

# Gearing up for success at FIU



# Here are some helpful hints from our advising team!

#### **KNOW THE LINGO**

#### Degrees:

Associate in Arts (AA)

- 60 credits / 2 years
- Satisfies the general education courses and prerequisites

Bachelor's (Undergraduate)

- ~ 120 credits / 4 years
- Name of your degree = Major
- Primary Area of focus
- Ex: BA in Psychology, BS in Physics, etc.

## What's a credit?

A credit is a measure of how much instruction a student receives. Students need at least 120 credits to earn a degree.

Typical lecture = 3 credits
Typical Science lab = 1 credit

Full time = 12-15 credits a semester 4 - 5 classes a semester

30 credits per year 120 credits in 4 years





# **Typical Coursework**

## What will your four years look like?

General
Education
courses
Prerequisites
for major

General
Education
courses
Prerequisites
for major
Electives if
appropriate

Major Courses
Fewer electives

Major Courses
Fewer electives
if any

Year 1 resembles high school with a variety of subjects like English, Math, Science, Social Studies, etc. Depending on your major, you'll work exclusively on major requirements as you progress through the years.

Most undergraduate majors take about 120 credits to graduate, where students are required to satisfy requirements for the University, their college where their major resides and their major. The type of major would indicate the type of classes, and whether there's room for electives.

### High School

### Average time per class:

- In class 5 hours a week
- 8 weeks/grtr X 4 grtrs = 32 weeks
- 160 hours of instruction per class

#### University

#### Average time per class:

- In class 3 hours a week
- 16 weeks typical semester
- 48 hours of instruction per class

Greater emphasis on Independent Learning at the University level.

# Before Selecting a Major...

## Select a subject you LOVE!

#### Hint:

- You lose track of time reading/doing the work.
- You do well in the subject (high marks, awards, etc.)
- You don't shut up about it!
- You explore more of it in your free time.



Did you know?

Most careers do not require a specific degree.

27% of College Graduates work in their major field of study\*.

\*According to a 2014 study from Inside Higher Ed

It is these transferrable skills that are crucial in the job market.

















Professionalism Communication Critical Thinking

Teamwork

Technology

Leadership

Career & Self-Development

### **Explore your interests:**

- http://onetonline.org
- http://mynextmove.org
- Electives / Courses
- Hobbies

- Extracurriculars
- Volunteer work