

USF Terms and Definitions

800 Number



This number is used to identify you as a student. It is the last 9 digits on your Student ID and can be found in the top right corner of your MyUSF Portal.

MyUSF Portal (Portal)



Often called your Portal, this website is where you can find your schedule, make a tuition payment, access your email, order your course materials, and more.

Canvas



This is where you can access your courses. Canvas is NOT the same as your Portal. This is an online learning management system with pages for each of your enrolled courses.

Semester



A semester is a 16-week long period. All full time students participate in the Fall and Spring semester.

Module



Module 1 and Module 2 are 8-week periods within semesters. Module 1 is the first 8 weeks, and Module 2 is the second 8 weeks. These are typically utilized for accelerated courses

Dean's List



An academic honor awarded to undergraduate students who achieve a high grade point average (GPA) during the semester.

Dean of College



Each college (College of Arts & Sciences, College of Business & Health Administration, College of Education, and Leach College of Nursing) all have a Dean that oversees their respective college.

4-Year Plan



A major specific plan to guide you on which courses to enroll in each semester to graduate in 4 years. These can be found in the Academic Advising folder in your Portal.

Major Advisor



Your assigned advisor within your major. This person will register you for classes with and meet with you regarding any major specific questions or general academic guidance.

Academic Probation



A status assigned to students whose academic performance falls below a certain GPA or percentage of passing grades. This is the warning that comes before a student becomes at risk for being suspended or dismissed from the university.

More Terms and Definitions

Academic Alert



A proactive notification system used by educational institutions to inform students, and sometimes their advisors or support staff, about potential academic difficulties.

Satisfactory (SAP) Academic Progress



The minimum academic standards students must maintain to remain eligible for federal financial aid.

Degree Audit



A tool that shows a student's progress towards graduation, comparing completed and in progress coursework against degree requirements.

Minor



An optional field of study taken in addition to a major

Concentration



A focused area of study within a major. This may be a requirement depending on the major.

Accommodation



A change to how a student learns or demonstrates their learning, without fundamentally altering the content or expectations of the course.

Unofficial Transcript



A copy of your academic record that is not officially certified by the Registrar's office. Used for personal review or preliminary assessments but not for official purposes.

Official Transcript



A formal academic record, authenticated by the issuing institution that details a student's coursework, grades, and academic progress.

Enrollment Verification



An official document that confirms a student's enrollment status at an educational institution. Often required for various purposes, such as securing loan deferments, insurance discounts, or scholarships.

Official Website (stfrancis.edu)



This is the official public website for USF. Where anyone can access general information about the University and its programs. From the website you can access your MyUSF portal and request an Official Transcript.