

EVENTS



Wednesday, 10/14: OCL Lunch Series- Trick or Treat: Things to Know Before Your Party-Reitz Union 284-11:45AM-12:35PM

Friday, 10/16: Homecoming Parade 12:00-3:00PM

Saturday, 10/17: Homecoming Game versus Arkansas

Wednesday, 10/21: OCL Breakfast Club- Reitz Union 287- 9:00-10:00AM

Saturday, 10/31: Florida/Georgia Game

Saturday-Sunday, 11/14-15: 28th Annual Downtown Festival and Art Show

For more information on city events, please visit the following websites:
www.gainesville.com or
www.gviculturalaffairs.org

OCL: Who We Are and What We Do For You

The Office of Off Campus Life advocates for your rights in the community and provides support services and education to better your off campus experience with the ultimate goal of helping you develop into a globally-conscious Gator.

In other words, we are here to serve any needs you may have with living off campus. Roommate or landlord issues? We're here. Concerns about your personal safety? We're here. Unclear about your rights as an off campus student? Again, we're here.

The Office of Off Campus Life aims to provide programs and services that will prepare you to be a great Gator neighbor, here in Gainesville or wherever the road may take you.

Go to www.offcampus.ufl.edu for more info or drop by OCL's office in the Dean of Students Office in Peabody Hall (next to the Registrar's Office) to learn more about our services.

OCL Picture Contest



Get your cameras ready and snap shots of you and your friends living off campus. Your picture could be published in next month's newsletter and sent to over 39,000 off campus students.

That's way more facebook friends than anyone, save Tim Tebow, should have. E-mail picture entries to leahv@offcampus.ufl.edu. In the e-mail, include your first and last name and a phone number where we can reach you. Also, write a short caption describing the picture, including the names of each person in the picture and where the picture was taken. No inappropriate pictures will be published.



This can be you and your group of friends if we pick your photo submission for next month's newsletter!

Roommate Props and Flops

OCL wants to hear about your experiences with your roommates. Send us a short blurb (no longer than 5 sentences) about your incredible...or not-so incredible roommates. Your entry could be selected to be in our next newsletter. If chosen, you will receive a Publix gift card for doing nothing more than ranting and raving about your off campus experience. E-mail submissions to leahv@offcampus.ufl.edu no later than October 23 to be considered for November's newsletter. In the e-mail, include your first and last name and a phone number where we can reach you. No inappropriate or vulgar language will be published and OCL reserves the right to edit your submission for length or clarity purposes.

Check out the Buzz on Off Campus Life!



Meet Buzz, the Office of Off Campus Life's friendly and fun mascot. Look out for him dancing around campus with free give-aways and information about OCL's programs and services. You could walk away with a free "I Love OCL" t-shirt, free color-changing cups, and new knowledge and awareness about what OCL does for you, the off campus student. Don't be shy...come up and say hi! Join the OCL Facebook and Twitter group to keep tabs on Buzz's whereabouts.

Tobacco Free Florida. The majority of UF students who smoke cigarettes want to quit! We can help. Free and discounted smoking cessation medications are available. Call GatorWell, 392-1161 ext. 4281 today.

Green is the New Black

If you haven't heard of the Green Revolution, you must be living in a cave. But, chances are that if you live in a cave, you already practice a green lifestyle, so good for you! For those of us who do not call the wilderness our home, here are some ways to become greener and help Mother Earth.

- How Many Earths Are You? At <http://earthday.net/foot-print/index.html>, you can take a short interactive quiz to find out how many earths are required to sustain your lifestyle.

- Jump in the Pool! Find a ride to campus at <https://uf.greenride.com/en-US/>. Set up a carpool with those around you. Save time, money, but most importantly, the earth.

- Think like Captain Planet. While we may not all have the Power of Fire like Wheeler, we do have the ability to reduce our waste, reuse what we have, and recycle. An easy way to cut down on waste is to bring reusable grocery bags (like the awesome ones OCL has) to the store. A simple step that could reduce your carbon footprint.

For more information on the green initiatives UF is doing, check out <http://www.sustainable.ufl.edu/>.



Meet the Office of Off Campus Life!
Nora Kilroy
Director

Nora has her BA in English Education from Mercer University and her M.Ed. in College Student Personnel Counseling from the University of Southern Mississippi. She joined the University of Florida community 7 years ago, working in various offices. Despite living in four different states over a period of five years, Gainesville is the first place she considered home. "It has a welcoming feel here. People seem more open to others' perspectives. Plus, the weather is great."

In addition to being the Director of OCL, she serves on the city's Student Community Relations Advisory Board, advocating for student rights in the community. She loves fast cars, the outdoors and Florida's warm weather, wittiness, and, of course, the Gators. In fact, one of Nora's personal goals is to do the Gatorwalk and get a high-five from Tim Tebow. Go Gators!



I Get Around

Drinking and driving are never a good combination. But, what do you do when you need a ride home and nobody around you can drive safely? Here are some different ways in Gainesville to get home safely:

- Later Gator- RTS bus service offers night time lines from 8:30PM-2:45AM or 3:05AM (depending on which route you take). Fare is free with a Gator 1 ID or \$1.50 without one. Each of the three bus routes goes by downtown every 10, 20, or 25 minutes. See <http://www.go-rts.com/Current-Semester%20proof/campus.html> for more details.

- SNAP- Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol (SNAP) can pick you up anywhere on campus and drop you off anywhere on campus. Key word is on campus. Call 352-392-SNAP for a lift.

- Fabulous Rides- Their service does sound pretty...well...fabulous. In addition to traditional taxi services, this company offers designated drivers who will meet you at your car and drive your car (and you) home. Go to <http://fabulousrides.com/home.htm> for more information. Call the Transportation Hotline at 1-877-RIDE-UF1 for your one-stop hub of transportation information.

Go Directly to Jail. Do Not Pass Go. Do Not Collect \$200.

This well-known phrase from a popular board game may seem to hold no meaning in the real world, but it can very much so become a reality for students. With Homecoming, the Florida/Georgia game, and Halloween fast approaching, there are plenty of reasons to celebrate. By all means, party like a rock star, but don't put yourself and loved-ones into reckless, preventable situations. Here are some tips on how to keep your cool (and cash) during party season:

- Think VIP: Keep the guest list limited to those you know and trust. People who know you are less apt to steal your belongings and trash your place.
- Take One For the Team: Have one of your roommates stay sober throughout the party. This way, if things get out of hand, there is someone to handle issues responsibly.
- Don't Hook Up: Park only in designated visitor spots or permissible areas. The excuse of "I parked there because other people parked there, too" or "I was told to park there" does not protect your car from the hauling hooks of tow trucks.
- 3 Strikes and You're Out: According to Florida's Open House Party Statute, if your party is too loud (violating Gainesville's Noise Ordinance of hearing noise from a distance of 200 feet or more), has over 100 people, and is serving alcohol to minors, you and your roommates can get a \$200+ fine and go to jail.



In real life, there is no such thing as a "Get Out of Jail Free" card. Learn from the Monopoly guy and be smart about what you choose to do.



Join the OCL facebook and twitter groups for the latest info on what's happening with OCL! Join at <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=2018538&v=info&ref=profile#/group.php?gid=142695990819> and <http://twitter.com/UFOffCampusLife>

21 & Up: Open House Parties



Get your lawyer caps on and start thinking like Elle Woods. According to Chapter 856 of Florida Code (also known as the Open House Party Statute), "No person having control of any residence shall allow an open house party to take place at said residence if any alcoholic beverage or drug is possessed or consumed at said residence by any minor where the person knows that an alcoholic beverage or drug is in the possession of or being consumed by a minor at said residence and where the person fails to take

reasonable steps to prevent the possession or consumption of the alcoholic beverage or drug". If this isn't a run-on sentence, then I'm not sure what is. But, seriously, what Statute 856.015 means is if you are the host of a party where alcohol is knowingly being served to and consumed by people under 21 years of age, you are considered responsible and have committed a misdemeanor of the second degree. Even though the under-aged guests may have been uninvited, if they are at your party and are drinking, you are considered liable.

So, what does this all mean to you? It means be smart about your party choices. The Office of Off Campus Life is not by any means advocating for you to party, but if you choose to, we want you to do so wisely. Like G.I. Joe always said, "Now you know, and knowing is half the battle". It's up to you to tackle the other half and put your knowledge into action. Do Joe (and yourself) proud and party responsibly.

Florida/Georgia Game



What else would you expect the Florida/Georgia game to be besides a raucous and crazy, potentially legendary time all in the name of Gator football? Before you get carried away with concocting a plan of debauchery, consider these safety tips so that you really can tell your grandkids about that one time in Jacksonville...

1. Use the Buddy System. It's no B.S. to use the B.S...buddy system, that is. While out on the town, make sure that you always stay with at least one friend. There is safety in numbers. Why else do you think wolves roll deep? In a crowd of 100,000, there is bound to be at least one bad apple. Lessen your chances of being hurt and stick to your buddy!
2. Plug It In. Make sure your cell phone is fully charged before heading to the Landings. It takes only a second to plug in your charger, but imagine how much longer and more difficult it would be to find your friends without your phone. But, if you stick with your buddy, you could always use their phone...which brings us back to tip number one.
3. Two Wrongs Don't Make a Write. Step one and step two have come and gone. That brings us to step three. Write down your friends' phone numbers, the contact information of where you are staying, and a method of transportation home for if you need a ride back to where you're staying. Keep this information in your pocket, wallet, or tape it to your cell phone. You may have lost your friends, but don't lose this paper!
4. Stuck in Traffic. For once, traffic is a good thing. If you do get separated from your friends, stay in a high-traffic area. Do not wander off to an isolated area. The more people you are around, the safer you are. Again, why do you think wolves roll deep (see step one)?
5. Get In the Zone. If you cannot find your friends and need help, go to the Sideline Student Safety Zone. In the Safety Zone, you will not be subject to legal action for alcohol-related issues. They are there to help, not to punish. Also, in the Safety Zone, there is access to multiple forms of transportation home including taxi services, trolleys, and shuttles. Be sure to keep some cash on you in case you need a lift back home. Go to <http://www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation+and+Community+Services/Special+Events/FlaGa/default.htm> for more information on the Safety Zone and Transportation.

Prepare for the worst, but hope for the best. The Florida/Georgia game is a great college football tradition. Don't let preventable circumstances ruin this experience for you. If we have to write this, that means things have happened. Be smart, be safe, and, as always, Go Gators!

