



NOVEMBER 2006

Welcome to Orientation...

Florida State University's Office of Orientation, a unit of the Dean of Students Department, is responsible for the mandatory orientation program for all new undergraduate, first-year and transfer, students as well as the companion program available to family members. The successful integration, transition, and retention of new students and family members contribute to the University's enrollment management. Specifically, the Office of Orientation focuses on the social integration, academic transition, and cultural adjustment of the thousands of new students and family members entering the Florida State University community.

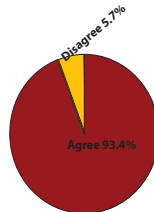
Social Integration:

Florida State University's orientation program introduces students to co-curricular opportunities designed to develop their social networks as well as leadership and citizenship skills. Research shows that students who become involved during the college experience do better academically, rate a higher level of satisfaction with their educational experience, and gain more transferable skills that will benefit them in the future (Astin, 1984).

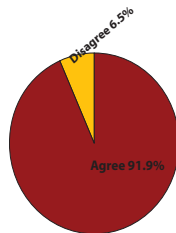
Academic Transition:

The Office of Orientation partners with the Division of Undergraduate Studies, the fourteen Colleges offering undergraduate majors, academic advisors, and faculty members to help students develop academic plans that take full advantage of FSU's resources and opportunities. Students learn about the institution's liberal arts and major requirements, academic policies, and useful strategies that will allow them to make the most of their education beyond FSU. Family members are seen as partners in this process and receive strategies on how they support their student's academic journey.

I understand the rationale behind the recommended classes on my course schedule.

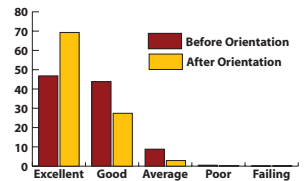


As a result of my advising session, I plan to visit my advisor to discuss my academics.

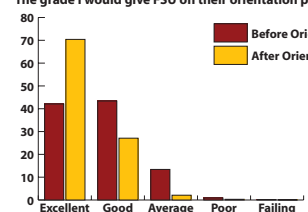


family members learn about programs and practices which support the growth of an ethical community. The Seminole Creed serves as the general values and morals statement for Florida State University. Through the Creed's tenants of truthfulness, respect, excellence, freedom of speech & inquiry, diversity, citizenship, and discovery, new community members learn about both the rights and expectations which accompany their membership in the FSU community.

Students Response
The grade I would give FSU on their orientation program is...



Family Members Response
The grade I would give FSU on their orientation program is...



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- First-Year Experience
- Office of Greek Life
- Office of Orientation
- Parents' Association
- Student Disability Resource Center
- Student Rights & Responsibilities
- Victim Advocate Program
- Withdrawal Services

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Orientation Leader Spotlight...

Greg Faulk, Public Relations



As a first-time college student and the only member of my family to attend orientation, I needed someone to help bridge the gap between just being admitted and actually being a member of the University community. My Orientation Leader fulfilled that need.

As I became more comfortable at the University, I decided that I wanted to help others the way I was helped. I applied to be an Orientation Leader so I could ease the nerves of new students and show them that FSU was not only a good place to go to school, but also a place you could call home.

Patrice Jones, Psychology



Making the decision to transfer to Florida State University, as a sophomore most likely was the smartest decision I could have ever made for my academic career. But, when I arrived here and attended the transfer orientation, I was left with a feeling of needing to accomplish more than earning good grades and letting my college years pass me by. So I decided to

apply to be an Orientation Leader with the goal in mind to make sure that every student, especially students that transferred in, realized that this University is here for their benefit. There are many times that colleges and universities seem to focus on making sure their freshman get involved and unfortunately transfer students are left on the outskirts of what I feel is a major part of college life, social growth.

By becoming an Orientation Leader, I had the opportunity to show freshman and transfer students alike that Florida State University is what you make of it. I believe by reaching out to join organizations and programs a student can greatly enhance not only what they can experience, but learn to appreciate how their experiences influence and motivate others.



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