

## VISIT THE MORTON THEATRE

Opened in 1910, the Morton Theatre was one of the first vaudeville theaters to be built, owned and operated by an African

American, Monroe "Pink" Morton. The theater still hosts performances today.

## CHECK OUT THE OBSERVATORY

The UGA Department of Physics and Astronomy hosts open house events for those interested in taking a peek into the night skies.

## ATTEND A FOOTBALL GAME

It takes fortitude, hydration and sunscreen to last four quarters of a September game, but it's a quintessential UGA experience, even if you're not into sports.

## SEE ALL THE SPORTS

If you are into sports, make it a mission to cheer on as many teams as you can, from basketball to gymnastics. Most events are free or inexpensive for students.

## VISIT THE BOTANICAL GARDENS

Taking a stroll through the flower gardens in the spring or the changing colors in the fall makes for a memorable trip.

## CATCH A MOVIE AT TATE

It's free with your student ID, it's a great way to connect with other students and movies are always better on the big screen.

## GO TO WASHINGTON FARMS

Located just outside of Athens in Bogart, Washington Farms offers fall festivities and hands-on harvesting in their pumpkin patch. It's a great place for fall dates and Halloween celebrations.

## FIND ALL THE BULLDOG STATUES

It takes effort to track down the dozens of statues scattered throughout Athens. Start with the one at The Red & Black office!

## HIT THE ICE

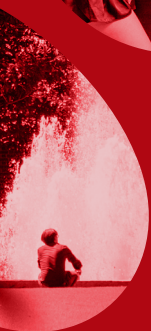
In winter, Akins Ford Arena at The Classic Center hosts hockey games for the Rock Lobsters and the Ice Dawgs, but some nights are reserved for public skating.

## JUMP IN THE HERTY FOUNTAIN

Join in the UGA tradition and take a late-night dip in the fountain on North Campus.

# PARENT GUIDE

Move-in tips, advice from fellow parents, guides to visiting Athens & more



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# UGA PARENTS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

## A letter from Chairs Lonii and Will Herman

Congratulations new UGA Parents and Families!

Welcome to the University of Georgia! Go Dawgs!

My name is Lonii Herman, and my husband Will and I are both UGA graduates with degrees from the Terry College of Business.

Now we are proud parents of twin seniors at UGA. Our daughter, Hannah, is graduating with degrees in marketing and art history. Our son, Drew, is graduating with an accounting degree and plans to return next year to obtain his master's in accounting.

Whether you are new to UGA or an alumnus, we encourage you to consider joining the Parents Leadership Council (PLC) as part of your UGA journey.

The PLC is a group of highly engaged parents who are eager to be involved on campus and make a direct impact on undergraduate student life.

Through the Parents Leadership Grants Program, organizations from across UGA's campuses receive the financial assistance they need to make a difference in students' lives.

As parents, we have found the PLC an invaluable resource and way for us to engage with students, faculty and leadership at UGA. In addition, the PLC has helped us make lasting friendships with families from near and far.

Our children have also benefited from the connections they have made through PLC and have witnessed the direct impact of the grant funding on campus.

As your family begins its journey at UGA, we would like to offer our advice on other ways to remain connected with your student and the university.

Good Luck and Go Dawgs!

**LONII & WILL HERMAN**  
UGA PARENTS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL CHAIRS



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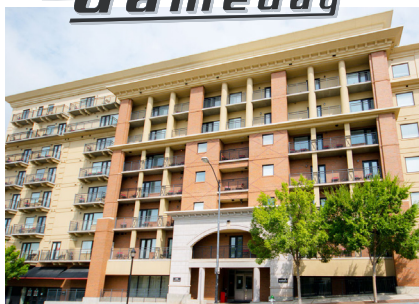
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# MOVING IN

## How to make moving easier for you and your student

Arriving at UGA for residence hall move-in is a momentous day for your family, but it also can be stressful and emotional for everyone. Here are a few suggestions to make the experience a little smoother.

### TIME YOUR ARRIVAL

Students moving in during the first days of move-in need to schedule arrival times. You will be assigned a 15-minute window to arrive and then have 45 minutes to unload. Don't miss your time slot!

Students arriving later in the week don't have to schedule times, but you could find yourselves waiting to unload during this less structured period.

If your student is arriving early for Panhellenic Recruitment, ask them to coordinate with their roommate so you don't all arrive at once. If your student is not involved in recruitment, consider moving in later when it's less chaotic.

### BE ZEN ABOUT TRAFFIC

Streets near campus will be backed up. If you can mentally prepare and keep your cool, it will help your student, who's already on edge, stay calm too.

### DRESS LIGHT

It's uncomfortably hot in Athens in August. You'll be hauling boxes across asphalt lots and in tight elevators. Bringing an extra shirt is not a bad idea.

### LEAVE TO GET LUNCH

Go pick up food and give your kid a little alone time to sort their belongings and acclimate. There are dozens of restaurants in downtown Athens. Check out our recommendations for cheap eats on page 36.

### PACK A SUPPLY KIT

You'll end up needing things you don't expect. To prepare for emergencies, pack paper towels, spray cleaner, masking tape, a hammer, a screwdriver, wipes and more bottles of water than you think you need.

### BRING THE FLAT-PACK

Bringing something from Ikea? It's a lot easier to haul the flat-pack for a Hauga or a Vesken into the dorm than having to schlepp the assembled item.

### BEWARE OF TARGET

Before you run out to buy a bunch of extra stuff, discuss if it's a priority. There are only two Targets in Athens and they will be packed. Can that towel or whiteboard wait? (Plus, this gives you an excuse to visit in a few weeks or send a care package).

### DON'T LINGER LONG

Once you've helped with the major hauling and unpacking, say goodbye, but don't drag it out and get everyone emotional. Save the tears until you hit the road.



Jessica Gragny



LET THE BIG DAWG.

TAKE

THE

ROAD



**50 STATE DECALS (PLUS DC)**

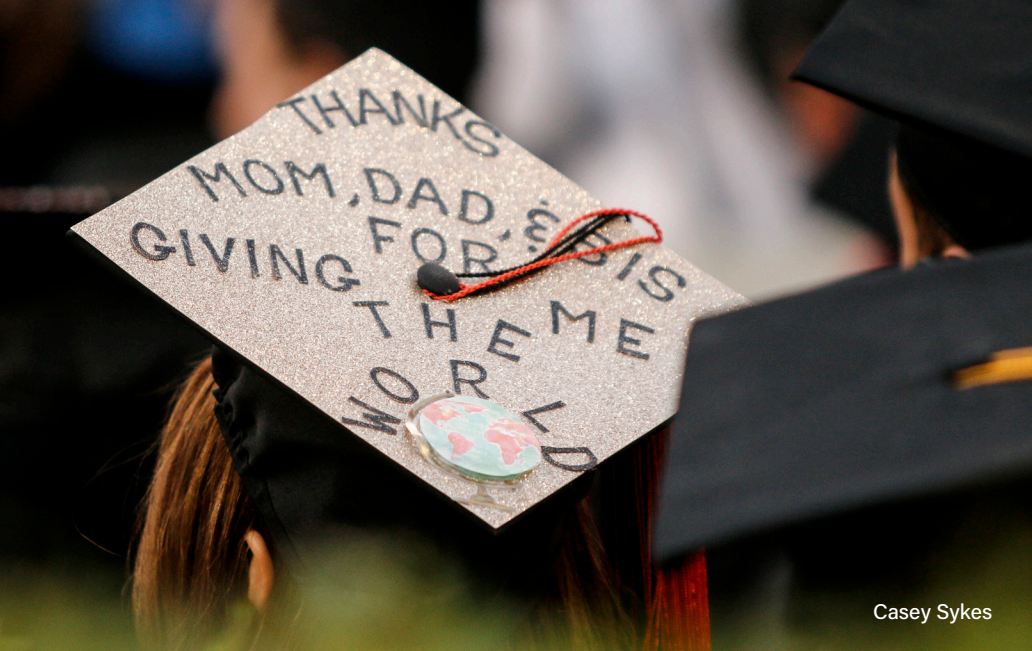
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Casey Sykes

# TIPS FOR PARENTS

Advice from fellow parents of Dawgs

## SET EXPECTATIONS

Discuss your expectations for their academic performance before classes start, and make them realistic. This helps ensure you are all on the same page.

## LET THEM LEAD

While it's important to keep students in check, parents should approach their students with respect for their own ability to take care of themselves.

## GET TO KNOW UGA

Make what is important to your child important to you. It may not seem like they want you to, but they secretly do. That intentionality will help with those desired yet fleeting conversations.

## TEXT OFTEN

Texts are much easier for busy and newly independent students to answer. They are also a great way to remain connected. Be sure to ask a question so your child has to respond.

## BUY THEM A PARKING PASS

Passes are much cheaper than parking tickets, trust us. It's really a one or the other situation.

## SHARE RESOURCES

Be sure that your student knows about [student.uga.edu](http://student.uga.edu). It's the best tool to quickly find resources they may need on campus, from career counseling to mental well-being and the Arch Ready Professionalism Certificate Program.

## ENCOURAGE INVOLVEMENT

Feelings of isolation and loneliness are common after moving away from home, and nudging students to take advantage of opportunities for social interaction might help them with this transition in the long run.

## VISIT ATHENS

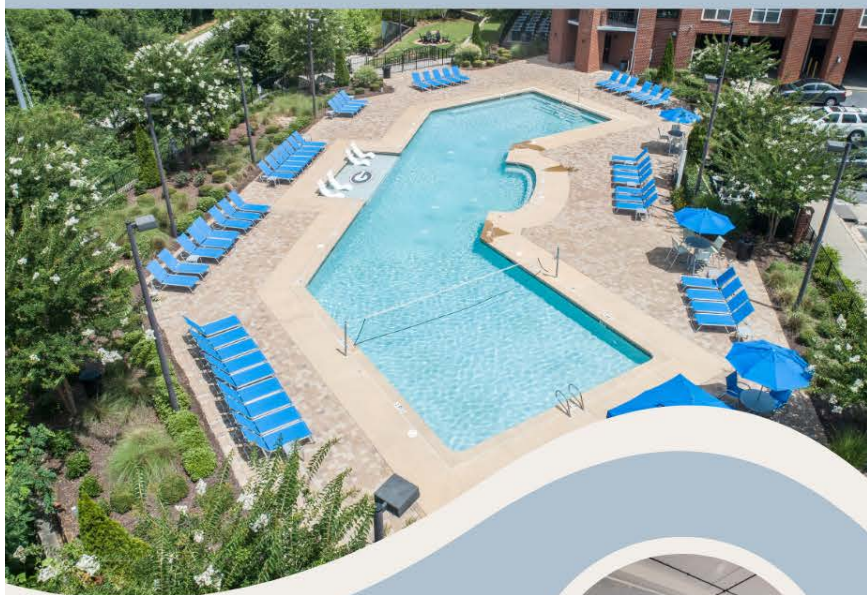
Take them to dinner (see page 86) and invite their friends. It can be a great way to get to know the new people of influence in their world. If you are able, offer to pay for dinner. Students can't resist free food!

## BE POSITIVE

Don't forget — they are excited but nervous. How you act will be their guide.

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# VISITING WITH FAMILY

## Athens spots to check out while you're in town

Maybe you're visiting your UGA student with younger siblings along for a ride. Or maybe a grandparent or aunt is joining the fun. Here are places that can entertain everyone in a multigenerational group.

### GO SHOPPING

Music fans of all ages should head to Wuxtry Records, which has a revered spot in Athens music history. Its second-floor sister store, Bizarro-Wuxtry, is packed with comics, books and collectibles. Avid Bookshop on Barber Street stocks popular and harder-to-find titles, has an exceptional kids section and hosts author readings and other events. Treehouse Kid & Craft next door has toys, collectibles, art supplies and even an ice cream counter.

### ACCESSIBLE ART

Opened in 1948, the Georgia Museum of Art occupies a contemporary building on UGA's East Campus. It holds nearly 17,000 pieces, including 19th- and 20th-century American paintings, artwork from the Italian Renaissance and a growing collection of Southern decorative arts. The monthly Family Day events allow kids and parents to spend a Saturday morning learning about a specific exhibit. Plus: admission is free.

### FARM FRESH

Every Saturday morning, more than 40 vendors set up shop on the tennis courts at Bishop Park to sell seasonal produce, meats and cheeses, baked goods, fresh flowers and hand-made crafts. The weekend market runs all year, while Creature Comforts hosts a smaller market downtown on Wednesday nights from March to November.

### FUN AND GAMES

The Rook & Pawn is a board game cafe that serves food, coffee, tea and spirits. Their impressive selection of over 600 games ranges from Scrabble and Clue to Cranium and The Chameleon. The daily game fee is \$7 per guest, free for kids under 13. For thrill seekers, LumberJaxe offers hourly axe-throwing packages for people looking to test their skills. Participants must be 13 and older.

### GEORGIA WILDLIFE

Housed in Memorial Park, Bear Hollow Zoo provides refuge and rehabilitation for animals native to Georgia that have physical disabilities or other challenges. Admission is free and the small zoo is easy to stroll through as you see residents like otters, owls, an alligator and the three namesake bears. For an indoor experience, head to Entangled Cat Cafe in Watkinsville to grab a snack and meet some (adoptable) kitties!

## A UGA DEGREE ON A GLOBAL SCALE!

Students can find generous scholarship opportunities for study abroad, individualized career advising and tutoring, and an overseas internship. This program combines well with any major and leads to the elite “Global Professional” certification by the National Security Education Program, offering a unique gateway to a federal career.

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The image shows the front cover of a red book. The cover is decorated with the words 'FOLLOW US' repeated in a grid-like pattern. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font. The first row is in white, and the subsequent rows are in black. The text is slightly offset to the right. On the left edge, there is a small white rectangular label with the text '24h' in black. The book is set against a dark background.

Follow us on Instagram @redandblackga

# CANDID COMMENTS

## Advice for parents from UGA students

Your child might not tell you directly what they need or how you can help. Here are some honest tips and suggestions from actual UGA students.

### RESPECT BOUNDARIES

"Make sure to check in with your child, but not too often. Be receptive towards whatever method of communication they prefer. Most of all, respect their boundaries."

"Unless they ask you to, don't call them late at night on the weekends."

"Try to check in once a week, not daily."

"Don't visit unexpectedly. Give a heads up."

### IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU

"Your child is growing up. Let them be their own person, make their own decisions and mistakes. Understand that it's a transition period and your child's emotions might be all over the place. Give them freedom, but be there to give them guidance."

"Give them enough leeway to make their own decisions, but make it known that

you're always there for them even if you're not there with them on campus."

"College has changed since you went. Talking about what it was like back in the day is not always helpful."

"Never (ever) call their professors. Or their advisors. Your student needs to handle some issues on their own."

"Don't put too much pressure on them about grades. It takes time to adjust to college rigor, so let them make mistakes and learn from them."

### COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE BROKE

"If possible, help pay for groceries. Food is expensive."

"Instead of sending decorations or gifts, send money, gift cards or take them out to lunch or dinner. Dining hall food gets old after a while."

"Consider sending a care package on their birthday. It makes potentially spending it away from home easier."

## HISTORY AT HAND

at UGA Special Collections Libraries

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**Parents Leadership Council**  
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# NAVIGATING ATHENS

Your guide to Athens transportation

Jessica Gratigny

While most visitors drive to Athens, many flying in from out of state arrive at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, 70 miles away, then rent a car or hop on a shuttle. Flights to the local Athens-Ben Epps airport, a few miles east of downtown, are available through charter service only.

## CHARTER FLIGHTS

If you're planning on flying private, Aero Center Atlanta, Wheels Up, Georgia Jet and AirStar Charter all service Athens-Ben Epps airport. Visit [accgov.com/](http://accgov.com/) airport for more information.

## GROOME TRANSPORTATION

This shuttle service runs multiple times a day from Hartsfield-Jackson to Athens and back. There are several pick-up and drop-off spots around town, including at the Georgia Center, the Classic Center and many downtown hotels. Fares range from \$25 to \$60, and one pet is allowed to travel with you for an additional \$15 fee. Online booking discounts are available.

## CAMPUS TRANSIT

The UGA bus system can save you the time and expense of looking for parking, and it travels far beyond campus, just download the UGA app for route information. Regular bus services do not run during home football games, when the university is closed or the weekend immediately before or after a holiday.

## ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY TRANSIT

Athens Transit is a free city bus with 20 different routes. Hours of operation end at 9:45 p.m. during the week and at 6:45 p.m. over the weekend. Buses don't run on major holidays. Download the MyStop app for route tracking and additional information.

## DOWNTOWN PARKING

Parking downtown can be tricky for visitors and locals alike, but you'll usually have better luck finding a spot on side streets and farther away from the Arch. Metered parking is \$2.00 an hour with a two-hour maximum from Monday to Saturday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and all meters take credit cards. You can find city-operated decks on College Avenue, a few blocks from the Arch, and on West Washington Street, closer to restaurants and music venues. Parking in these lots is typically free for the first 30 minutes, and \$1 per additional hour. The downtown area has several ParkMobile spots and lots that can be reserved and paid for via the ParkMobile app, which is also utilized by several UGA decks. Most street parking is free on Sundays and major holidays and is not monitored after 10 p.m. Many UGA lots are free and unrestricted on non-game weekends.

## UGA VISITORS CENTER

Here you can schedule campus tours, get directions and find answers to all your UGA-related questions. The Visitors Center is open Monday through Friday and on select Saturdays. Student-led campus tours consist of an admissions presentation, a ride on a UGA bus and an hour-long walking tour of historic North Campus. Registration is required for all guests, but self-guided tour maps are also available.

## HISTORIC ATHENS

Open seven days a week, stop by the Church-Waddel-Brumby House, which is considered the oldest surviving residence in Athens, to grab a map, sign up for tours and get Athens-themed gifts. The welcome center offers both guided and self-guided tours about Black history, local music, historic homes and more.





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# NORTH CAMPUS

## A walking tour of the historic heart of UGA

If you have an extra hour while visiting your student, take the time to explore UGA's North Campus. We recommend you start at the intersection of Broad Street and College Avenue. As you face south, you'll see the expansive lawn stretching beneath large oak trees and historic buildings. Allow us to guide you on your tour!

### THE ARCH

With its cast-iron structure and three pillars, this landmark is hard to miss. Each pillar represents one of UGA's founding principles: wisdom, justice and moderation. While it's now the symbol of UGA, its origins are more practical: The Arch initially served as a gate between North Campus and Broad Street to keep cattle from grazing on the college lawn. Campus superstition says if an undergraduate student walks beneath the Arch, they will not graduate.

### HOLMES-HUNTER ACADEMIC BUILDING

The large, ornate columned building on your right will be hard to miss. It currently houses the office of the registrar. This building was renamed in 2001 in honor of Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter-Gault, the students who integrated UGA in 1961.

### DUELING DEBATERS

As you walk past Holmes-Hunter and onto the lawn, pause for a moment when reaching Demosthenian Hall. Directly across the quad is Phi Kappa Hall. Founded in the 19th century, these buildings have hosted a centuries-old rivalry between debate societies. Demosthenian Hall is supposedly haunted by the ghost of the infamous Robert Toombs, a 19th century UGA student who was expelled.

### THE CHAPEL BELL

Continue walking until you reach the UGA Chapel with its striking white exterior and six Doric columns. On the back of the building, you'll find the beloved Chapel Bell. The bell used to sit in a tower on top of the building, but in 1913 it was relocated behind the chapel because wood rot damaged the tower. Students today ring the bell after both school-wide and personal victories, like football wins or finishing an exam.





North Campus lawn | Jaxon Meeks

## MOORE COLLEGE

After you've taken a peek at the bell, walk down steps on either side toward the large, elegant building on your right. Moore College currently houses UGA's Honors College. Built from 1874 to 1876, the building is UGA's sole example of Second Empire architecture with its mansard roof.

## HERTY FIELD

The large expanse next to Moore College is Herty Field, where Georgia played its first official football game in 1892 (Georgia beat Mercer University 50-0.) Home games were played on Herty Field until 1911. The fountain in the center of the field is a popular photo spot.

## TERRELL HALL

Make your way back to the chapel, and walk across the lawn to the large, red brick building on the opposite side of the North Campus quad. Terrell Hall currently houses the offices of undergraduate admissions. It was built between 1904 and 1905.

## OLD COLLEGE

Continue walking, and you'll soon be face-to-face with UGA's oldest remaining structure. Just look for the statue of UGA's founder, Abraham Baldwin, in front of the building. Old College was built in 1806. The building has housed classrooms, a dormitory, dining facilities and even a U.S. Navy training program during World War II.

## MAIN LIBRARY

UGA's Main Library has seven floors filled with primary sources and scholarly works. It's also a great place to soak up some air conditioning, rest your legs, use the restroom or even grab lunch at Einstein Bros. Bagels.

## JACKSON STREET CEMETERY

Across the street, you'll find Jackson Street Cemetery, which was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. The cemetery contains 800 graves that include two former UGA presidents. Renovations in 2015 at nearby Baldwin Hall uncovered an additional 105 grave spaces with remains of possible enslaved or formerly enslaved people. Since the discovery, UGA commemorated those Athenians and other enslaved individuals with the Baldwin Hall memorial on campus.





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# HOTELS NEAR CAMPUS

Places to stay within a mile of UGA

## GEORGIA CENTER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION AND HOTEL

If you want to be in the heart of campus, there's no better spot than this UGA-operated complex near Myers Quad and Stegeman Coliseum. It includes a 200-room hotel with large suites, two restaurants and a shuttle service.

## GEORGIA GAMEDAY CENTER

If you're traveling to Athens for a Georgia game or just want to be immersed in school spirit, this complex in the heart of downtown Athens rents one- two- and three-bedroom condos decked out in red and black. Units include kitchens, washers and dryers, access to a fitness center, parking garage and free Jittery Joe's coffee.

## HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

Just off West Broad Street, the Holiday Inn Express has single and double rooms, onsite parking, hot breakfast and a pool.

## HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON

This Broad Street hotel with larger suites offers several family-friendly features like free breakfast, connecting rooms and kitchens. You'll also find a courtyard, gym and meeting spaces.

## HOTEL ABACUS

Formerly Graduate Athens, this beautifully renovated hotel is a bit further from campus, but still only a 10-minute walk from The Arch. Features include an outdoor pool, Wes Anderson-level eclectic decor and The Foundry, a restaurant and venue that hosts live music and trivia. Iron Works Coffee, the lobby-level cafe, serves breakfast, lunch, coffee and tea.

## HOTEL INDIGO

This upscale, environmentally friendly hotel has a wide range of suites featuring modern farmhouse furnishings. Hotel Indigo also houses a concert venue, art gallery, restaurant, courtyard and electric car charging stations. Its private event spaces host meetings, conferences and even weddings.

## HYATT PLACE

This 190-room hotel on North Thomas Street, adjacent to the Classic Center, has a variety of different suite layouts. Amenities include free breakfast, a restaurant and a rooftop bar with panoramic views of downtown Athens. Hyatt Place also offers meeting and event spaces, as well as in-house catering.

## THE RUSHMORE

If you have a student involved in Greek Life and living on Milledge Avenue, you might opt for this luxury Five Points bed and breakfast from local business ATH | BNB. It features 14 unique suites and all-inclusive amenities.

## SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT

This downtown hotel offers one- and two-room suites that include sleeper sofas and work areas. Enjoy complimentary breakfast, a fitness center and a cafe.

# The Red & Black **RECRUITMENT**

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# RESTAURANT GUIDE

## Where to eat when you visit Athens

Whether you're in town for a special occasion or just stopping by for a few hours, there are plenty of restaurants in Athens to suit all of your plans.

### LEISURELY BRUNCH

#### **BIG CITY BREAD CAFE**

This cafe is open for breakfast, lunch and Friday night dinner. There's burgers, sandwiches, salads and baked goods to enjoy in the spacious dining area or on the shaded patio.

#### **THE FARMCART**

A family-run business that started as a farmers market food truck, The Farmcart expanded into a brick-and-mortar restaurant on Baxter Street in 2019 thanks to the popularity of their flaky biscuit sandwiches full of local ingredients.

#### **MAMA'S BOY**

Consistently voted Best Brunch in Athens by Red & Black readers, Mama's Boy serves indulgent breakfast fare like salmon cakes Benedict and Georgia peach French toast. There are two locations in Athens and one in Watkinsville now, too.

### QUICK LUNCH

#### **BIRDIES**

A newer addition to Prince Avenue, Birdies is a gourmet grocery store with a deli and coffee bar. Get a sandwich, soup, salad or latte and grab a seat at a table, on the patio or at the counter with a view of Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

#### **TRAPPEZE PUB**

Famous for its enormous craft and imported beer selection, this pub at the corner of Hull and West Washington streets serves superior bar fare, catering to carnivores with dishes like the Double Pig (braised pork plus bacon), with plant-based options like the veggie Reuben. Don't leave without trying the signature raspberry ketchup.

#### **WEAVER D'S DELICIOUS FINE FOODS**

Made famous for owner Dexter Weaver's slogan, "Automatic for the People," which became an R.E.M. album title, this bright green restaurant on East Broad Street is popular for juicy fried chicken and signature meat-and-three plates. Try the sweet potato souffle or broccoli casserole.

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## TREATING A CROWD

### **CLOCKED!**

This American diner on Washington Street is approaching 25 years in business. Eclectic decor and retro branding adorn the dining room and patio, while the menu ranges from burgers and hot dogs to fried pickles and blackberry milkshakes. Plus: they can make almost anything vegetarian.

### **SOUTH KITCHEN + BAR**

This Washington Street spot was once the Hotel Georgian, which hosted visitors to Athens from 1909 to 1975. South Kitchen now occupies the ground floor, while the original ballroom has been converted into a private event space. The menu features modernized Southern comfort food like Nashville hot chicken and biscuits and gravy as well as beer, wine and cocktails.

### **TLALOC**

This beloved family-owned restaurant serves Mexican and Salvadoran food in a bright orange building on North Chase Street. Keep an eye out for drink specials and taco Tuesdays.

## FAMILY DINNER

### **CALI N TITO'S**

The Five Points location is close to campus with patio seating and a BYOB policy, while the larger East Side location has a full bar, gelato counter and arcade games. Both spots are beloved by locals, students and families alike, have great atmospheres and some of the best food in town.

### **TED'S MOST BEST**

Families flock to this casual pizza and pasta place with one of the best patios in town featuring a sandbox. Pizzas are light with thin crusts and salad dressings are made in house.

### **THAI SPOON**

Voted best family-owned international restaurant by our readers, Thai Spoon is nearing two decades in business between Little Italy and The Globe. Their extensive menu features dozens of authentic Thai rice, noodle, soup and curry dishes.



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**— UGA STUDENT**



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## CELEBRATING YOUR STUDENT

### CHUCK’S FISH

Operating in a renovated former Greyhound station, this upscale restaurant features seafood fresh from the owner’s Destin, Florida dockside wholesale market. Along with daily specials, Chuck’s serves sushi and classics like seared scallops and stuffed shrimp.

### LAST RESORT GRILL

Founded as a music venue in 1966, Last Resort hosted acts like Jimmy Buffett and Towns Van Zandt before it started serving its signature southern fare. Steaks, praline chicken and crab cakes are all on offer, but don’t leave without a slice of white chocolate cheesecake.

### THE NATIONAL

This Mediterranean-influenced restaurant on West Hancock Avenue was co-founded by Hugh Acheson and Peter Dale. With serene decor, a big patio and stellar service, it’s ideal for family celebrations.



# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

UGA calendar for the 2025–2026 school year

## FALL 2025

**Aug. 13**

**Sept. 1**

Oct. 6

**Oct. 31**

Nov. 12

**Nov. 26–28**

Dec. 1

**Dec. 2**

Dec. 4–10

Dec. 12

**Classes Begin**

**Labor Day Holiday**

Midterm

**Fall Break**

Withdrawal Deadline

**Thanksgiving Break**

Classes Resume

**Classes End**

Final Exams

Fall Commencement

## SPRING 2026

**Jan. 5**

**Jan. 19**

Feb. 26

**Mar. 2–6**

Mar. 9

April 2

**April 27**

April 29–May 5

May 8

**Classes Begin**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday**

Midterm

**Spring Break**

Classes Resume

Withdrawal Deadline

**Classes End**

Final Exams

Spring Commencement

## SUMMER 2026

**June 4**

**June 19**

July 1

**July 3**

July 15

**July 29**

July 30–31

Aug. 3

**Classes Begin**

**Juneteenth Holiday**

Midterm

**Independence Day Holiday (Observed)**

Withdrawal Deadline

**Classes End**

Final Exams

Summer Conferral



For more details and updates go to [reg.uga.edu](https://reg.uga.edu)



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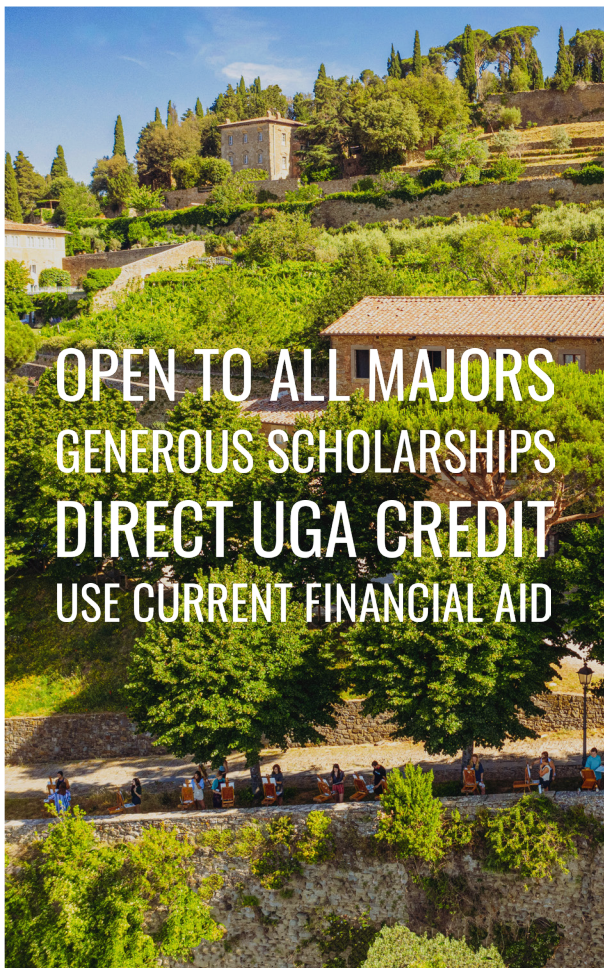
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