



Your Cheat Sheet To College Lingo

THE UNIVERSITY OF
MISSISSIPPI

Center for Student Success and First-Year Experience

ACADEMIC PROBATION: students whose cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0

ACADEMIC SUSPENSION: students on academic probation who do not achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 must sit out a semester; earn a 2.0 semester GPA to remain on probation

ADD/DROP PERIOD: period of time at the beginning of each semester when students can add or drop courses without financial aid or academic repercussions

ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR: part-time instructor

ADVISOR: faculty/staff member who assists students with course selection and academic decision making appropriate to their personal, professional, and academic needs and goals

ALMA MATER: refers to one's college or university from which they graduated; also the name of the school song

ALUMNI: plural form for a graduate of Ole Miss

ASB: Associated Student Body; student government

ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: typically requires 60-65 hours of courses to complete; usually comes from a community college

AUDIT: taking a course for no credit

BACHELOR'S DEGREE: awarded after the completion of the requirements of a specific program; most are four years of study

BID: a formal invitation to join a Greek-letter organization

BLACKBOARD (Bb): a web-based course-management system. It provides a web portal environment, support for courses and campus. Your Bb username is the first part of your UM email address

BLUE BOOK: a small booklet of paper with a blue cover used for essay exams

BURSAR: manages student accounts, assesses tuition and fees, provides monthly billing statements, and processes payments and refunds

CHANCELLOR: the chief administrative officer of the university and is equivalent to a university president

CHAPTER: a membership unit of a national or international fraternal organization

CLOSED CLASS: the limit on the number of students allowed in a specific section/course has been reached

COLLEGE: contains administration and several academic departments; example- College of Liberal Arts

COMMENCEMENT: graduation

COMMUNITY ADVISORS (CAs): students who work for student housing and are responsible for a specific group of student housing

COMPREHENSIVE TEST: test topics covered throughout the entire course/ semester

CONDITIONALLY BOOKED: student is temporarily booked and will be automatically added to the course if satisfaction of the pre-req is met.

COURSE NUMBER: identifies the course with an abbreviation of the department and a number

CREDIT HOUR: typically referred to as an "hour"; the equivalent of one hour of class per week in a regular 16-week course/ semester

DEAN: academic head of each college or school

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS: full-time professors who have administrative duties in addition to their teaching responsibilities

DM: The Daily Mississippian, the student-run, daily newspaper at the University of Mississippi

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid; required for students wishing to obtain financial aid; must be filled out each year

FALL SEMESTER: August through December

FEES: required financial charges placed on student accounts upon enrollment in courses; example- labs, non-resident

FERPA: Family Education Rights and Privacy Act; federal law that protects the privacy of student education records

FINALS: last week of each semester, in which every course has a final test, exam or project

FINANCIAL AID: oversees financial awards; examples below
-FEDERAL LOANS: loans awarded by the government; must be paid back
-GRANTS: financial aid awarded by the state/federal government; does not have to be paid back; may have extra requirements
-SCHOLARSHIP: financial assistance awarded based on academics or other criteria, does not have to be paid back; may have different requirements

FULL-TIME STUDENT: undergraduate enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours per fall or spring, or 6 hours in the summer

GA: Graduate Assistant

GENERAL EDUCATION: sometimes referred to as "gen ed"; courses every student is required to take, regardless of major

GPA: Grade Point Average; cumulative grade point average computed by dividing grade points by class hours attempted

-CUMULATIVE GPA: overall Grade Point Average

-RESIDENT GPA: Grade Point Average of courses taken at Ole Miss

-TRANSFER GPA: Grade Point Average of courses transferred to Ole Miss

GRADE POINTS: number assigned to letter grade based on the amount of hours taken; example- A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1

GRADE REPORTING: a report of final grades is mailed to university students after the close of each semester

GREEK: a term applied to members affiliated with social Greek-letter organizations

GROVE BOWL: final spring inter-squad football scrimmage that usually concludes Red/Blue Weekend

HONOR ROLL: for fall or spring semester, students who complete at least 12 hours and earn at least a 3.5 GPA

HOTTY TODDY: the Ole Miss cheer

IFC: Interfraternity Council, a representative body of men's fraternities

INTAKE: the process of membership selection used by fraternities and sororities belonging to the National Pan-Hellenic Council

INTERSESSION COURSE: compacted course that meets the two weeks after a semester, but is the equivalent of a full semester course (May, August, January)

M,T,W,TH,F: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

MAJOR: primary course of study a student wishes to pursue

MINOR: secondary course of study a student wishes to pursue; mandatory for some majors

NPHC: National Pan-Hellenic Council, the governing body of historically black fraternities and sororities

OLE MISS: the official name of the University of Mississippi's yearbook and embraced over the years as the University of Mississippi's nickname

PART-TIME STUDENT: undergraduate student who is enrolled in fewer than 12 credit hours in a fall or spring semester, or fewer than 6 hours in summer

PLAGIARISM: using another's work, whether directly quoted or summarized, without giving credit to the author; results in serious consequences

PRE-REQUISITE: sometimes referred to as a "pre-req"; course that must be taken prior to enrolling in an advanced course

RECRUITMENT: the mutual selection process of membership in a Panhellenic or Interfraternity Council Greek organization

REGISTRAR: university official who maintains academic records for all students

RHA: Residence Hall Association

SCANTRON: used for multiple choice testing, has bubbles that must be filled in with a pencil; multiple colors

SCHEDULE: list of courses student is enrolled in, along with times, days, instructors, and locations

SCHOOL: contains administration and several academic departments; example- the School of Business Administration

SECTION NUMBER: identifies specific class (time, day instructor) within a course

SEMESTER: portion of the academic year; example- fall and spring are 16 weeks

SPRING SEMESTER: January through May

STUDENT ID: student identification card; most important possession on campus, needed to access both Flex and Express accounts and meal plans, gain entrance to residence halls, campus rec center, check out library materials, buy tickets to athletics and concert events, and scan in for classes

SUMMER TERMS: courses taken in months May through July
-FIRST SUMMER TERM: a week of May and most of June
-FULL SUMMER TERM: end of May through most of July
-SECOND SUMMER TERM: a few days in June, the whole month of July

SYLLABUS: outline of what is expected in each class; given to a student by instructor on first day of class

TAILGATING: setting up tables, chairs, tents, food, and beverages to celebrate the gathering of the Ole Miss family on campus to enjoy the event of the day

TRANSCRIPT: official academic record of every course a student has taken, along with grades and GPA

TUITION: charges for classes applied to student account upon enrollment

UNDERGRADUATE: student who is enrolled in a Bachelor's Degree

UPD: University Police Department; Kinard Hall, 662-915-7234

WAITLIST: when all seats in a class are full, some classes allow you to be put on a list where you wait for others to drop the class

WALK OF CHAMPIONS: the sidewalk running through the Grove and dedicated to the 1962 Ole Miss football team, which went undefeated. The current team walks the path before every home football game

WEBID: this is a sign-on to access all UM web applications for taking care of university business, such as registering for classes, checking grades, and viewing other student oriented information; it is the first part of your UM email

WELCOME WEEK: a weeklong series of social, recreational, cultural, and artistic programs during the first week of the fall semester

WITHDRAW: after the add/drop period; student receives a "W" or "F" on transcript; "W"'s have no effect on a GPA

WORK STUDY: eligibility determined by FAFSA results; student is employed on campus

For more information visit the Orientation Guide
and <https://olemiss.edu/audience/students.html>