UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI
STUDY ABROAD

Exchange Student HANDBOOK

2026-2027

Greetings, Exchange Students!

Thank you for your interest in the University of Miami!

Chartered in 1925, the University of Miami (UM) has approximately 10,000 undergraduate students studying in over 180 different academic areas. As a gateway to Central America, South America, and the Caribbean, Miami is one of the most culturally diverse institutions in the United States. We are proud of our community and are excited to share it with you!

Exchange students from our partner universities may study abroad at UM for one or two semesters. UM's Office of Study Abroad administers exchange programs with over 80 universities worldwide. Whether you are here for a semester or year, you are a Miami Hurricane!

This handbook will serve as your guide to the UM application process, procedures prior to arrival, and resources once you are on campus. Please review it carefully**,** in its entirety, and refer to it throughout your exchange program, as this will be an important resource during your time at Miami. The handbook is in chronological order and formatted as a checklist. Each task is listed in the appropriate order you are to complete them. Then, you can cross off the tasks that you have completed and proceed to the next task.

We wish you all the best throughout the process and look forward to seeing you at The U!

Sincerely,

The UM Study Abroad Team

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I. Incoming Application
II. Prior to Arrival
III. Arrival
IV. Important University of Miami Contacts, Glossary, & Map

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Section I - Incoming Application

- ☐ Confirm that Your University is a Partner with the University of Miami
- ☐ Ensure that the University of Miami Offers Classes that You Need
- ☐ Seek a Nomination from Your Home Institution
- ☐ Review the University of Miami Academic Calendar
- ☐ Review Important Application Dates
- ☐ Review Application Process
- ☐ Review Required Application Documents

Confirm that Your University is a Partner with the University of Miami

Check our website for a list of the University of Miami partner universities.

Ensure that the University of Miami Offers Desired Classes

The University of Miami course listing for the current or upcoming term can be viewed online:

- Courses are often the same from year to year, but you should alternative courses as not all courses are guaranteed to be offered, some courses will be taught at the same time, and some courses may be full.
- Our first semester or Fall term runs from August to December, and the second term or Spring semester runs from January to May. Courses are listed as a three-letter code for the department and a course number (e.g. HIS 101) with a section letter or number.
- 100-200 level courses are introductory courses, levels 300-400 are intended for upper division students. Exchange students should not register for 500-level classes without first consulting both the professor of the course and the UM Study Abroad Advisor.

Seek a Nomination from Your Home Institution

A student interested in studying at the University of Miami must be a full-time, degree-seeking student at one of UM's international partner universities, and be nominated by the International Office of that university. The nomination process differs by university, so contact your university's international office to inquire about the procedure.

If you or the international office at your home university have any questions about the application process, please contact the University of Miami Study Abroad Program Coordinator:

Camila Macias

Email: cxm2224@miami.edu

Phone: 305-284-6921

Review the University of Miami Academic Calendar

Make sure that the semester dates do not conflict with your university's coursework or other priorities. The required Exchange Student Orientation typically takes place the day after the International Student Orientation. Check our website for the academic calendar.

Review Important Application Dates

Fall Semester Arrivals

- Home University Nomination Deadline: March 1
- Application Deadline: April 1

Spring Semester Arrivals

- Home University Nomination Deadline: August 1
- Application Deadline: September 1

Review Application Process

Here is an overview of the process for applying as an exchange student to the University of Miami. For more details, review the Incoming Exchange FAQs.

Nomination

- Your home university needs to submit your name, email address, period of nomination (semester or year), and a copy of the ID page of your passport to the UM Study Abroad program coordinator

Application

- You must complete the incoming student application online through My StudyAbroad
- You will receive an email with the username and a temporary password to access your online application. Your email address will be your user name, and you will be able to change your password the first time you log in*

Supporting Documents

- Additional supporting documents must be submitted to your home university exchange advisor (see required documents section)
- Home university exchange advisor will then upload the documents to your My StudyAbroad application

Application Processing

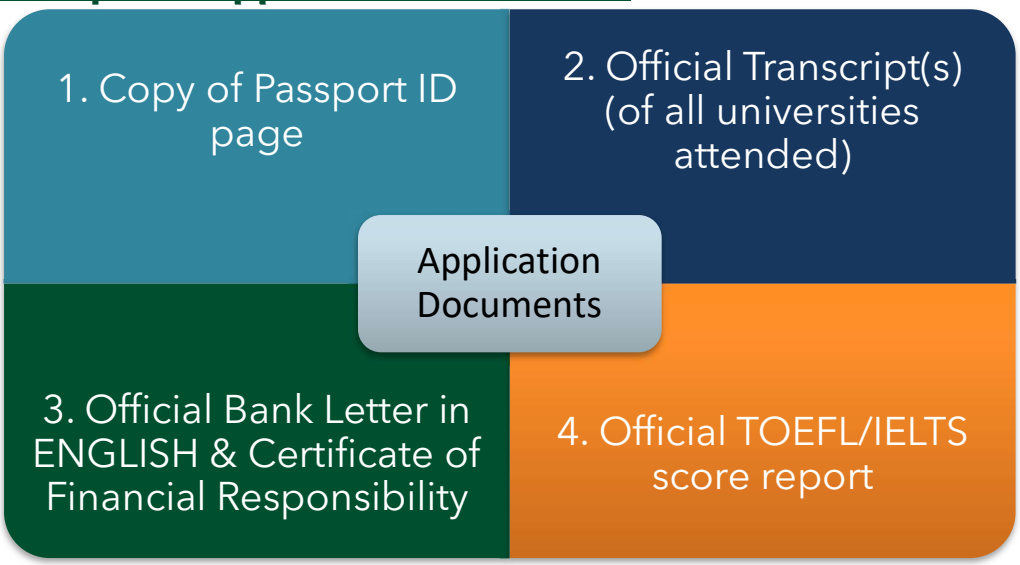
- Allow 6-8 weeks for processing; check your email daily, as we may need to request more or updated documentation from you

Decision

- If accepted, your status on My StudyAbroad will change to 'Conditionally Accepted'
- You must log in, accept the offer, and begin completing the post-decision tasks
- The acceptance letter will be mailed to your email address.

For My StudyAbroad log in issues contact:
UM Study Abroad
Email: studyabroad@miami.edu
Phone: +1.305.284.3434

Review Required Application Documents



Details:

1. **Copy of Passport ID page**:
   Passport must be valid for at least 6 months after your studies are expected to end in the US. If you are in the process of renewing your passport, a copy of the expiring one will allow us to initiate your application, but you will need to send a copy of the new passport as soon as you receive it.
2. **Official Transcript(s) of all universities attended**:
   UM requires transcripts of all post-secondary academic work, not just your current university. If you transferred from another institution, both transcripts are required.
3. **Official Bank Letter and Certificate of Financial Responsibility**:
   - Completed and Signed Statement of Financial Responsibility (in My StudyAbroad): Supporting documentation needs to be submitted for each source of support (for example, a letter from your university to confirm a stipend).
   - An official bank letter **in ENGLISH** stating that the person responsible for your living and personal expenses while studying at the University of Miami as an exchange student has a minimum of **US $22,623** in his/her account for the semester (or **US $45,246** for academic year)
     - These figures are an estimate for the 2026 – 2027 academic year and typically increase by 5% per year.
4. **Official TOEFL, DET or IELTS score report (if applicable):**
   If you are a non-native speaker of English, and English is not the only language of instruction at your home university you must submit one of the following:
   - IELTS minimum score of 6.5
   - 80 on the 0-120 scale internet-based TOEFL (before January 21, 2026)
   - 4.5 on the 1-6 scale internet-based TOEFL (after January 21, 2026)*, including Paper Edition and Home Edition
   - 125 in the Duolingo English Test (DET)

   UM does not accept the Institutional Testing Program (ITP), or any other testing results to validate English proficiency.

CaneID

All applicants who submit a complete application will receive an email with their unique CaneID. Your CaneID provides access to several University of Miami systems and services. It is necessary to login to CaneLink to view course offerings, apply for housing, apply for a meal plan, and to obtain access to many other services.

Upon receiving the email containing your CaneID, you should carefully read and follow all steps and instructions to correctly set up your access. Once you have followed all these steps, you should be able to log into CaneLink at: https://canelink.miami.edu

With your CaneID, you may apply for housing (see 'Research and Apply for Housing and Meal Plan') and register in classes (see 'Review Course Offerings and Begin Course Registration') through CaneLink. You should apply for housing as soon as possible if you would like to live on campus. Your CaneID will also allow you to access your UM email at: email.miami.edu.

The UM Study Abroad Office does not have access to assist you with CaneID issues; only University of Miami's IT department (UMIT) has access to reset passwords or help access your account. UMIT's service department is available 24 hours a day. The UMIT can be reached at **+01 305 284 6565** by phone or email at help@miami.edu; please have your name and C number (student number) available for reference. Due to security concerns, the IT service department will only accept phone calls to reset CaneID passwords; if you are not able to make an international call, you can email UMIT your name, C number and phone number and request a call back.

Visit the UMIT website for more information on UMIT services and CaneID.

Note: You will still use the email address you provided at the time of application to log in to My StudyAbroad, NOT your CaneID.

Microsoft Authenticator/Multi-Factor Authentication

To protect members of the University of Miami community from unauthorized access of their accounts, UM utilizes Multi-Factor Authentication. This means you cannot access UM systems with your CaneID and password alone (single factor). The log in attempt must be confirmed by another method as well (multi-factor). When you first try to log in to CaneLink, you will be prompted to set up the second authentication mechanism; you will need a phone (preferably a smartphone) for this process.

If you use a smartphone, you will be prompted to download the Microsoft Authenticator app, and link the phone to your account. UMIT's Multi-Factor Authentication page which offers many guides and answers to commonly asked questions.

You will need to have your Microsoft Authenticator at hand every time you log in to a University of Miami system.

Having issues with MFA? The UMIT Service Desk is available 24/7. Contact the UMIT Service Desk at **+01 305 284 6565** or help@miami.edu.

Section II - Prior to Arrival

- ☐ Receive Acceptance Letter and Form I-20 Certificate of Eligibility for Non-Immigrant F-1 Student Status
- ☐ Review Information on Form I-20
- ☐ Apply for F-1 Visa
- ☐ Receive F-1 Visa and Make Flight Arrangements
- ☐ Research and Apply for Housing and Meal Plan
- ☐ Review Course Offerings and Begin Course Registration
- ☐ Review UM Health Insurance Information
- ☐ Complete UM Immunization Record and Send to UM Student Health Center
- ☐ Review Financial Obligations and Pay Fees
- ☐ Review Important Dates
- ☐ Sign up for Cane Kickoff
- ☐ Review "Living in America" Presentation
- ☐ Complete Mandatory Online Immigration Session
- ☐ Connect with your UM Global Ambassador
- ☐ Review Packing Best Practices
- ☐ Plan Transportation from Miami International Airport to University of Miami Coral Gables Campus

Receive Conditional Acceptance Letter and Form I-20 Certificate of Eligibility for Non-Immigrant F-1 Student Status

Upon acceptance by the University of Miami, UM will issue a conditional acceptance letter (with instructions on how to request an electric I-20 form). Due to COVID-19, both documents will be sent electronically to student email addresses. The Form I-20 is official US documentation that allows you to apply for an F-1 visa. You will need both the conditional acceptance letter and I-20 during the visa application process.

Conditional acceptance to the University of Miami is contingent upon your: maintaining good academic & disciplinary standing in your home institution; meeting deadlines set forth by UM & the home institution; and obtaining a passport/visa if necessary. Inability to comply with any of the above will result in withdrawal from the program.

Review Information on Form I-20

As part of your conditional acceptance, the student will receive by email their electronic Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for Non-Immigrant F-1 Student Status). You will use your UM I-20 to apply for an F-1 Visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate before traveling to the U.S. to begin your studies. You will need to present your Form I-20 along with your valid F-1 visa and passport when entering the U.S. Review your UM I-20 immediately upon receipt and contact Study Abroad at studyabroad@miami.edu if there are any errors on your I-20.

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1653-00

SEVIS ID: N0013465557

SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME SEBASTIAN	**GIVEN NAME** IBIS	**CLASS** **F-1** ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE
PREFERRED NAME IBIS SEBASTIAN	**PASSPORT NAME**	
COUNTRY OF BIRTH MEXICO	**COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP** MEXICO	
DATE OF BIRTH 18 JUNE 1997	**ADMISSION NUMBER**	
FORM ISSUE REASON CONTINUED ATTENDANCE	**LEGACY NAME** IBIS SEBASTIAN	

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SCHOOL NAME University of Miami Coral Gables	**SCHOOL ADDRESS** 1252 Memorial Drive, 230 Ashe,Coral Gables,FL 33146
SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL Stephanie Foster Assistant Director, International Student & Scholar Services	**SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE** MIA214F00234000 10 SEPTEMBER 2002

PROGRAM OF STUDY

EDUCATION LEVEL BACHELOR'S	**MAJOR 1** Biochemistry 26.0202	**MAJOR 2** None 99.0000
NORMAL PROGRAM LENGTH 48 Months	**PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY** Required	**ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES** Student is proficient
PROGRAM START DATE 17 AUGUST 2015	**PROGRAM END DATE** 11 MAY 2019	

FINANCIALS

ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR: 9 MONTHS		**STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR:** 9 MONTHS	
Tuition and Fees	$ 45,724	Personal Funds	$ 0
Living Expenses	$ 19,197	Funds From This School	$
Expenses of Dependents (0)	$	IBIS SEBASTIAN	$ 64,921
Other	$	On-Campus Employment	$
TOTAL	$ 64,921	TOTAL	$ 64,921

REMARKS

Student #C11010101

SCHOOL ATTESTATION

I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct. I executed this form in the United States after review and evaluation in the United States by me or other officials of the school of the student's application, transcripts, or other records of courses taken and proof of financial responsibility, which were received at the school prior to the execution of this form. The school has determined that the above named student's qualifications meet all standards for admission to the school and the student will be required to pursue a full program of study as defined by 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6). I am a designated school official of the above named school and am authorized to issue this form.

X _____ **DATE ISSUED** 13 November 2015 **PLACE ISSUED** Coral Gables,FL

SIGNATURE OF: Stephanie Foster, Assistant Director, International Student & Scholar Services

STUDENT ATTESTATION

I have read and agreed to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of any extension of stay. I certify that all information provided on this form refers specifically to me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I seek to enter or remain in the United States temporarily, and solely for the purpose of pursuing a full program of study at the school named above. I also authorize the named school to release any information from my records needed by DHS pursuant to 8 CFR 214.3(g) to determine my nonimmigrant status. **Parent or guardian, and student, must sign if student is under 18.**

X _____ **DATE** _____

SIGNATURE OF: IBIS SEBASTIAN

NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN	X **SIGNATURE**	**ADDRESS (city/state or province/country)**	**DATE**

ICE Form I-20 (3/31/2018) **Page 1 of 3**

Apply for US Visa

How to Apply

To apply for an F-1 visa, you must provide the U.S. Embassy or Consulate with Form I-20, passport, statement of funds, and other documents as required by the U.S. Embassy or Consulate. In the case of Canadian and Bermudan citizens, you must use your Form I-20 to seek admission to the U.S. in F-1 status at a U.S. port-of-entry without an F-1. Read page 2 of your Form I-20 for accuracy and sign the student certification block on the bottom of page 1 prior to presentation to a U.S. consular official or immigration official. Requirements and how to submit them may vary at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate where you apply. Please consult the instructions available on the embassy or consulate website where you intend to apply.

Gather Required Documentation

Gather and prepare the following required documents before your visa interview:

- You will need a valid passport, a current photograph, a properly endorsed Form I-20, proof of financial capability for continuing studies, and continued nonimmigrant intent. **Please check the Department of State website to inquire what other documents you may need.**

Additional Documentation May Be Required

Review the instructions for how to apply for a visa on the website of the embassy or consulate where you will apply. Additional documents may be requested to establish that you are qualified. For example, additional requested documents may include evidence of:

- Your academic preparation, such as:
  - Transcripts, diplomas, degrees, or certificates from schools you attended;
  - Standardized test scores required by your U.S. school
- Your intent to depart the United States upon completion of the course of study;
- How you will pay all educational, living and travel costs.

Complete the Online Visa Payment and Application

- **Pay the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) I-901 fee**
  To pay the SEVIS fee online and obtain the required receipt for payment, you must (1) complete and submit the Form I-901 online with the required Visa, MasterCard or American Express information for payment of the $350.00 SEVIS fee (please make sure to write your name exactly as it appears on your Form I-20); and (2) print a copy of the online payment receipt for your records and for submission of your application for an F-1 or change of status to F-1. For detailed and helpful information on the SEVIS fee, required Form I-901 information, payment options, processing times and other related issues, please read the information provided through the SEVP website.
- **Apply Online for Non-immigrant F-1 Visa using Form DS-160** – Learn more about completing the DS-160. You must: (1) complete the online visa application and (2) print the application form confirmation page to bring to your interview. The visa type you will apply for is F-1.
- **Photo** –You will upload your photo while completing the online Form DS-160. Your photo must be in the format explained in the Photograph Requirements.

Schedule an Interview

Although you may be able to secure an original or renewal of an F-1 visa in a foreign country other than your own, your chances of being issued an F-1 visa are greatest when you apply at a U.S. consular office in your country of citizenship or permanent residency. You may face more stringent requirements in a third country and should allow more time in case of delays. It is not

possible to obtain an F-1 visa in the U.S. Wait times for interview appointments vary by location, season, and visa category, so you should apply for your visa as soon as you receive your acceptance letter and I-20 form.

Prepare for Your Interview

- Review the instructions available on the website of the embassy or consulate where you will apply.

Attend Your Visa Interview

During your visa interview, a consular officer will determine whether you are qualified to receive a visa. Dress nicely, come prepared, and be polite and patient. UM cannot intervene, alter, or overturn the outcome of your visa interview.

Ink-free, digital fingerprint scans will be taken as part of your application process. They are usually taken during your interview, but this varies based on location.

After your visa interview, your application may require further administrative processing. You will be informed by the consular officer if further processing is necessary for your application.

When the visa is approved, you may pay a visa issuance fee (if applicable to your nationality) and will be informed how your passport with visa will be returned to you. Review the visa processing time, to learn how soon your passport with visa will generally be ready for pick-up or delivery by the courier.

If you or the international office at your home university have any questions about the application process, please contact the University of Miami Study Abroad Program Coordinator:

Camila Macias

Email: cxm2224@miami.edu

Phone: 305-284-6921

Receive F-1 Visa and Make Flight Arrangements

Once you have received your visa (not before), you can begin to make flight arrangements. While there are several airports located in South Florida, we strongly encourage students to fly to Miami International Airport (MIA) for convenience to campus and access to public transportation (more information available in the "Arrival" section). Miami International Airport is located approximately 20 minutes by car from the Coral Gables campus.

Plan to enter the U.S. with your F-1 Visa and UM I-20 up to (but no earlier than) 30 days before the start date indicated on your UM I-20. You should plan to arrive in Miami no later than the residential college move-in date. Check the website for the University of Miami Academic calendar and with your UM advisor (Camila Macias at cxm2224@miami.edu) if you have any questions regarding your arrival.

Research and Apply for Housing and Meal Plan

On Campus Housing

On-campus housing is **not being offered to incoming exchange students**. Exchange students must live off-campus. Students should research and be familiar with off campus housing options; please see Off Campus Housing section below. **All exchange students, undergraduate and graduate, must make arrangements to live off campus.**

While exchange students can apply for on campus housing through the Canelink platform, on-campus housing at UM is currently facing a shortage and as such our On-Campus residences will not be able to accommodate any incoming exchange students. Students need to seriously research and consider options for off-campus accommodations. We advise students to research off-campus housing options, and to consult the off-campus housing guide.

For more information about housing options, including various off-campus housing resources, please visit the Department of Housing and Residential Life website. For questions about your housing application or assignment, please contact the Department of Housing and Residential Life by visiting their website https://hrl.studentaffairs.miami.edu/about/contact/index.html or calling +1.305.284.4505.

Off Campus Housing

The Department of Housing and Residential Life operates a 'Living Off Campus' page that allows students to view listings, apartment complexes, and realtors, as well as create a roommate profile and search for potential roommates. You can access the page here.

The process for renting an apartment or a room in the US may be different from the process in your home country. Miami has a very large rental market. When living off-campus, you should expect to sign a lease agreement to secure housing. Renters are expected to pay rent on a monthly basis, and the due date is strict. Typically, the lease will require renters to provide first and last month's rent in addition to a security deposit that will be returned to the renter following the end of occupancy, provided there is no damage assessed. In the US, renters are not expected to pay realtors; rather, the landlords pay the realtor once a lease is signed. See the Off-Campus Housing Guide for detailed information and tips.

Living off campus, you have the option to obtain a meal plan; see 'Commuter Meal Plan Options' in the 'Meal Plan' section below.

Meal Plans

Meal plans are selected online through your CaneLink account. Commuter (off-campus) students may choose to add a meal plan. Please note that meals are allocated on a weekly basis and **may not** be carried over to the following week. For information on the meal plans and on-campus dining locations please visit the Dining Services website. Click here for information on Commuter Meal Plan Options.

Review Course Offerings and Begin Course Registration

Academic Offerings

Exchange students may not register for courses in the School of Medicine, School of Nursing, or School of Law; School of Music courses are limited to those listed under MNM "for non-music majors only". Miami Herbert Business Courses are extremely limiteb* **if your students requires to take business courses while abroad for graduation we do not recommend this program as many business courses are limited and will likely not get approved.**

Academic departments maintain their own websites and often have a webpage that shows information on all courses available within the department. Do not assume that the courses on those websites, or the UM Academic Bulletin, will be offered during the semester or year you are here on exchange. These resources should only be utilized as a general guide. Once courses are confirmed for a particular semester, they can be found in CaneLink.

Only the courses searchable on the CaneLink Class Search will be offered during the selected term. **Do not request courses that are not found here; if a course does not appear in the course search, it is not being offered. When submitting your Course Request Form, only request courses found here.** Be careful to select the correct term when searching for courses.

Enrollment Requirements

It is your responsibility to maintain your full-time registration status.

Undergraduate (Bachelors)	Graduate (Masters)
Minimum: 12 credits	Minimum: 9 credits **OR**
***Maximum: 20 credits	Enrollment in a 700-level course
Typical load: 4-6 courses	***Maximum: 9 credits

If you take more than the maximum allotted, you will be billed UM tuition for the additional credits.

Registration

Registration takes place one semester at a time. You can view your specific enrollment appointment (the date you may begin registering for classes) in CaneLink; go to your Student Center and look in the box named "Enrollment Dates" in the bottom right-hand corner of the screen.

A place in a course cannot be guaranteed in advance of registration. It is your responsibility to make sure you earn credit at your home institution; agreements between you and your home institution do not entitle you to a seat in a specific course at UM.

Prior to registering for courses, students must develop a registration plan by utilizing the CaneLink Class Search. You must research and choose alternative course options. For each class you request to enroll in, you must indicate an alternative course in case the class is full or you do not receive permission to enroll in your first choices.

Once you have identified the courses you would like to request, you must complete the **Course Registration Form**. The form will be sent to you via email for filling it out, so the study abroad advisor can enroll you in courses. **Students should plan on submitting this form in advance of their enrollment appointment.** More information and detailed instructions on registering for classes will be sent to students from the Study Abroad Office prior to registration.

Requesting Permission from Faculty to Enroll in a Class

Some classes require permission to enroll:

- Courses that indicate pre-requisites or requisites;
- All courses in Engineering;
- Most Miami Herbert Business School courses.

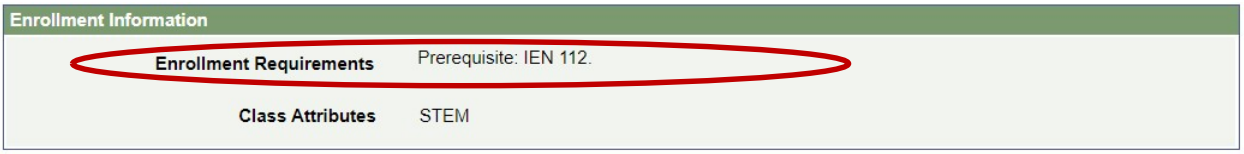
When you submit the Course Registration Form, by utilizing the information you provide on the form, your request for permission to enroll will be sent **automatically** to the professor of the course you would like to enroll in or to the Study Abroad Office.

It is imperative to complete the form with accurate and complete information. Failure to provide accurate information will result in failure to secure permission to enroll in a course. See below for information on where to find the information necessary to complete the form.

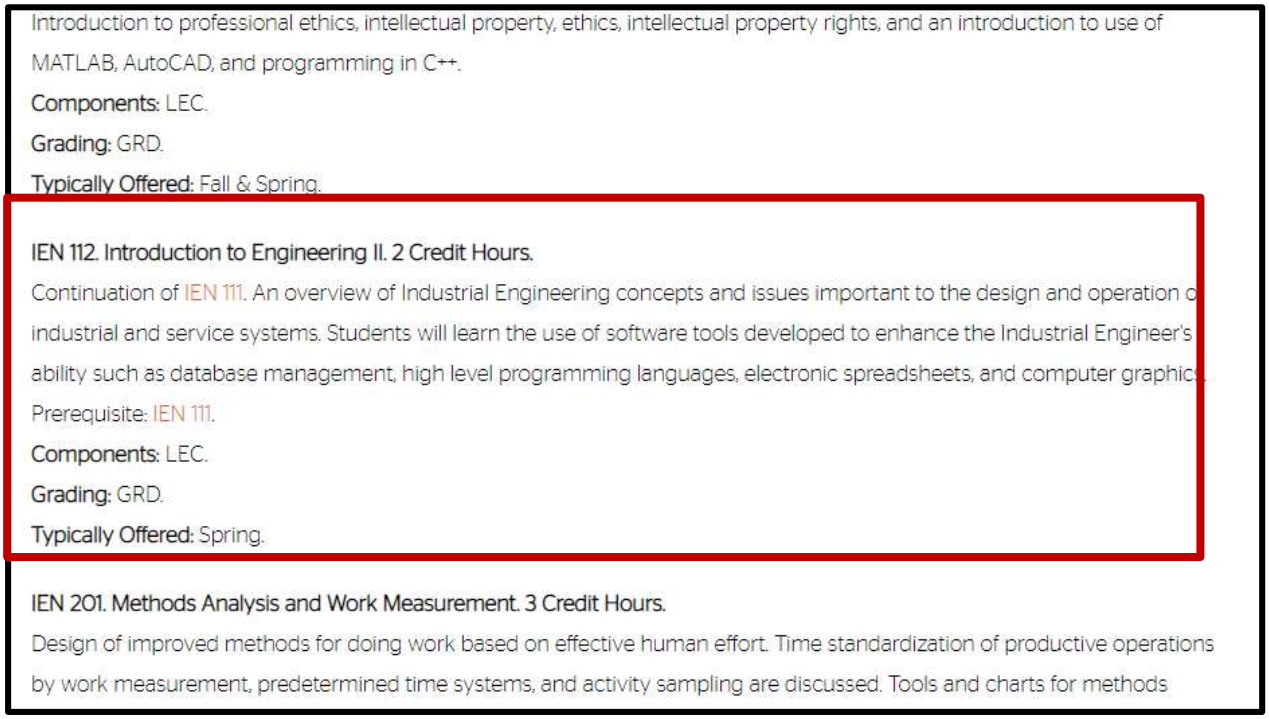
Pre-Requisites & Requisites

Pre-requisites are courses that must be taken prior to enrollment in a particular course. The pre-requisite system is in place to ensure that students have the appropriate knowledge base for a class, and therefore can be successful.

Pre-requisites, if associated with a course, are listed under "Enrollment Information" in the CaneLink Class Search.



Once you find the pre-requisites of the class you would like to enroll in, utilize the Academic Bulletin to find a description of the pre-requisite courses.



By utilizing the course description from the Academic Bulletin (see example above), **you must determine if you have the necessary academic foundation.**

If you have completed a course that fulfills the pre-requisite(s), **take note of the course(s)on your transcript that fulfills the requirement** because you will require this information when completing the Course Request Form.

Finding Faculty Information & Email Addresses

The name of the instructor of record for a course is also listed in the CaneLink course description. Once you set up your UM email account, you can find the email address of any UM professor by searching in the UM Outlook Global Address List, or the search bar in your UM email. Be sure to include the correct instructor's last name and email address on the Course Request Form when this information is requested.

An email will be sent automatically to the course professor (if applicable) when submitting the Course Registration Form. The email will be sent from your UM email address with your preferred email address in copy. Once the professor replies to this email, you must send it your UM Study Abroad advisor (cxm2224@miami.edu) to confirm that you have permission to be

enrolled in the class. You will not be enrolled in the course if you do not send the permission to your Study Abroad advisor.

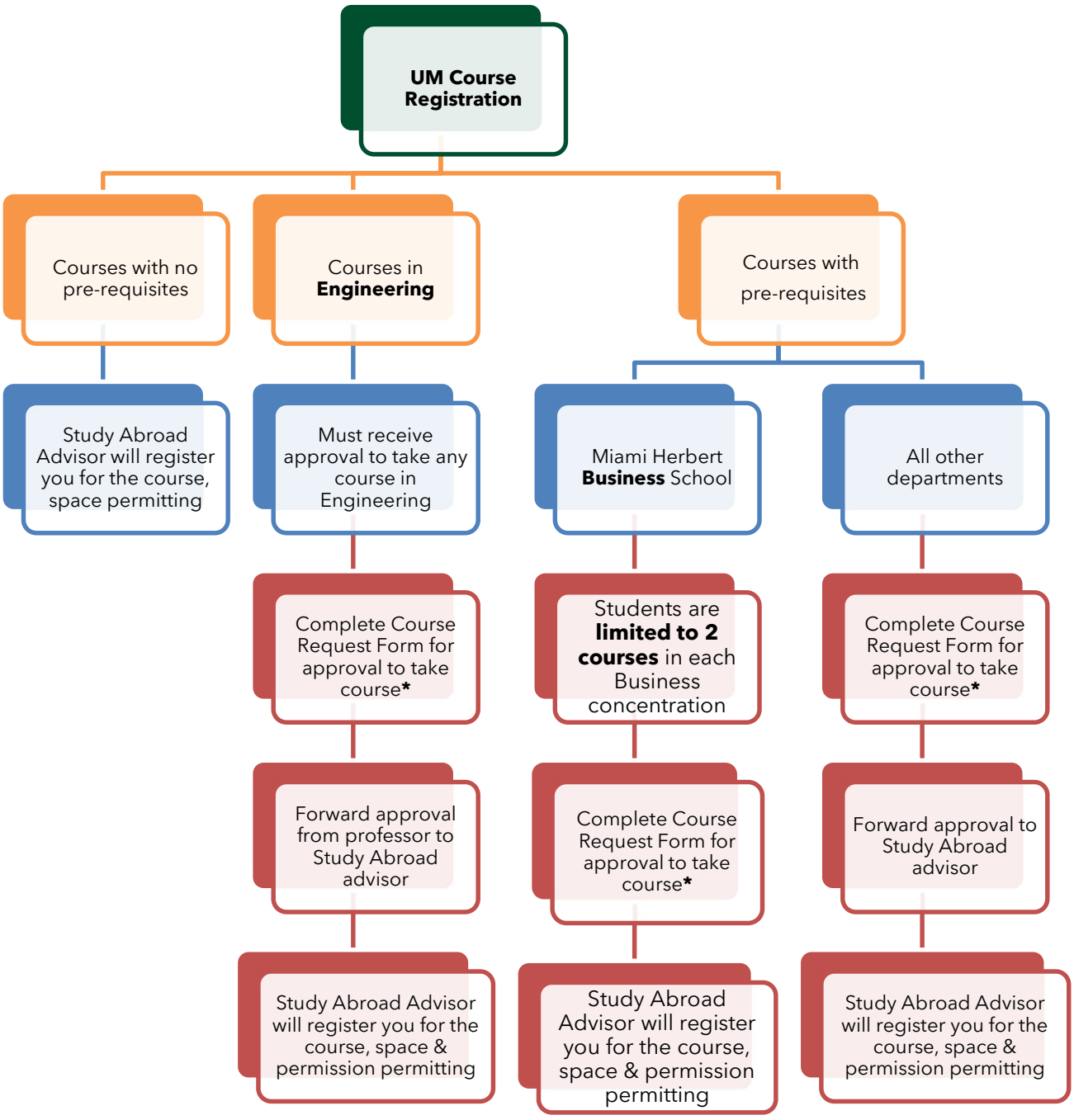
Registering for Classes

If you have submitted the Course Registration Form with complete and accurate information and you have sent proof of permission to enroll in courses with (pre)requisites to the Study Abroad Office, then the Study Abroad Office will attempt to enroll you in your course choices once your enrollment appointment begins. Courses must have an open seat in order to complete enrollment.

Please allow 5 to 10 business days to enroll you in your courses. Students will be registered for classes on a first-come, first-served basis.

Important Notes about Courses in CaneLink

- Study abroad advisors cannot override any course restrictions; if a course is full, labeled as "Departmental Consent Required" or "Majors Only/Limited to Majors", the study abroad office will not be able to register you in that course.
- Permission must be requested from professor AND study abroad advisor to enroll in any 500-level course. This process will begin by completing the Course Request Form.
- Undergraduate students may not enroll in 600+ level courses.
- Graduate students may not enroll in both graduate and undergraduate courses.
- Professor permission must be requested to enroll in an "Honors" course.
- Civic and Community Engagement courses involve an academic service-learning component. (The opportunity to learn while providing a service to an organization off campus.) http://civic.miami.edu/engaged-scholarship/courses/index.html
- Exchange students may not take intersession courses during the winter or spring breaks.



***By completing the Course Registration Form, an email will be sent automatically to the professor (Engineering Courses / Courses with Pre-requisites) to request permission to enroll.**

****By completing the Course Request Form, the Study Abroad Office will request permission directly from the Miami Herbert Business School on your behalf. Please DO NOT contact professors from the Business School directly.**

Review UM Health Insurance Information

Upon full course registration, students will automatically be charged for and enrolled in the UM student health insurance plan. **Waivers are not permitted, regardless of existing insurance coverage.**

The fee for the University sponsored health insurance covers medical, surgical, and hospital insurance for major illnesses, accidents, surgery, psychiatric emergencies, and for off-campus emergency room care. Additional information on the policy benefits, exclusions and limitations is available online. For more information on benefits, exclusions and limitations of coverage contact the Student Health Service at studenthealth@miami.edu or +1 (305) 284-5921.

The UM health insurance does not cover dental or vision insurance. An additional policy to cover dental and vision is optional and can be purchased online.

Complete UM Immunization Record and Submit to UM Student Health Center

All new students are required to provide proof of immunization against measles, mumps and rubella, and tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. All new students must also provide proof of immunization against hepatitis Band meningococcal meningitis or sign a waiver declining these immunizations. All international students must also be screened for risk of tuberculosis by completing page two of the immunization form. Students should also consider immunization against varicella (chicken pox).

An immunization form must be completed and uploaded to mystudenthealth.miami.edu and immunization information must be entered at mystudenthealth.miami.edu, prior to arrival on campus.

1. Sign onto mystudenthealth.miami.edu
2. Click on 'forms and resources' on the left-hand column
3. Then click 'Annual PPD questionnaire'.
4. Answer the question and click 'submit'.

Immunization information must be entered at mystudenthealth.miami.edu prior to uploading to allow for verification.

Deadlines for submission of immunization records are **Fall – July 15**, **Spring** – **December 15th**. Failure to comply with these immunization requirements prior to the beginning of your first semester will interfere with registration and a $50.00 late processing fee will be charged for any form received after the start of the semester. Your registration may be cancelled if you are not compliant with the University's immunization requirements. Forms will be processed within 48 hours of receipt, and immunization status can be verified via mystudenthealth.miami.edu.

Most students will be able to obtain the required immunization information from their prior medical providers or from their prior high school, college or university. Students who believe that they were previously immunized but are unable to provide proof of immunization may either obtain blood tests confirming immunity or obtain the necessary immunizations. Immunizations and blood tests documenting immunity are available at the Student Health Service. All charges are in addition to processing fees for late forms.

All students living on campus will also be asked to document receipt of hepatitis and meningococcal meningitis immunizations or to acknowledge both receipts of

information about these vaccines and preference against immunization. This can be done during completion of the immunization form or via mystudenthealth.miami.edu.

Review Financial Obligations and Pay Fees

Mandatory Fees

Exchange students are not required to pay UM tuition; however, exchange students **are** required to pay for **housing, meals, and fees**. Once you are fully enrolled 12-18 credits for undergraduate students and 9 credits for graduate students), you can view the charges on your account by logging into CaneLink, going to your Student Center, and selecting 'Account Activity' from the drop down menu under the 'Finances' heading, and clicking '>>'. Meal plan charges will not appear until early August.

Expenses

Exchange students are responsible for the following UM fees:

- Housing and Meals: Housing costs and meal plan costs
- Health/Medical Insurance Fee
- Activity Fee
- Student Center Complex Fee
- Wellness Center Fee
- Student Health and Counseling Center Fee
- Athletic Fee

➢ Up-to-date fees can be found under the Office of Student Account website

Plan to spend **additional** money for books and personal expenses while at UM. Separate from the above housing, meals and fee costs, typically, students spend approximately **$2,500.00** for the semester and **$5,000.00** for the year on books and personal expenses.

Explanation of Fees

Housing and Meals – Expenses to live on campus in residential hall facilities and required meal plan. Exact charge will vary with housing assignment and selected meal plan.

Health/Medical Insurance – Required of all international students. Cost for health insurance through the University of Miami.

Activity Fee – Required of all students to support student organizations. It also entitles you to membership in organizations of your choosing. Be sure to get involved!

Student Center Complex Fee – Required of all students to support facilities on campus.

Wellness Center Fee – Required of all students to support Wellness Center. Allows access to UM's on-campus wellness center and pool facilities. The Wellness is a holistic facility dedicated to fitness, nutrition, and well-being.

Student Health and Counseling Center Fee – Required of all students to support access to health services on campus. Provides access to on-campus counseling center and mental health support.

Athletic Fee – Required of all students to support athletic programs. Provides access to student section of all UM home athletic events.

Important notes on payment

- Monthly payment plans are available.
  - A 3% non-refundable participation fee of the amount financed is charged and included in the established monthly payments.
  - Click here to view details on the various payment options.
- Additional expenses incurred throughout the semester need to be paid prior to your departure.

Payment Options

Payment to the University of Miami should be made after registration in the minimum credit load (12 credits for undergraduates and 9 credits for graduates). Payment is due by the beginning of the semester. **Do NOT pay the tuition fee if it appears on your bill.** Please note that the UM Study Abroad Office cannot take payments of any kind.

Payments can be made in three ways:

1. **Online**
   Personal check and credit card payments are accepted online via CaneLink. Electronic check payments can only be made from a U.S. bank account. Credit card transactions incur a 2.5% fee.

2. **Student Services Building**
   The University Cashier accepts cash, personal checks, traveler's checks, cashier's checks, certified checks, and money orders. Cashier's window is located on the first floor of the Student Services Building.

3. **Wire transfer**
   Students may pay their bill by wire transfer. The wire transfer instructions can be obtained through CaneLink.

   1. Log into CaneLink and go to Student Center, click on the Account Inquiry button under the Finances.
   2. Click on Make a Payment to pay your tuition and select Wire Transfer Payment (USA & International).
   3. Select the country from the "What country are you paying from" dropdown list. For domestic wire instructions, select the US wire transfer payment option.
   4. Create a Flywire account, to track your wire payment, and enter basic identification information for the University to identify your payment. (Here is a short video about paying with Flywire: https://vimeo.com/153781014)
   5. The bank account wire instructions will be provided.
   6. An email will be sent with a unique wire identification number.

   Students should make sure their full name, student ID number, and unique wire ID number are included with the wire transfer to ensure the funds are applied correctly.

   Wire transfers (electronic transfer of funds) may take up to three weeks, so plan accordingly. The wire transfer fee must be included in addition to the requested transfer amount.

Review Important Dates

Academic calendars are accessible at the Office of the University Registrar's website. Beginning with your Exchange Student Session and leading up to the first day of classes, exchange students are involved in several activities at the beginning of the year.

Register for Cane Kickoff

The orientation program at University of Miami is referred to as Cane Kickoff. As an exchange student, you will be participating in Cane Kickoff with the larger student body at UM. Cane Kickoff is a comprehensive program that helps you adjust to life in Miami and at UM. As part of Cane Kickoff, the Study Abroad Office will be hosting a compulsory session specifically for exchange students.

Exchange students register for Cane Kickoff on CaneLink, however we ask that you first visit the Department of Orientation's website.

Please note that Exchange Students **do not** attend the International Student Orientation. You will receive emails prior to arrival from the Office of Orientation and Study Abroad Office regarding registration and the specific schedule for Cane Kickoff. Be sure to check your University of Miami email!

Review "Living in America" Presentation

Please review ISSS's PowerPoint presentation "Living in America" for information on adjusting to life in the US (Please click **"view slideshow"** and make certain your **audio is turned on**).

Complete Mandatory Online Immigration Session

Although ISSS is here to assist you, it is your responsibility to follow the regulations that govern your F-1 non-immigrant status. Failure to comply with F-1 regulations may result in the termination of your SEVIS record.

Click on the Complete Mandatory Immigration Session link found here. To successfully complete the Online Immigration Session, you must correctly answer all questions. (Video only viewable on Chrome, Explorer, and Firefox).

Connect with a UM Global Ambassador

UM Global Ambassadors are students at UM who have previously studied abroad. These students are committed to both promoting study abroad and serving as an important resource and support to exchange students. Once you have been accepted as an exchange student to the University of Miami, we encourage you to connect with a GA and to use them as a resource during your transition to UM. GAs will be a helpful resource when you arrive to campus and during your time as an exchange student. Exchange students interested in connecting with a GA should send an email to studyabroad@miami.edu.

Review Packing Best Practices

Consult the Housing and Residential Life website packing advice. Keep in mind that you can buy all items once you have arrived to campus. In almost all cases, the voltage of your electrical devices will be different than what is used in the US.

Electrical Equipment

Check the voltage requirements on your laptop power brick. The US electricity supply is 120 V and 60 Hz. Be sure that your laptop power brick is an AC adapter as the power outlets in the US use AC current, but laptops typically run-on DC voltage. Consult our website for additional information on electronics.

Shopping

During the fall 'Cane Kickoff, vendors will be available on campus for nearly every student need. There is a Metrorail station right next to campus and you can take the metro south to Dadeland Station where you will find a Bed Bath & Beyond as well as a Target which are both good options for home goods. You will be able to get a cell phone at Dadeland Mall. The four major carriers in the US are AT&T, Verizon, T-Mobile, and Sprint. You do not need a social security number to purchase a cell phone.

Units of Measurement

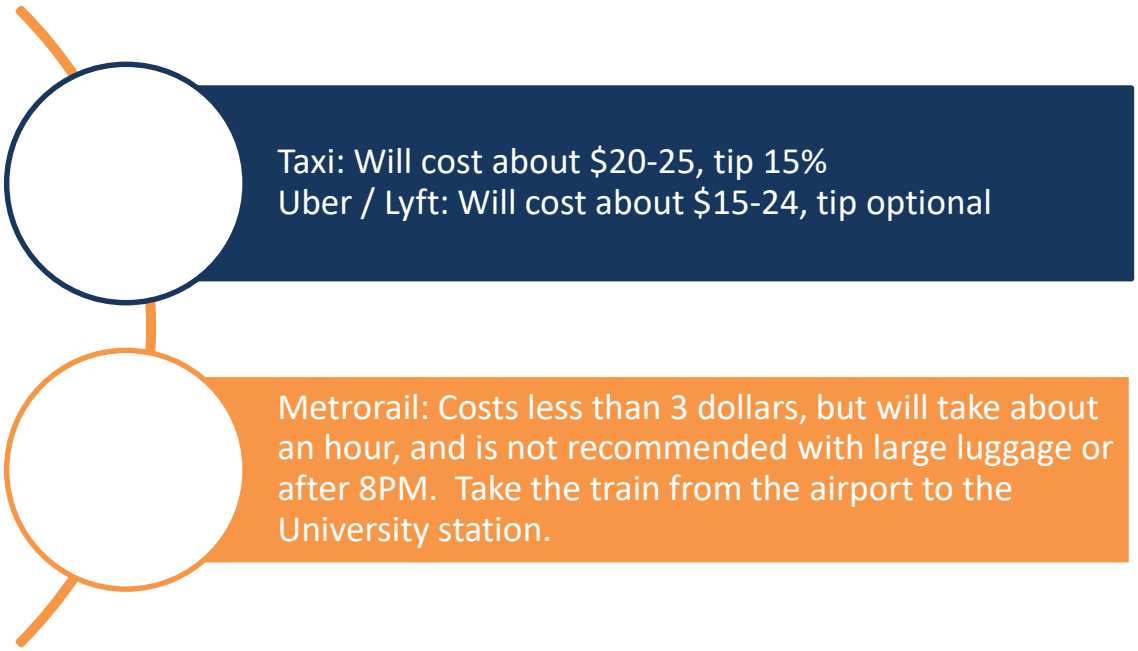
As you may know, the United States uses a unique form of measurement: the US customary system of measurement (sometimes categorized as the "imperial" system). Why do we use a system of measurement that is different from the rest of the world? No one knows! It has been lost in the annals of American history forever (actually, it's a remnant of British colonialism). It may be practical to understand our unique and antiquated form of measurement before coming here.

Plan Transportation from MIA to UM Coral Gables Campus

Ground Transportation at Miami International Airport

In order to travel from Miami International Airport to a hotel in Miami or to campus, we recommend the following:

1. **Taxi/Uber**: You can travel to your hotel or to campus by taxi. Many students prefer to use ride-sharing services like Uber or Lyft to commute from the airport to campus.
2. **Metrorail**: The Miami Metrorail system also runs directly from the Miami International Airport to the University of Miami. Take the Orange Line south from the Miami International Airport to the "University" stop (which is located conveniently at the front entrance of campus). The Metrorail runs approximately every 30 minutes during non-rush hour times. A single-ride ticket costs approximately $2.25 USD.



Driving Directions to Campus

Driving directions from the Miami International Airport to on-campus residences can be accessed here.

Public Transportation

Public transportation in Miami is not as easily available as in some other cities. You can take the Metrorail from campus at the University station. The Metrorail runs from south to north on one line, with an addition connecting Miami International Airport. Check online for schedules, maps, prices and other information.

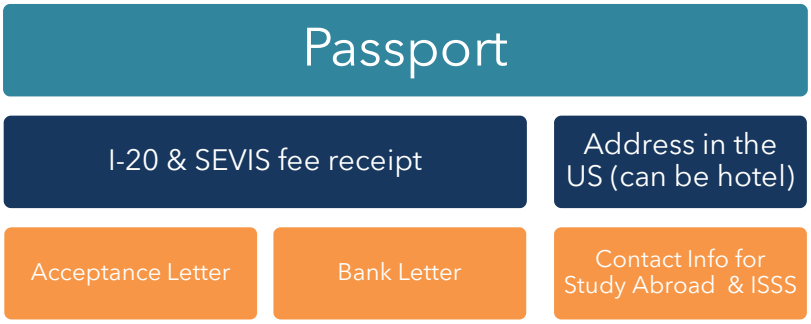
Students often use taxi or ride-share programs like Uber to get around the city. Uber runs throughout the Miami area and many students find it to be the most reliable source of transportation.

Section III - Arrival

- ☐ Enter the US (Remember Your Documentation)
- ☐ Arrive to UM and Check In to Housing
- ☐ Check In and Attend Cane Kickoff
- ☐ Get Your Cane Card
- ☐ Open a Bank Account
- ☐ Buy a Phone/Sign up for a Phone Plan
- ☐ Enter Your U.S. Address, U.S. Phone Number, and Permanent Foreign Address into CaneLink
- ☐ Confirm Your Arrival and Enrollment at UM
- ☐ Review Student Life at the University of Miami
- ☐ Review Campus Traditions
- ☐ Review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Enter the US (Remember your Documentation)

Students should keep the following items with them in the bags they carry on to the plane– not in luggage that will be checked. You do not receive checked luggage until after you clear immigration and customs, so this is very important!



Inform the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officer at the port of entry that you will be a new or returning international student in the United States. The immigration official should stamp "F-1 D/S" in your passport and return all your documents to you.

Check In and Attend Cane Kickoff

The orientation program at University of Miami is known as Cane Kickoff. Students are required to attend the compulsory Exchange Student Session, but there are many other sessions that give important information about life at UM. This is also a great chance to meet other new students and make lasting connections. See the orientation site for the detailed schedule. Students should review and utilize the 'Cane Kickoff Guidebook for more detailed information on 'Cane Kickoff check-in and events. There, student can also find maps and resources.

Attending Cane Kickoff is incredibly important, especially the mandatory Exchange Student Session. Much of the information vital to a successful exchange experience is presented during Cane Kickoff.

For great information about life in Miami and at UM, including getting a phone and setting up a bank account, check out ISSS' "Starting your Life in Miami" PowerPoint found here. Be sure to click "view slideshow" and turn your audio up so you can hear the audio presentation!

Get Your Cane Card

UM Students need a Cane Card to get access to the library, athletic events, the Wellness Center, the dining halls and so much more! Cane Cards can also be shown when asking for student discounts in Miami. We recommend getting your Cane Card as soon as possible; look at the Orientation webpage for the schedule and distribution of Cane Cards. Specific information on the location and the time you can pick up your Cane Card will be available in the 'Cane Kickoff Guidebook. More information is available on the Cane Card webpage.

Open a Bank Account

Some banks, such as the University Credit Union, require a social security number in order to open an account. Others, such as Chase, Citibank, and Bank of America, located across the street from campus on US 1, do not require a social security number. You should be able to open a bank

account by showing your passport and I-20. If you have your Cane Card with you, you can open a free student checking account at most banks. (See "Starting your Life in Miami" PowerPoint found here).

Buy a Phone/Sign Up for a Phone Plan

Most carriers in the US no longer require 2-year contracts, but nonetheless, be careful and make sure that you do not agree to a longer period of service. Pay as you go plans or month-to-month service work best for exchange students. The major phone carriers in the US are Verizon, AT&T, T-Mobile and Sprint; most have stores accessible in the Dadeland Mall. (See "Starting your Life in Miami" power point found here).

Enter Your U.S. Address, U.S. Phone Number, and Permanent Foreign Address into CaneLink

As an international student, you are required to report a valid U.S. address and a permanent foreign address in CaneLink upon arrival to the U.S., and within 10 days of moving. You are also required to provide a valid phone number.

U.S. Address (Local Address)

Students who live on-campus: As soon as you have checked into housing, your U.S. address is automatically entered. You need to make sure to enter a "local" address in CaneLink Student Center within 10 days of moving out of the residence halls. You may NOT enter any of the following as your local address: foreign address, UM Department address, or an address with a P.O. Box. Enter your U.S. phone number, including your cell phone number, as your 'local' phone number. Do not use any spaces or hyphens. NOT APPLICABLE FOR 2025.

Students who live off-campus: Enter your U.S. address as your "local" address in CaneLink Student Center. You may NOT enter any of the following as your local address: foreign address, UM Department address, or an address with a P.O. Box. Please make sure to complete *all* fields and use the following format for the address and phone number fields:

Enter your 'local' address in the following format:

Address 1:	Street and House Number
Address 2:	Apartment Number, if applicable
Address 3:	leave blank
City:	Name of the City, for example, Miami, Coral Gables
State:	FL
Postal:	Postal/Zip Code
County:	leave blank

Enter your U.S. phone number, including your cell phone number, as your 'local' phone number. Do not use any spaces or hyphens.

Confirm Your Arrival and Enrollment at UM

As a new, transfer, readmitted, or change of educational level student, you are required by U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) regulations to complete the following upon your arrival to the University of Miami and **no later than the end of the second week of classes**:

a) Enroll full-time in your program of study for the current semester/session.

b) Complete the required process for ISSS to register your record in SEVIS by clicking on 'SEVIS Registration' in your CaneLink To Do List. (This takes about 5 business days.) You should not complete this process until after you have entered the US.

Please consider the following:

Florida Driver's License or Florida ID

If you plan to apply for a Florida Driver's License or Florida ID, you must wait until your SEVIS registration is complete and you have been in the U.S. for a minimum of 10 calendar days prior to applying. Please visit Obtaining a Driver's License for application instructions.

Social Security Number (SSN)

If you have on-campus employment, you must apply for a Social Security Number (SSN). You must wait until your SEVIS registration is complete and you have been in the U.S. for a minimum of 10 calendar days prior to applying for an SSN. Please visit Social Security Number for application instructions.

Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification

If you have been hired to work on campus, you must complete Form I-9 in Workday, UM's human resources system. You must wait until your SEVIS registration is complete and you have a Social Security Number prior to completing Form I-9 in Workday. Please visit www.miami.edu/ose for more employment information.

Review Student Life at the University of Miami

Athletics

The fall semester is American football season, or as we call it here, football season. Basketball season opens toward the end of the fall semester as well. The spring semester is baseball season, and basketball season continues. UM participates in many other sports, which you can see here.

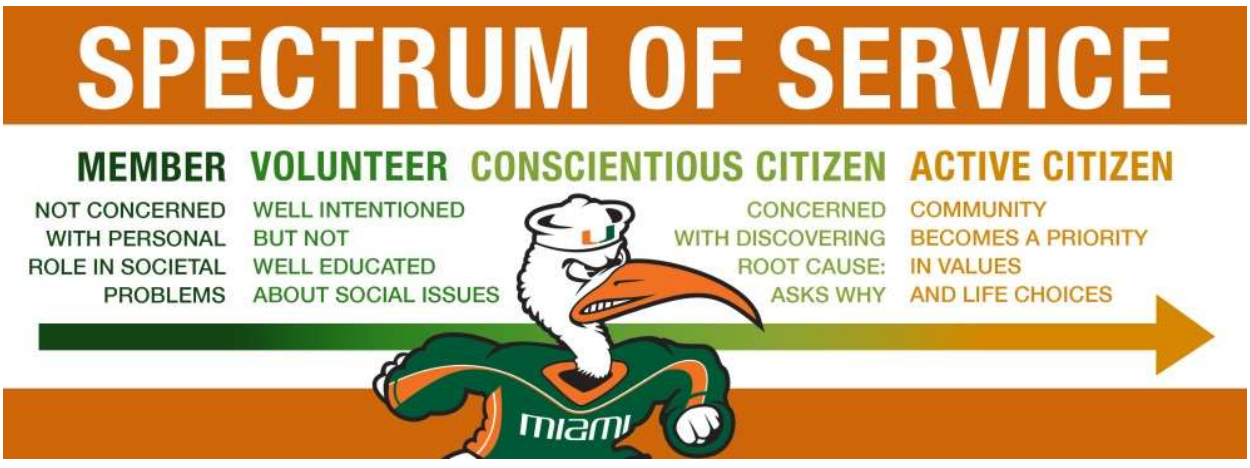
Baseball and basketball games take place on campus, while the football games are played in Hard Rock Stadium, the same place where the professional Miami NFL team plays.

You can attend all UM games for free with your Cane Card, though for football games you do need to follow the instructions to register online and get a ticket in advance.

Student Involvement

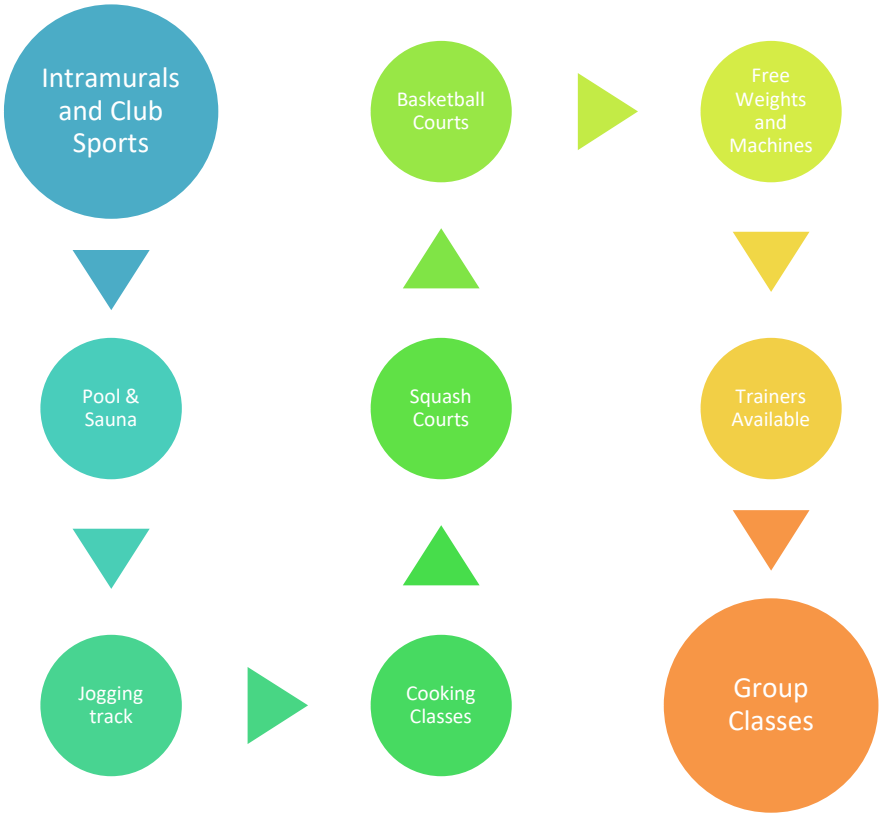
There are about 300 student organizations on campus, and we highly encourage you to join at least one organization! This is a great way to meet domestic students and meet people as you begin your time in Miami. UM uses a website called Engage to manage the student organizations. You can search all student organizations and log in to Engage here: https://miami.campuslabs.com/engage/

The Butler Center for Service and Leadership is another great way to get involved. It is often easier to connect with your peers while you are working toward a common goal, such as volunteering. The Butler Center offers many service days and ongoing opportunities throughout the year; we encourage all our students to become active citizens!



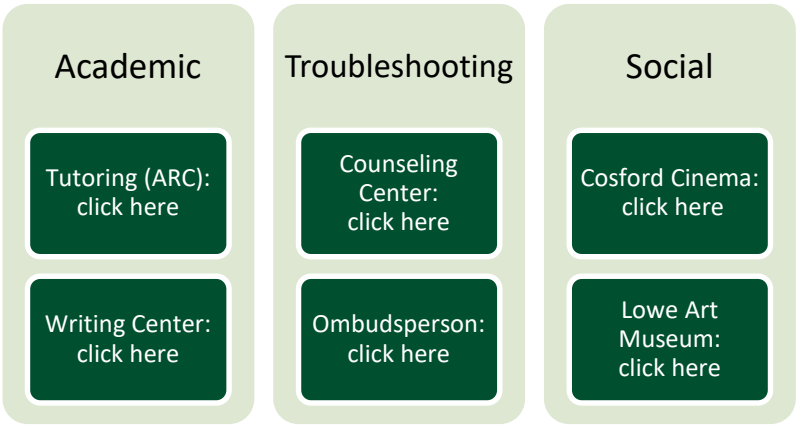
Wellness Center

The Wellness Center is available to Exchange Students, and can be accessed using your Cane Card. Most services are available for free, and others are heavily discounted for students. The Wellness Center hosts many activities and programs in addition to its collection of free weights and machines. Below are a few of their offerings.



Campus Resources

UM has many free resources available for students; feel free to make use of these resources while you are studying with us:



Campus Safety

UM is located in Coral Gables, about 20 minutes from downtown Miami. Coral Gables is a wealthy suburb if Miami and is considered a safe area. However, some crime does occur. The most common crime on campus is the theft of unattended items, so be aware of your surroundings, and don't leave anything behind. There are some great services offered by the University of Miami police and student government:

Blue Light Phone System

- Over 100 Blue Light phones on campus
- Instant connection to UM Police Department (UMPD):
- https://umpd.miami.edu/services-and-programs/blue-light-phones/index.html

Safety Escort Service

- UM Police personnel will escort any community member from any location on campus to any other on campus, 24 hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year; call UMPD to request at **305-284-6666**
- https://umpd.miami.edu/services-and-programs/safety-escorts/index.html

Safe Ride

- Monday-Friday 10 PM-3 AM
- Pick up and drop off on campus and near streets bordering the Coral Gables campus:
- https://pt.fop.miami.edu/campus-transportation/Safe%20Ride/index.html

Technology on Campus

You'll need your CaneID and password to access University systems including CaneLink, Blackboard, and those listed below.

UM has a campus-wide wireless network, SecureCanes, which can be accessed with CaneID and password

UPrint allows students to print wirelessly on campus, and gives $130 credit on your CaneCard toward printing.

The Student Technology Help Desk is here to help; visit them in Richter. See their webpage to get an overview of their services: http://studentsupport.it.miami.edu/sthd/

Transit

UBike: click here

- Register your bike with the UM police and get a free bicycle lock
- Free air pumps on campus

Hurry Cane Shuttle: click here

- UM buses, free of charge
- Go around campus, and some go to other popular areas of Miami Thursday-Sunday

Public Transit; MetroRail; click here

- Public transportation in Miami may not be as reliable as you are used to in your country (and even other cities in the US)
- Limited route, but connects with buses
- Monthly transit passes are available the first 10 days of each month at half off. Go to the Ticketmaster window in the UC with your CaneCard, and cash (about $60)

Review Campus Traditions

The Hurricanes

It began in controversy. Some reports say the 1927 football team (American football) held a team meeting to select Hurricanes, hoping they would sweep away opponents just as the devastating storm did on September 16, 1926. Another version holds that Miami News columnist Jack Bell asked end Porter Norris of the 1926 team what the team should be called. Told that the local dignitaries and University officials wanted to name the team for a local flora or fauna, Norris said the players wouldn't stand for it and suggested "Hurricanes" since the opening game had been postponed by such a storm. From time to time, opposition has arisen to the name that would "reinforce Miami's negative reputation as a weather-beaten community living constantly under the threat of destruction." But as one UM official rationalized in the 1960's, "Does anyone think Chicago is overrun by bears just because the town has a football team by that name?"

Sebastian the Ibis

Folklore maintains that the Ibis, a symbol of knowledge found in the Everglades and Egypt, is the last sign of wildlife to take shelter before a hurricane and the first to reappear after the storm. The local marsh bird was considered UM's first unofficial mascot when the school yearbook adopted the name "Ibis" in 1926. Its popularity grew among the students during the 1950's. In 1957 San Sebastian Hall, a residence hall on campus, sponsored an Ibis in the homecoming celebration. The next year, student John Stormont performed at games in an Ibis costume that was glued, sewn and pinned together and was the forerunner of today's bird.

Through the years, the Ibis has become one of the most recognizable college mascots in the US.

Orange, Green and White

UM's school colors were selected in 1926. The colors of the Florida orange tree represent UM. Orange symbolizes the fruit of the tree, green represents the leaves and white, the blossoms. Interestingly, there is only one orange tree on campus, see if you can spot it during your time here!

The U

In 1973, UM's Athletic Federation, the fund-raising arm of the athletic department at the time, commissioned a local public relations expert to develop a distinctive logo. The University had gone several years with a variety of helmet and uniform changes and the Federation noted that several major colleges have the initials UM. Miami designer Bill Bodenheimer suggested the "U" idea, which lent itself to slogans like "U gotta believe" and "U is great."

In 2009 the University adopted the split-U logo as the centerpiece of its visual identity system.

Review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

For a detailed list of FAQs, check out our Incoming Exchange FAQs online.

1) Where can I get a letter saying that I am studying at UM?
2) Can I work while on the exchange at UM?
3) Can I work without getting paid (intern/volunteer)?
4) How do I get a Social Security Number?
5) Can I travel after I finish the semester/year at UM?
6) How do I get my UM Transcript?

1. Where can I get a letter saying that I am studying at UM?

Once you are registered in at least 12 hours of classes, you can access an official certificate through CaneLink. Log in, look on the 'Student Home' page for a box to the right called 'Other Important Links'. In that box there is something called 'Current Enrollment Certification'. This link will redirect you to the National Student Clearinghouse page; you can click the link 'Obtain an enrollment certificate', and it will generate a PDF document for you listing the school, enrollment status, & semester dates.

2. Can I work while on the exchange at UM?

Yes, you are eligible to work on campus. Many students find that being in a new place and learning a new academic system is time consuming, and do not seek employment in order to maintain good grades. Students with F-1 visa status are eligible to work ON-CAMPUS, and for **no more** than 20 hours per week. Exchange Students are not eligible for employment at the end of their study abroad semester or year because they will neither return to study in the U.S. after the employment nor will they receive a U.S. degree.

For more information:

A study abroad student in F-1 status may engage in two types of paid employment:

https://isss.miami.edu/immigration-status/f-1/other-employment/index.html

3. Can I work without getting paid (intern/volunteer)?

As a student in F-1 status, while you are pursuing your studies at UM, you may engage in bona fide unpaid internships and do not require authorization to do so; however, it is very difficult for anyone to find a bona fide unpaid internship with a for-profit entity. For an unpaid internship to be a bona fide unpaid internship, the employer needs to comply with the Fair Labor Standards Act which details that:

1. The activity undertaken by the student must be typical of an educational/vocational experience.
2. The training is for the benefit of the student.
3. The student does not displace regular employees but works under the close observation of a regular employee or supervisor.

4. The employer provides the training and derives no immediate advantage from the activities of the student, and, on occasion, the operations may be impeded by the training.
5. The student is not necessarily entitled to a job at the conclusion of the experience.
6. The employer and the student understand that the student is not entitled to wages for the experience.

4. How do I get a Social Security Number?

In most cases, exchange students do not need one and do not qualify for one. If you have on-campus employment, you must apply for a Social Security Number (SSN). You must wait until your SEVIS registration is complete and you have been in the U.S. for a minimum of 10 calendar days prior to applying for an SSN. Please visit Social Security Number for application instructions. In order to apply for a Social Security card, you must be enrolled for the current academic term at the

5. Can I travel after I finish the semester/year at UM?

When you enter the U.S. on a F-1 student visa, you are usually admitted for the duration of your student status. This means that you may stay in the U.S. as long as you are a full-time student, even if the F-1 visa in your passport expires while you are in the U.S. (If you have been approved to extend your period of stay for another semester, your I-20 will be updated and you will be able to remain in the US for the extended period of study, as long as you retain full-time student status.)

After your Form I-20 expires, you are allowed an additional 60-day Grace Period to prepare for departure from the U.S. or to transfer to another school. You may travel **within** the U.S. during the 60-day grace period. You may not work on-campus during the 60-day grace period.

Once your Form I-20 expires, you will not be able to use it to travel outside the U.S. and reenter the U.S. in F-1 student status even if your F-1 visa is still valid. You will have to reenter the U.S. in tourist status. For this you will need to have a valid tourist visa in your passport at the time of reentry. If you do not have a valid tourist visa, then you will need to apply for one outside the U.S. *unless* you qualify for the Visa Waiver Program (VWP). Click here for information on VWP. All VWP travelers are required to obtain a travel authorization via the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) prior to traveling to the United States under the VWP. Click here for information on ESTA.

6. How do I get my UM Transcript?

The UM Study Abroad Office will automatically send a copy of your transcript to your home institution, **as long as there is no hold on your account**. Be sure to check your CaneLink account for any visible holds on your account and **resolve them by contacting the appropriate office prior to departure**. The Study Abroad office cannot remove holds from student accounts.

Should you need any additional copies of your transcript, you can request them through CaneLink by selecting "Order Official Transcripts." Additional information can be found on the Office of the University Registrar's website.

Section IV - Important UM Contacts, Glossary, & Map

Incoming Exchange Application & Visa Application

UM Study Abroad

Email: *studyabroad@miami.edu* ***Phone:*** *+1.305.284.6921*

Maintaining Your Immigration Status in the U.S.

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

Email: *isss@miami.edu* ***Phone:*** *+1.305.284.2928*

On-Campus Emergency

UM Police

Phone: *+1.305.284.6666 or 911*

Study Abroad Office

Email: *studyabroad@miami.edu*

Phone: *+1.305.284.3434*

Glossary of Terms

IMMIGRATION

Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) - A bridge for government organizations that have an interest in information on nonimmigrants whose primary reason for coming to the United States is to be students. UM issues you a SEVIS number that is used in the visa application process. ***Form I-20 Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status*** – the form necessary to apply for an exchange student visa in the United States. The Form I-20 is provided by UM following submission and acceptance of your exchange student application.

F-1 Visa – the visa type for exchange students at UM. You will apply for an F-1 Visa.

Form DS-160 – the online nonimmigrant visa application form to apply for the F-1 Visa.

CAMPUS SYSTEMS

Cane ID - CaneID is a username/password authentication process that provides access to multiple University systems/services via use of one username/password. Your CaneID Password safeguards your access privileges on many UM systems and should be known only to you.

Campus ID – begins with the letter "C" followed by a sequence of numbers (example: C12345678). This ID is unique to each faculty, staff, and student at UM. It is used by the University to specifically identify individuals.

CaneLink – the University of Miami's online student portal. CaneLink is used to apply for housing, register for courses, pay UM expenses and fees, and view grades.

Cane Card - the Cane Card is the official on-campus identification card of the University of Miami. All university students, faculty, staff as well as other members of our community, are required to carry their Cane Card for identification purposes while on campus. It can be used to gain access to buildings (including residence halls, check books from the library, access to athletic events, and access the dining halls.

ACADEMIC STRUCTURE

Course – sometimes called a "class" or "module" at other universities, this is the term in CaneLink for classes. You will use the 'Course Search' or 'Course Lookup' in CaneLink to search for classes.

Major – primary academic area or focus in pursuit of undergraduate degree (examples: finance, architecture, journalism, etc.).

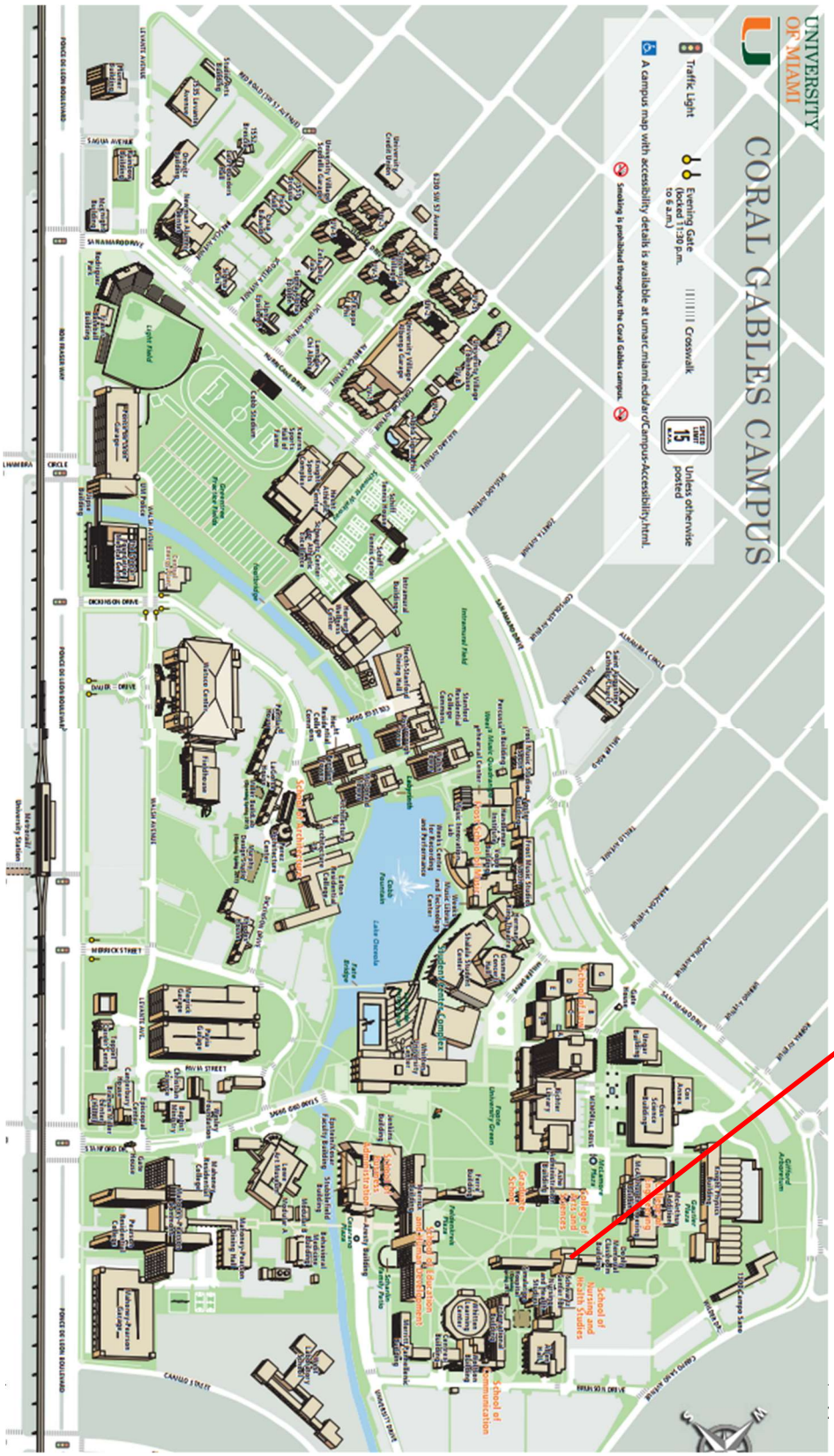
Faculty – the teaching staff at UM, not an academic area as is the case at other universities.

School/College – institutions within the University of Miami that represent general academic areas (examples: Arts & Sciences, Communication, Business, etc). Schools/Colleges house various departments relevant to the general academic area (example: Department of Modern Languages in the College of Arts & Sciences).

Office Hours – designated timeframe in which faculty members are available in their offices to meet with students. If you have a question about something in class, this is a great opportunity to clarify with your professor.

Credit – sometimes referred to as "units" at other universities, this is the term of measurement for classes. Most classes are 3 credits; to be a full-time student at the undergraduate level, you need to be enrolled in at least 12 credits.

Campus Map


UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
CORAL GABLES CAMPUS
Traffic Light
Evening Gate (locked 11:30 p.m. to 6 a.m.)
Crosswalk
SPEED LIMIT 15 M.P.H.
Unless otherwise posted
A campus map with accessibility details is available at umarc.miami.edu/ar/Campus-Accessibility.html.
Smoking is prohibited throughout the Coral Gables campus.
Study Abroad Office:
Dooly Memorial Room 125