We are excited that you chose Georgia Southwestern State University. Attending GSW means more than just getting a degree to hang on the wall. It’s a springboard forward to build new skills, unlock new wisdom, and create new relationships that will steer your dreams and shape your path for years to come.

Whether it’s a challenge from a professor to push a little farther or the encouragement of a peer who is just as eager as you are to earn a degree, GSW offers the support you need to achieve your goals and rise to your potential. For every obstacle you hit or challenge you face, you know you’ll have the tools, the mentors, and the teammates that will help you take tomorrow by storm.

As you begin your journey, this guide will help you navigate campus and discover all that life as a Hurricane has to offer.

Welcome to campus - and go Hurricanes!
Welcome to Georgia Southwestern State University!

I am counting on you to make this a great year full of learning opportunities, rewarding experiences, and intellectual challenges. The faculty, staff, and administration are here to support you every step of the way through your academic and social transition into the University.

Your college experience will be what you make it, and your opportunities will only be limited by the limits you place on yourself. I challenge you to engage in all that GSW and the Americus community have to offer.

GSW has a legacy of leadership among many prominent and successful alumni, which includes the oldest living U.S. president, a former first lady, and a former U.S. Attorney General.

I encourage you to get involved on campus by taking part in the many leadership opportunities provided by the Division of Student Engagement and Success. During the year, you can also listen to my podcast “What’s in the Cup?” - an opportunity for me to share what is going on around campus, in the community, and to speak with a different guest each week.

This valuable handbook will provide you with important information about the many opportunities and resources we offer as part of the “total collegiate experience.” Please explore these opportunities and find those that are right for you. Our student organizations and activities provide not only valuable entertainment and educational venues, but also chances to make lifelong friendships.

Supporting your success is central to our mission at GSW. We are here to guide you as you become the best version of yourself.

I wish you great success!

Sincerely,
Neal Weaver, Ph.D.
President
I am excited to be among the many people welcoming you to Georgia Southwestern State University. You have taken the first step towards a college degree by being here today, and now you have a team of people to support you throughout the process. I am confident in your ability to succeed through perseverance and hard work and look forward to shaking your hand and celebrating with you as you cross the stage at commencement.

Your time in the classroom, and the expectations faculty have of you, will be different than what you experienced in high school. It might take you some time to adjust to both the increased academic rigor and the increased freedom that attending college brings. Your faculty will be a great resource for you, so visit them often to talk about what’s going on in your classes, where you are struggling, and what you need to do in order to achieve your future career goals. We also have tutors available when you need classroom support, advisors to help you stay on track, career services to ensure you are building the skill set you need to move forward, and counseling services when life becomes complex. Always feel free to come see me, and I can either help you figure things out, or point you in the direction of someone with the expertise you need to be successful.

Remember to work hard, go to class, seek help when needed, regroup when things don’t go the way you thought they would, and remain focused on your final goal. GSW is a special place where you can thrive. I’m excited to see what the future holds for you!

See you around campus,
Suzanne Smith, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Welcome Hurricanes! The Office of First-Year Experience (FYE) is here to assist you in an exciting educational journey that will help you find your place at Georgia Southwestern State University and build strong social and academic foundations. Our goal is to prepare you to succeed not only as a student, but as an individual as you begin to acquire new knowledge and skills and open yourself up to new challenges and opportunities. I hope that your first year will be a memorable one as you engage in experiences that strengthen your understanding of what it means to be a contributing member of the GSW community. As you transition through your first year, remember FYE is here to ensure your success through a thoughtful and intentional series of activities, events, academic advising, orientation, peer mentorship, and your UNIV 1000 course. I look forward to seeing you on campus!

Go Canes!

David Jenkins, Ed.D.
Director of First-Year Experience
I join the Hurricane family in welcoming you to Georgia Southwestern State University. This is a special time in your life. The start of something new.

Some of you follow family member footsteps by attending GSW. Many of you are the first person in your family to seek a higher education degree at a four-year university.

This journey requires a network of people to support you throughout the process. Know that GSW staff and faculty are in your support network. We believe in you. We know that you can and will be successful at GSW. It won’t always be easy, but it will be worth it. Our job is to challenge and support you. We strive to help you reach your potential, achieve your goals, and fulfill your dreams.

The GSW New Student Guide is designed to be a resource throughout your first year and beyond. GSW has a strategic approach to preparing you for college success. Our three-prong approach includes STORM Day, Thunder Camp, and Orientation Week. Each program is designed to build knowledge of the ins-and-outs of student life. I encourage you to commit to getting the most out of all three programs.

GSW awaits your arrival. I look forward to taking tomorrow by storm with you!

Sincerely,
Laura Boren, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Student Engagement and Success

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND SUCCESS
The Division of Student Engagement and Success (SES) focuses on creating a campus environment which engages students to develop academically, socially, and culturally through intentional programming and services while encouraging interactions with students, faculty, staff, and others. It is the goal of SES to foster leadership skills within each student through service learning and civic engagement opportunities. The Executive Vice President for Student Engagement and Success and staff are dedicated to serving the student body by building an open, inclusive, intellectual, and collaborative community.

Division of Student Engagement and Success
📍SSC | student.engagement@gsu.edu
📞(229) 928-1387 | 📩(229) 931-2835
🌐gsu.edu/SES

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
The Office of Academic Affairs is responsible for developing policies and procedures which govern the instructional programs and academic life of GSW. Academic Affairs aims to encourage and facilitate academic excellence. The Vice President for Academic Affairs supervises academic personnel and oversees the fiscal affairs of GSW’s colleges, schools, and other academic units.

Office of Academic Affairs
📍Wheatley Administration Building
📞(229) 928-1361 | 📩(229) 931-2835
🌐gsu.edu/AcademicAffairs
Academic Achievement List: an honors list released each semester that includes students who are in Good Academic Standing, have previously completed 12 hours at the University, are enrolled in 3 to 11 hours for the semester, and earn an average GPA of 3.5 or better

Academic advisor: a faculty or staff member assigned to individually advise students on course selection, career goals, academic issues, and related concerns

Academic Probation: the end-of-term academic standing given to a student who began the semester on Academic Warning and failed to reach the required minimum 2.0 GPA for Good Standing. The student must return to Good Standing by the end of the following semester or will be placed on Academic Suspension.

Academic Suspension: the end-of-term academic standing given to a student who failed to return to Good Standing after two semesters with a GPA below the required minimum 2.0 GPA. Students must take one semester off or stay enrolled under a Restricted Enrollment status.

Academic Warning: the end-of-term academic standing given to a student whose GPA fell below the required minimum 2.0 GPA for Good Standing. The student should seek tutoring during the next semester.

Add/drop period: the period of time during the first week of each semester when schedules can be adjusted without penalty

Bachelor’s degree: the degree received when a student completes four years of undergraduate studies

College: an academic unit that includes programs of more than one discipline (Ex: College of Arts and Sciences)

Convocation: a large formal assembly

Core curriculum: the 42 hours of general education courses plus 18-19 hours of courses related to the major which students are required to take

Credit: what a student receives upon completion of a course. One semester credit hour is defined as one in-class hour and two out-of-class hours per week for the duration of the semester or the equivalent in lab, studio, or field work.

Cum laude: Latin phrase meaning “with honors;” distinction given to graduates who have earned a minimum GPA of 3.5

Curriculum sheet: a document that lists the degree requirements in an academic program

Dean: the academic head of a college

Dean’s List: an honors list released each semester that includes students who complete at least 12 hours in a semester and earn an average GPA between 3.5 and 3.99

Department chair: full-time professors who have been given administrative duties within a specific discipline in addition to their teaching responsibilities

Department: an academic unit that includes a single area of study (Ex: Department of English and Modern Languages)

Freshman Convocation: a ceremony to officially welcome first-year students to the University community

Full-Time/Part-Time: full-time students are those enrolled in 12 or more credit hours in a semester. Part-time students are those enrolled in less than 12 hours.

Good Academic Standing: the end-of-term academic standing of a student who earned a GPA of 2.0 or higher
**Intramural**: non-collegiate sports which provide fun competition among students

**Magna cum laude**: Latin phrase meaning “with high honors;” distinction given to graduates with who have earned a minimum GPA of 3.7

**Major/Minor**: a major is a student’s chosen field of study. It usually requires the successful completion of a specified number of credit hours. A minor is designated as a specific number of credit hours in a secondary field of study.

**Master’s degree**: the degree received when a student completes graduate school

**Orientation**: a program designed to assist all new students in adjusting to their college surroundings

**Prerequisite**: a course requirement that needs to be completed before enrolling in another course

**President**: the person in charge of running the University

**President’s List**: an honors list released each semester that includes students who complete at least 12 hours in a semester and earn an average GPA of 4.0

**Registrar**: office which evaluates and regulates student transcripts, records, grades, and classes

**Residential Leader (RL)**: a student who lives in the residence halls and enforces rules and regulations while providing support to students

**Restricted Enrollment**: status that allows a student on Academic Suspension to remain in school if granted by the Office of Academic Affairs

**School**: an academic unit that includes programs of a single discipline (Ex: School of Nursing)

**Semester**: unit of time used to break down the academic year, with new classes starting at the beginning of each semester

**Summa cum laude**: Latin phrase meaning “with highest honor;” distinction given to graduates with who have earned a minimum GPA of 3.9

**Syllabus**: a document that includes the assignments, schedule, and instructor’s policies for a specific course. Syllabi are typically given during the first week of class.

---

**GSW TERMS**

**ACE**: the Academic Center for Excellence

**Caf**: the cafeteria or dining hall

**The Commons**: the courtyard between the Wheatley Administration building and Jackson Hall

**Hello Walk**: the pathway that stretches from the library to the Storm Dome. It’s GSW tradition to say “hello” to everyone you meet on Hello Walk.

**Mag**: Magnolia I & II residence halls

**MSC**: the Marshall Student Center, which houses the dining hall, coffee shop, Post Office, and Bookstore

**RFoC**: Real Food on Campus, the official name of the dining hall

**SSC**: the Student Success Center, also known as the Storm Dome, which houses the Fitness Center, Game Room, Chick-fil-A, Boar’s Head and Student Engagement and Success offices

**Surge**: GSW’s mascot

**913**: your GSW ID number that can be found on your Canes Card. All ID numbers begin with 913.
FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE
The Office of First-Year Experience (FYE) assists students as they transition into GSW. Through the FYE program, students are given an introduction to college life to help them build a firm foundation for a strong future of learning. FYE is designed to support the successful academic and social transition of new students through connecting students to the University with a sense of belonging and promoting academic success and self-discovery through major selection and career exploration.

FYE coordinates with faculty, staff, and students to create engaging curricular and co-curricular opportunities for students through new student orientation, academic advising, UNIV 1000, and parent/family programs. FYE offers tutoring and supplemental instruction, providing students with extra opportunities to learn study skills and develop good study habits.

FYE is located in the SSC and is here to help you take your first year by storm by:

- Connecting with people and opportunities
- Focusing on academic life
- Propelling you toward academic success
- Elevating your GSW experience with a foundation for success

Office of First-Year Experience
☎ SSC, 3rd floor | 🌐 fye@gsw.edu
📞 (229) 931-2724 | 🌐 gsw.edu/FYE
📍Facebook @GSWFYE | Twitter @GSW_FYE

THUNDER CAMP
Thunder Camp is a new extended-orientation program for incoming freshmen. This three-day, two-night program focuses on learning the ins-and-outs of college life from upperclass mentors. New students will get to know each other through group activities. Guest speakers and customized programs will build students’ knowledge of what it takes to be successful at GSW.

ORIENTATION WEEK
Orientation Week establishes university and academic expectations of being a student at GSW. This four day program introduces students to academic and intellectual resources, first-year preparations, social connections, health and wellness resources, and all things needed to get the semester off to a good start.

FRESHMAN CONVOCATION
Freshman Convocation is GSW’s formal academic ceremony welcoming new freshmen into the University. This typically occurs at the end of Orientation Week.

UNIV 1000
Each new student at GSW is registered for University 1000, a one-hour course designed to develop your skills to make you a better college student, both academically and socially. The course, also called the GSW Experience, covers the basics of life at GSW, introducing you to campus and the many services and resources available to students. UNIV 1000 also helps you identify your strengths as a student and find the right opportunities to build upon those strengths.

STORM SPOTTERS
Storm Spotters are student leaders who assist with new student orientation, programming for first-year students, and co-instruct the UNIV 1000 course for incoming first-year students. Storm Spotters play a vital role in the life of first-year students, helping to promote a smooth transition into college life and the University.
Residential Living

Residential living is an integral part of your educational experience if you’ve chosen to live on campus and can provide valuable learning opportunities unique to life at Georgia Southwestern.

Living on campus enables you to share in intellectual and educational pursuits with your classmates while learning to live within a diverse community. It provides opportunities for individual growth through community involvement, interpersonal relationships, and social interaction.

The Office of Residence Life staff provides a variety of programs throughout the year. These include programs supporting academic pursuits, leadership and service, wellness, social justice, and sustainability, as well as a variety of community-building events in the residence halls. Look for flyers posted around your hall and let your Residential Leader (RL) know what activities interest you.

All first- and second-year students are required to live on campus. Exceptions to this policy may be made for transfer students with over 60 credit hours or who lived on campus for two years at a previous institution, students living with family within 50 miles of campus, married students, students with children, and students 21 years old or older. If you fall into one of these categories and wish to live off campus, contact the Office of Residence Life.

Residence Halls Amenities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Oaks</th>
<th>Magnolia</th>
<th>Pines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Suites</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Suites</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loftable Beds</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunkable Beds</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-Speed Internet</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furnished</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpeted Bedrooms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Room &amp; Kitchen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SOUTHWESTERN OAKS
Freshmen housing is located in Southwestern Oaks I and II, which have a combined capacity to house 414 residents. Both three-story buildings, connected by a courtyard with outdoor seating and green space, are comprised of two hallways per floor.

A computer lab is located on the second floor of both Oaks I and II; both buildings also contain a common kitchen on their third floors. An office is also located in the lobby of Oaks I that houses a full-time professional staff member.

SOUTHWESTERN MAGNOLIA
GSW’s newest residential buildings, Southwestern Magnolia I and II have a combined capacity to house 301 residents, primarily sophomores, in 2 (private) bedroom/1 bathroom suites. A courtyard with outdoor seating and green space is located between the two buildings. Each floor is divided into two halls which include a common area used for group study, social activities, and educational programs. Both buildings feature a common kitchen and laundry facilities, located on the first floor, as well as a computer lab, located on the third floor. The lobby of Magnolia I also includes an office.

SOUTHWESTERN PINES
Southwestern Pines has the capacity to house 237 upperclassmen residents. The three-story residence hall offers 4 (private) bedroom/2 bathroom apartments. Each apartment in Southwestern Pines includes a furnished kitchen and living room. A large lobby, laundry facilities, and an office are located on the building’s first floor. Its second and third floors include laundry facilities, computer labs, and two large common areas for group study, social activities, and educational programs.

FRESHMAN MOVE-IN DAY
Freshman Move-In Day is a designated day for new freshmen students to move into the residence halls. GSW and community volunteers assist new students and their families with moving belongings to their assigned rooms.

Office of Residence Life
📍 SSC, 3rd floor | 📧 housing@gsw.edu
📞 (229) 931-2375 | 📞 (229) 931-2835
🌐 gsw.edu/ResLife
STUDENT INVOLVEMENT
Student involvement is a critical aspect of learning about yourself, connecting to others, and finding your passion. GSW has a large number of recognized student organizations and student activities available to help you do just that. The Department of Residential and Campus Life and Canes Connect are your resources for up-to-date information on current events and student organizations.

GSW ENGAGE
Managed by the Department of Residential and Campus Life, the GSW Engage social media accounts are your go-to for all things campus life. From upcoming events to leadership opportunities on campus, GSW Engage keeps you up-to-date on the latest from Greek Life, Residence Life, Recreation and Wellness, Student Engagement, Intramurals, and more.

@GSWEngage

GSW DROP
GSW Drop, short for “raindrop,” is the Division of Student Engagement & Success’ student marketing team. Their mission is to keep all students engaged with activities that occur across campus throughout the year. GSW Drop is led by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Success and is made up of GSW’s most talented and driven students with Art and Marketing majors and/or experience in similar fields. They are selected based on their experience and what they can bring to the team, Division, and GSW community. Their job is a demanding one—they produce flyers, posters, videos, social media content, and so much more for major areas like Campus Life, Greek Life, Campus Recreation, and First-Year Experience.

@GSWDrop

Department of Residential and Campus Life
SSC, 3rd floor | (229) 928-1387
student.engagement@gsu.edu

CANES CONNECT
Canes Connect is GSW’s student engagement platform that can be used to browse and join student organizations, vote in online elections, register for events, and browse campus events.

Your personal Canes Connect profile also tracks your activities and memberships on campus to showcase your involvement. Log in with your CanesNet credentials to get started.

Canes Connect also houses several important student forms, such as Greek organization interest forms, tutoring requests, and housing and meal plan sign-up for returning students.

CORQ APP
Download Corq to have access to the Canes Connect calendar of events when you’re on-the-go. The app allows you to browse campus events by themes like Athletics, Arts & Music, or Social, save events to your calendar, and browse campus and student organizations.

Corq is also used at campus events to allow students to digitally check-in and track attendance.

Corq is available for download in the iTunes App Store and the Google Play Store.

canesconnect.gsw.edu
GSW MOBILE APP
The GSW mobile app allows you to connect to RAIN and GSW information on your mobile device. Within the app, you can view the campus map, check your enrolled courses and final grades, find contact information for various offices, and connect with GSW on social media from the palm of your hand.

Download the GSW app for free in the iTunes App Store and the Google Play Store.

MERIT PAGES
Merit is an online recognition system GSW uses to acknowledge and share student achievements. With Merit, GSW can construct a verified and public profile of a student’s educational and professional accomplishments called a Merit Page.

Students can receive recognition for a variety of achievements, including being named to the President’s List, earning a scholarship, or studying abroad.

When students claim their Merit Page, an online profile is generated that compiles achievements and accomplishments posted by GSW, building a verified record of that student’s accomplishments, much like building a resumé.

Stories of significance, such as honors lists and graduation, may also be sent directly to your hometown newspaper for publication as another way to recognize your achievements.

Learn more at gsw.edu/Merit.

CAMPUS PUBLICATIONS
GSW and its students produce a number of publications throughout the year, including newspapers, magazines, and a podcast.

SOU’WESTER
The Sou’Wester is GSW’s campus newspaper, edited and managed by students. All students are invited to work on the newspaper staff. Pick up the latest edition of the Sou’Wester around campus.

Sou’Wester 📥 souwester@gsw.edu

SIROCCO
Sirocco, a magazine of the arts, is published each year by its student staff. The magazine includes literary works, art, and music that
are submitted by GSW students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Any artwork submitted is automatically entered in the Cover Contest, with the winner’s work featured on the magazine cover.

Sirocco
✉ gswsirocco@gsu.edu
🔗 gsw.edu/Sirocco

THE BREEZE
*The Breeze* is a monthly intracampus newsletter that focuses on GSW’s faculty, staff, and students. The newsletter aims to keep the campus community informed and recognize excellence where it is deserved. Submissions may be made via email during the monthly call for submissions.

The Breeze
✉ univrel@gsu.edu |🔗 gsw.edu/Breeze

WHAT’S IN THE CUP?
*What’s in the Cup?* is a weekly podcast hosted by President Neal Weaver that covers campus news and updates with a new guest each episode.

Download the latest episode and subscribe to the podcast at podcasts.com.

AEOLIAN
The *Aeolian* alumni magazine is published annually by the Department of University Relations to share alumni updates and university news. The name “Aeolian” is Greek and derives from Aeolus, the mythological keeper of the winds; an allusion to our Hurricane mascot.

Aeolian
✉ aeolian@gsu.edu |🔗 gsw.edu/Aeolian

SOCIAL MEDIA
Following GSW accounts on social is a great way to stay up-to-date on campus events and news!

Georgia Southwestern
facebook @GeorgiaSouthwestern
instagram @georgiasouthwestern
twitter @GaSouthwestern

President Neal Weaver
twitter @CanesPresident

Surge
twitter @GSWSurge

#TAKETOMORROWBYSTORM
Recreation & Wellness

The Office of Recreation and Wellness is dedicated to serving the GSW community by promoting and encouraging a balanced and healthy lifestyle through educational programming, leadership, and inclusive recreational opportunities.

Recreation and Wellness offers a variety of recreational activities with qualified staff members, including intramural sports, fitness and wellness programming, outdoor adventure opportunities, and more. All activities are included with student tuition and fees (except personal training and outdoor adventure trips).

Fitness

The Student Success Center (SSC) houses a number of indoor recreation and fitness activities. On the main level of the SSC, you’ll find the Intramural Gym, Racquetball Courts, Climbing Wall, and Fitness Center. The Intramural Gym can be used for basketball, volleyball, badminton, and many other indoor campus activities. There are four, multi-use Racquetball Courts available for use any time the facility is open. Racquets, balls, and goggles can be rented from the Fitness Center using your Canes Card. The Climbing Wall is open various times during the week. With three different climbing levels, a trained staff member will assist in the safety techniques and encourage you to push past your comfort zone.

The Fitness Center has a full weight room, including Cybex, Matrix, and Precor machines, UMAX free weights, Precor touch-screen treadmills, arc trainers, stationary bikes, and flat screen TVs for your enjoyment. New to exercise? Ask a Fitness Center Supervisor to give you a tour of the facility. Need someone to help you achieve your goals? Ask about our Personal Training Program. For a fee, you can get one-on-one sessions with a certified Personal Trainer to successfully reach your goals.

Group Fitness classes are held at various times during the week. Classes are designed for all fitness levels. Certified Group Fitness Instructors will lead you through formats specific to the class and will offer modifications to support participants’ needs.

Game Room

On the second floor of the SSC, you’ll find the Game Room activity area. Complete with ping-pong tables, pool tables, Nintendo Switch, PlayStation 4, Xbox One, and board games, the Game Room allows
you to disengage from your day-to-day stresses and relax with your friends.

**INTRAMURAL SPORTS**
Intramural sports give GSW students the opportunity to participate and compete against other students and staff in a variety of sporting events. Participants can pick activities based on interest and team availability. Male, female, and co-ed divisions are offered for many of the sports. The facilities, most equipment, and officials are provided.

The program offers league sports, which can last between three and six weeks, and tournaments, which last one or two days. Teams can be formed by common bonds or interests within the GSW community. Friends, classmates, residence halls, and campus organizations are all welcome to create a team. Participants who do not have a team can sign up and can be selected by captains of other teams.

**DERISO POOL**
The 190,000-gallon, heated Deriso Pool has an expansive shallow end. The six lane pool has at least two lanes designated for lap swimmers during open swim times. The remainder of the pool can be set up for open swim or water exercise classes. Shower rooms and a chair lift for disability access round out the facility’s amenities.

**OUTDOOR CHALLENGE COURSE**
The GSW Challenge Course Program is designed to provide a safe experiential learning environment. Here, groups and individuals can learn about themselves and address personal, interpersonal, and organizational issues. Taking risks and having fun are time-proven mechanisms for breaking down barriers and providing opportunities for growth.

**COUNSELING SERVICES**
The transition to college can be intimidating. Some students make the adjustment easily, while others become overwhelmed at the pressures. The Office of Student Health and Counseling Services provides a variety of free services to help students effectively cope with stressors associated with college life. The counseling center has an open door policy, but appointments are also accepted.

The short-term services offered include:
- Personal counseling
- Academic and educational counseling
- Conflict mediation
- Group therapy
- Social counseling
- Crisis intervention
- Educational workshops and presentations
- Grief and loss support

Some issues that are addressed include alcohol-related problems, date rape, domestic violence, and sexual abuse/violence. If Counseling Services is unable to provide the necessary services for a client, alternative recommendations are discussed and appropriate referrals are made.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**
Counseling Services staff adhere to standards of confidentiality as set forth by the American Counseling Association. Generally, information about a student is not released without written permission from the student. Exceptions include instances of suspected child abuse or when students are in danger of harming themselves or others. Sharing of information is done in compliance with FERPA.

**Counseling Services**
📍 Carter I | ☎ (229) 931-2708
📍 (229) 931-2835 | 📧 gsw.edu/Counseling
📍 @gswcounselingservices

**Office of Recreation and Wellness**
📍 SSC, 1st floor | 📧 gsw.edu/Recreation
☎ (229) 931-5004 | ☎ (229) 931-2686
**ATHLETICS**

Looking for something to do on campus? GSW Athletics has you covered! Admission to all games is free for students with a valid Canes Card.

Keep up with all things Athletics on social media and online at gswcanes.com.

- @GSWHurricanes
- @gswhurricanes
- @GSWAthletics

**MEN’S SPORTS**
Baseball  | @
Cross Country
Basketball  | @
Golf  | @ @
Soccer  | @

**WOMEN’S SPORTS**
Basketball  | @ @
Cross Country  | @
Soccer  | @ @
Softball  | @ @ @
Tennis  | @

**Surge** has been GSW’s mascot since 2009. He debuted his new “refreshed” look in Fall 2018.

@GSWSurge

**Associate Director of Athletics and Senior Women’s Administrator**
Christie Ward
📍 SSC, Room 2303
📞 (229) 931-7012
✉️ christie.ward@gsw.edu

**Assistant Director of Athletics for Communications & Marketing**
Keith Michlig
📍 SSC, Room 2322
📞 (229) 931-2217
✉️ keith.michlig@gsw.edu

**Assistant Director of Athletics for Community Engagement**
Nicki Levering
📞 (229) 931-2174
✉️ nicole.levering@gsw.edu

**Assistant Director of Athletics Communications**
Brian Cook
📍 SSC, Room 2322
📞 (229) 931-2217
✉️ brian.cook@gsw.edu

**Head Athletic Trainer**
Shannon Greene-Spanolios, MS ATC
📍 SSC, Room 1127
📞 (229) 931-2297
✉️ shannon.greene@gsw.edu

**Assistant Athletic Trainer**
Bryce Lawson, MS ATC
📍 SSC, Room 1127
📞 (229) 931-2297
✉️ bryce.lawson@gsw.edu

**Administrative Assistant**
Debra Sloan
📍 SSC, Room 2305
📞 (229) 931-2222
✉️ debra.sloan@gsw.edu
CAREER SERVICES
GSW offers counseling, workshops, and classes that build the foundation for success on campus and in the workplace. Career services can help you choose a major, explore career options, find internships or jobs, apply to graduate school, or prepare for the workplace.

You may think a career search begins with creating a resume in your senior year, but it actually starts with self-discovery. If you start early, study wisely, and use the services and resources provided by career services, you can position yourself to act strategically and land a rewarding internship, job, or admission to graduate school.

There are many steps to take to grow into the professional you want to be. It’s never too early or too late to start. But, the earlier you start, the easier it will be to prepare.

CAREER FAIRS
GSW hosts a variety of career fairs throughout the year, in addition to taking groups of students to off-campus fairs, including the GACE Statewide Career Fair in Atlanta.

SUIT CLOSET
GSW has a collection of professional attire available for loan including suits, ties, socks, and more. The Suit Closet is a great resource for students who may be attending career fairs or going to interviews. Students may contact the Division of Student Engagement and Success to schedule a visit to the closet.

WORKSHOPS
Throughout the year, GSW offers a number of workshops open to students that cover topics such as personal finance, resumés and cover letters, searching for jobs, and interview skills.
HEALTH SERVICES
GSW’s dedicated Office of Student Health and Counseling Services staff provides a wide variety of on-campus services at the Herschel Smith Health Clinic to all currently enrolled students.

SERVICES
- Treatment of illness and injury
- Over-the-counter medications
- First aid and supplies
- Health and wellness counseling
- Immunizations and flu shots
- Physicals and general health screenings
- STI testing and treatment
- Pregnancy testing and counseling
- Contraceptive prescriptions and counseling
- Recommendations and referrals
- Blood pressure checks
- Laboratory tests
- X-ray services

The Health Clinic is open to students on a walk-in basis or by appointment. Free HIV testing can also be scheduled off campus. If a student needs emergency medical assistance when the Health Clinic is closed, the student should contact emergency medical services by dialing 911 or GSW Public Safety at (229) 931-2245.

A student who utilizes the Health Clinic’s medical services is expected to visit the Health Clinic at times that do not conflict with academic classes and/or responsibilities. By GSW policy, an excuse from class can only be accepted or denied by the professor of that class.

Visit gsw.edu/Health for the current Health Clinic hours.

WHAT DOES MY HEALTH FEE COVER?
Students currently enrolled in four or more credit hours on campus are required to pay a Health Fee at the beginning of each academic year. This fee entitles the student to be seen by the professional Health Clinic staff for a number of services, including treatment of illnesses and injuries, health and wellness counseling, and STI testing and treatment. Some lab tests, medications, procedures, and supplies are not covered by the student Health Fee. Any additional costs are the financial responsibility of the student.

Students who take less than four hours or are only online may utilize the Health Clinic after paying the Health Fee. Services and prices may vary and are subject to change without notice.

IMMUNIZATIONS
A student applying for admission will receive a certificate of immunization and a health history form which should be submitted to the Health Center using the Med+Proctor site prior to enrollment at GSW. Evidence of two MMR’s are required of students born in 1957 or later. All students are required to have varicella and tetanus-diphtheria immunizations. Hepatitis B vaccinations are required for all students who will be 18 years of age or less at matriculation. Newly admitted freshmen or matriculated students planning to reside in university housing are required to have the meningococcal vaccine or sign a waiver (if the student is under 18, a parent must sign).

All new students (freshmen, transfers, and others) attending regularly scheduled classes or receiving resident credit will be required to submit a certificate of immunization prior to attending such classes. Students will not be permitted to attend classes or reside in campus housing until the required immunization record is on file with the Health Clinic.

International students must have documentation of two measles, mumps, and rubella immunizations or blood titers for immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella. A PPD tuberculin skin test is required within 10 days of arrival to campus. If positive, the students must have a chest X-ray within 1 week of arrival to campus. No previous X-ray films will be accepted. A tuberculosis screening questionnaire should also be completed.

All reports and documentation must be
in English. All immunization forms and reports must have the signature of health care provider, address and contact phone number in English. It is recommended that each student discuss with his/her health care provider the need for additional immunizations such as pertussis, hepatitis A, and influenza.

**STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN**

It is recommended that all students carry major medical insurance to provide supplemental coverage in the event of an injury or illness requiring hospitalization. A Student Health Insurance Program (SHIP) is available to GSW students. For SHIP information, please contact the Office of Student Accounts at (229) 931-2013.

GSW requires that all international students submit proof he/she (and all dependents) are covered by an approved health insurance plan. International students must present proof of this coverage each semester to the International Student Coordinator prior to registering for classes. If there is no proof of insurance, enrollment in SHIP is automatic.

**Herschel A. Smith Health Clinic**

📍 Carter I | ☎️ (229) 931-2236
📞 (229) 931-2666 | ✉️ health@gsu.edu
🔗 gsw.edu/Health

**DISABILITY SERVICES**

The Office of Disability Services is committed to making sure that any student with a disability receives equal access and an equal educational opportunity. Disability Services is responsible for providing reasonable accommodations and services to students with a documented disability.

**Office of Disability Services**

📍 Sanford Hall | ☎️ (229) 931-2661
📞 (229) 931-258 | ✉️ gsw.edu/Disability
FINANCIAL AID
The Office of Student Financial Aid provides students with financial assistance through the use of loans, grants, and scholarships. Students seeking federal financial assistance must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the correct award year at www.fafsa.gov. Students interested in assistance from the state of Georgia may apply at www.gafutures.org. The GSW School Code is 001573.

Once your FAFSA has been submitted, an initial notification will be sent to inform you that your FAFSA is being processed. If the U.S. Department of Education selects your application in a process called verification, your initial notification will inform you that your selected institution may require additional documentation. Additional notices from the Office of Student Financial Aid will follow. Those notices could include any combination of RAIN updates, email, and/or text messages.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)
In accordance with federal law, students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), both in quality and quantity, to receive Title IV Federal Financial Aid and State Financial Aid. The SAP standards for remaining in Good Academic Standing for the purposes of receiving financial aid at GSW are as follows:

• Qualitative (GPA): undergraduate students must earn a graduating GPA of 2.0
• Quantitative (67% pace of completion): students must successfully complete a minimum of 67% of the total attempted credit hours which he/she registers for at GSW

Failure to meet the SAP standards will result in the loss of financial aid. Students have the right to appeal if there are documented mitigating circumstances.

Visit the GSW website for additional information regarding policies and forms.

Office of Student Financial Aid
📍 Sanford Hall, Room 207
📞 (229) 928-1378 | 📞 (229) 931-2061
📧 finaid@gsw.edu | 🌐 gsw.edu/FinancialAid
STUDENT ACCOUNTS
The Office of Student Accounts records, bills, and collects University receivables and disburses financial aid and student loans.

FEE PAYMENT INFORMATION
It is the student’s responsibility to determine the balance due on their account and render payment by the fee payment deadlines. The online payment portal is available 24 hours per day for this purpose.

HOW TO PAY
Online payments for tuition, fees, residence halls, and meal plans may be made by:

- **Credit cards:** Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express are accepted. A 2.85% convenience fee will be added for using a credit card.
- **E-check (electronic check):** no convenience fee will be added when paying by e-check, but you will need your bank routing number and your account number.

In the Student Accounts office, payments for tuition, fees, residence halls, and meal plans may be made by:

- **Cash**
- **Financial aid**
- **Check**
  - **Accepted:** personal checks, travelers checks, cashier checks, and money orders (Full payment made payable to Georgia Southwestern State University with the student’s ID number and telephone number noted on the check)
  - **Not Accepted:** counter or starter checks, 3rd party checks, credit card checks, or partial payments

WHERE TO PAY
Payments may be made:
- **Online** at gsw.edu/PayFees
- **On campus** in the Student Accounts office in the MSC
- **Mail** to: Student Accounts
  800 GSW St. Univ. Dr.
  Americus, GA 31709

Payments via telephone are not accepted.

To view/print an invoice (which will include memoed financial aid), log in to RAIN. Go to “Student Services,” go to “Registration,” click “Select Term,” and then click “Registration Fee Assessment.”

Tuition and fee charges for each semester will be available on your RAIN account.

EXCESS FINANCIAL AID
In order to provide more flexible options for receiving refunds, GSW has partnered with BankMobile Disbursements to deliver financial aid and other school refunds to GSW students.

The new refund program will give you the following options for receiving refunds:

- Deposit to an existing checking or savings account
- Deposit to a BankMobile Vibe checking account

All students will be asked to select a refund delivery preference from the options listed above. For more information, visit gsw.edu/BankMobile.

Find the disbursement dates and refund status in the RAIN announcement column at rain.gsw.edu.

Office of Student Accounts
📍 MSC  | ☎ (229) 931-2013
📞 (229) 931-2768 | 🏞 stuaccts@gswn.edu
🔗 gsw.edu/StudentAccounts
PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

PARKING

Campus parking decals are required for all visitors, students, faculty, and staff. Decals can be obtained from the Office of Public Safety during regular office hours for $18 (included in student fees). Decals are valid through the end of the academic year.

Visitor parking permits may be obtained at the Public Safety office at no charge. Temporary parking permits can also be obtained should a registered vehicle be inoperable. Each student is allowed three temporary parking permits per semester, each for two weeks. After that point, a decal must be purchased for the vehicle.

Parking decals must be attached to the outside of the lower left corner (driver’s side) of the vehicle’s rear window or on the bumper.
• If the vehicle is a convertible, the decal can be placed on the left corner of the back bumper.
• If the vehicle has a tool box, the decal must be placed on the left side clearly visible above the tool box.
• Vehicles with improperly displayed stickers may be ticketed.

Parking is organized by zones as follows:
• B zone is for residential students only
• X zone is for commuter students only
• Staff zone is for faculty, staff and other GSW employees
• Open zone is for all registered vehicles (residential, commuter, faculty/staff, or visitors)
• Visitors may park in “X” or “B” zones or in designated visitor parking areas

Parking zones are enforced on regular business days Monday-Friday, between 8:00am and 5:00pm with the exception of no parking zones (yellow curbs, Chick-fil-A visitor parking, handicapped parking spaces, etc.).

A copy of the Parking Code is available in the Public Safety office and online. It is the responsibility of the driver to read and comply with the parking code.

PARKING FINES

All parking violations on campus are $25 per citation. In the case of handicapped space violation, a Uniform Traffic Citation will be issued and will have to be settled with the Municipal Court of Americus. Fines can be paid at the Public Safety office in the Nicholas Smarr & Jody Smith Memorial Building or in the Student Accounts office in the MSC.

SHUTTLE SERVICES

GSW’s Office of Student Engagement provides free transportation to and from campus to many different locations around Americus, including area banks, area pharmacies, Downtown Americus, and Wal-Mart. The shuttle picks up GSW students outside the SSC parking lot near Chick-fil-A and drops them off at the locations above.

The shuttle runs every hour, on the hour, and students are expected to get to their drop-off and pick-up locations approximately 10 minutes before the scheduled time. The shuttle is a ten-passenger vehicle, so space is limited. Students are expected to show their Canes Card to the shuttle driver and list where they are going when they board the shuttle.

The shuttle cell phone is (229) 380-2634 and is only on when the shuttle driver is available.

ON-CAMPUS CAR RENTALS

GSW has partnered with RDR Rentals to offer car rentals on campus. Students will receive a special approximated price of $37 per day or $8.99 per hour.

Learn more at gsw.edu/CarRentals.

BIKE SHARE PROGRAM

GSW offers bikes to enrolled students on a daily basis. Bikes and helmets may be checked out with a valid Canes Card at the front desk of the Fitness Center in the SSC and must be returned by one hour before closing.

Learn more at gsw.edu/BikeShare.
PUBLIC SAFETY
The Office of Public Safety is a state certified law enforcement agency. It is responsible for the on-campus enforcement of the Georgia criminal and motor vehicle code, the ordinances of the City of Americus, and the University’s Code of Conduct and parking code. Public Safety operates 24 hours a day, including weekends and all holidays, and is located in the Nicholas Smarr & Jody Smith Memorial Building.

Public Safety services include:
• Campus patrol
• Escorts
• Traffic & parking enforcement
• Vehicle assistance
• Safety programs
• Event security

Public Safety investigates all crimes which occur on campus and prosecutes these cases in state and superior court when warranted. Public Safety also refers cases to Student Services for disciplinary action. Public Safety offers educational programs dealing with various crime and fire prevention topics upon request. Current crime statistics and personal safety information are located within the office as well as on the Public Safety webpage.

PATROLLING
The Patrol Division is made up of certified law enforcement officers. All Public Safety patrol officers have powers of arrest on GSW’s campus and authority within 500 yards of any property under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. Officers have completed Georgia Basic Peace Officer training and attend a minimum of 20 hours additional training annually.

Duties of a patrol officer include everything that might be expected of a city police officer, such as traffic control, working vehicle accidents, taking reports of crimes as they occur, and general safety of the campus community and property.

Office of Public Safety
📍 Smarr & Smith Memorial Building
📞 (229) 931-2245 📞 (229) 931-2711
gmail.public.safety@gsu.edu
🌐 gsu.edu/PublicSafety

24-HOUR EMERGENCY #
(229) 931-2245
EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS
BLACKBOARD CONNECT
GSW’s emergency mass notification system, Blackboard Connect, sends alerts to students, faculty, and staff through emails, phone calls, text messages, and social media. Students can add up to five phone numbers to the system at a time, allowing family members to receive campus emergency notifications as well. Alerts may be issued for:
• Severe weather
• Campus closings
• Campus lockdowns

Students can sign up for emergency alerts in RAIN. Select “Personal Information” and then “GSW Notification System” to enter your information. Remember that you must verify and submit this information at the beginning of every semester to continue receiving alerts.

ALERTUS
Download the Alertus app on your mobile device to quickly and easily send geotagged incident reports to Public Safety with the click of a button.

Find the Alertus app in the iTunes App Store or the Google Play Store and use the credentials below to get started.

Organization code: gsw
Organization PIN: canes

CANES CARD
GSW provides every student with a student ID called the Canes Card. Your Canes Card is used to:
• Make purchases at dining locations
  ○ Dining Hall
  ○ Higher Grounds Café
  ○ The POD
  ○ Chick-fil-A
  ○ Boar’s Head
• Access GSW facilities
  ○ Residence halls
  ○ Fitness Center
  ○ Game room
  ○ Deriso Pool
• Attend GSW events free of charge
  ○ Athletic events
  ○ Music performances
• Make purchases in the bookstore with Financial Aid
• Check out materials at the Library
• Use the GSW shuttle services, Bike Share Program, and RDR car rentals

For new students, Canes Cards will be made on STORM Day in the Canes Card Office located in the MSC.

If a Canes Card is lost, stolen, or destroyed, cards can be replaced for a small fee in the Office of Student Accounts.

Canes Card Office
📍MSC | ☎ (229) 931-5091
📞 (229) 931-2768 | ☮ canescard@gsw.edu
🔗 gsw.edu/CanesCard

DINING SERVICES
GSW Dining Services provide students with quality and variety at an economical price. The campus food service is contracted with Aramark, an internationally recognized management corporation. Five dining locations are located on campus, including RFoC, Chick-fil-A, Boar’s Head Deli, P.O.D., and Higher Grounds Café.

RFOC
Students with a meal plan are provided a wide selection of all-you-can-eat meals. Real Food on Campus (RFoC) is the campus dining hall, often called “the caf,” and offers a produce market, self-serve deli, grill station, pizza/pasta station, comfort food station, assorted baked goods, and desserts.

CHICK-FIL-A & BOAR’S HEAD DELI
Chick-fil-A and Boar’s Head Deli are the places to go for your favorites. Chick-fil-A, a quick-service chicken restaurant chain, serves chicken sandwiches, nuggets, salads, additional entrees, and side dishes.

At Boar’s Head, you can enjoy a custom-prepared sandwich with your favorite Boar’s Head meats and cheeses. If you’re
in a hurry, pick up one of their ready-made sandwiches, wraps, salads, or fruit snacks from the cooler.

**P.O.D.**
P.O.D. is an on-campus convenience store that offers students microwaveable meals, snacks, beverages, candy bars, and many health & beauty items as well as paper and cleaning supplies to fill those gaps between your regular shopping trips.

**HIGHER GROUNDS CAFÉ**
Whether you need a nice morning pick-me-up, a delicious pastry, or an espresso to help you get through studying, Higher Grounds Café has the perfect solution for you. Higher Grounds proudly serves Starbucks coffee.

**MEAL PLANS**
Meal plans can be purchased through the Office of Residence Life. Flex dollars added to your plan roll over from Fall to Spring semesters, but not from Spring to the following Fall semester. Only one meal per meal time period is permitted with a meal plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAN</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>INCLUDES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 MEALS PER WEEK</td>
<td>$1,935 PER SEMESTER</td>
<td>10 MEALS IN THE CAFETERIA PER WEEK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 MEAL EXCHANGES PER WEEK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$325 FLEX CASH PER SEMESTER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 MEALS PER WEEK</td>
<td>$2,030 PER SEMESTER</td>
<td>15 MEALS IN THE CAFETERIA PER WEEK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 MEAL EXCHANGES PER WEEK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$225 FLEX CASH PER SEMESTER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNLIMITED MEALS PER WEEK</td>
<td>$2,135 PER SEMESTER</td>
<td>UNLIMITED MEALS IN THE CAFETERIA PER WEEK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 MEAL EXCHANGES PER WEEK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$175 FLEX CASH PER SEMESTER</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meal plans may be purchased during registration or by visiting the Office of Residence Life.

**Dining Services**
📍 MSC  | ☎ (229) 924-2732
🔗 gswdining.campusdish.com
🔗 @gswdining
Library Services
The James Earl Carter Library is named in honor of the father of former President Jimmy Carter. It contains over 200,000 volumes and currently subscribes to 136 journals. As a selective United States Government Depository, the Library also houses over 300,000 federal government publications in various forms. The Library maintains a video collection and special collections such as the Dr. Harold Isaacs Global South Collection, the GSW Historical Collection, Oral History Collection, and the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Collection.

Features & Services
- Group and individual study rooms
- Computer lab with 30 computers
- Additional computers & printers on both levels
- Wireless access
- Materials available for check-out
  - Video recording equipment
  - Popular DVDs
  - Books & other publications
- Gil Express & interlibrary loan
- Reserves
- Reference assistance
- Group and individual library instruction
- Tutorials
- Consultations

Through participation in GALILEO, the Library provides access to over 200 databases. The Library’s online catalog, GilFIND, provides records of all the materials available at the Library.

The Library is also home to the Music Listening Library, Fine Arts Gallery, and the GSW Writing Center.

James Earl Carter Library
📍 James Earl Carter Library
📞 (229) 931-2259 | 📧 library@gsw.edu
🌐 gsw.edu/Library | 👤 @james.carterlibrary
🔗 @JamesECarterLibrary | 📲 @GSWLibrary

Writing Center
The Writing Center aims to create better writers and better papers by working with students on their papers and assisting writers in building on the process that works best for them. At no cost to students, trained consultants provide resources and feedback both in person and online in a positive and supportive environment.

The Writing Center helps students:
- At all writing levels
- In any part of the writing process
- Of all majors
- For whom English is a second language
- With creative pieces
WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?
• A one-on-one consultation with a trained writing consultant
• A conversation with the consultant about the paper
• A discussion of what was effective in the paper as well as what may need more clarification or attention
• An explanation of various strategies for different stages of the writing process
• A focus on your authorship and your ideas

Writing Center
📍 James Earl Carter Library
📞 (229) 931-4305
✉️ writing.center@gsw.edu
🔗 gsw.edu/WritingCenter

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT
GSW’s Office of Information and Instructional Technology (IIT) supports GSW with professional expertise in the use of information technology for both administrative processes and academic pursuits. IIT maintains a variety of administrative-, faculty-, and student-use networks and computers as well as a multimedia, distance learning, and faculty development classrooms. IIT also supports campus email, financial and student information and other administrative systems, online course development, and student testing, along with academic and residential computer labs.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENT COMPUTERS
• Virus software installed and set for auto update
• Virus check conducted
• Critical updates for OS installed and set to auto update

RESIDENCE HALLS
Residents in Southwestern Oaks I and II, Southwestern Pines, and Southwestern Magnolia I and II may use either a wired or wireless network connection.

To use the wired network connection, residents’ computers must have an Ethernet network card and minimum Category 5E network cable. The recommended cable length is 15’.

To access the wireless network (ResNet) in each building, residents’ computers must have a wireless network card that supports 802.11G or 802.11N installed. 802.11A is also supported. 802.11B is not supported on campus.

COMPUTER REPAIRS
IIT is not permitted to work on personal equipment, including but not limited to desktop or laptop computers, printers, smart phones, etc. For repairs needed to your computer, visit gsw.edu/TechSupp for a listing of local vendors.

CANESNET LOGIN
Every student at GSW has a CanesNet account, which is a set of credentials used to log in to:
• Computers on campus
• Wireless networks
• Your Radar email account
• Google Apps for students
• GeorgiaVIEW
• Beacon
• Canes Connect
• DegreeWorks

Student accounts are created automatically the morning after the student becomes eligible to register for classes, are disabled one year after leaving GSW, and are deleted one year later.

For more information regarding your CanesNet account, visit gsw.edu/CanesNet.

RAIN
Log in to RAIN by clicking the RAIN link on the GSW website or by visiting rain.gsw.edu. Students can use RAIN to view information such as holds on their account, grades, account summary and fee assessments, financial aid status, and much more.

• Username: your GSW ID number
• PIN: initially your six digit birthday (ex: 110495 for November 4, 1995)
For assistance logging in to RAIN, contact the Office of the Registrar at gswreg@gsw.edu or (229) 928-1331.

RADAR STUDENT EMAIL
GSW has set up an email account for every enrolled student. Email serves as the primary official means of sending information to students by faculty and staff.

To verify your email address:
- Log in to RAIN
- Click on “Personal Information” and then click on “View Email Addresses.” One of the email addresses listed should be user@radar.gsw.edu. This is your Radar email address.
- Username: the part of your email address before the @ symbol
- Password: your CanesNet password

To access your email, log in at mail.radar.gsw.edu.

GEORGIAVIEW
GeorgiaVIEW is used for accessing online course material and for taking online courses. To login to GeorgiaVIEW, go to gsw.edu/GeorgiaVIEW.

- Username: your Radar email address (ex: jdoe3@radar.gsw.edu)
- Password: your CanesNet password

For more information about getting started with campus technology, visit gsw.edu/GSWCT-Student.

Office of Information and Instructional Technology
📍 Morgan Hall | ☎ (229) 931-2074
├ (229) 931-2928 | techsupp@gsw.edu
├ gsw.edu/IIT

CAMPUS POST OFFICE
GSW’s Office of Postal Services is an official contracted unit of the United States Postal Service. They offer most of the services available in your city post office, including stamps, money orders, Express Mail, and Priority Mail. Student mailboxes are also located at the Post Office.

HOW DO I GET A GSW MAILBOX?
A GSW mailbox is assigned to each student living in the residence halls. You will receive your mailbox assignment on Move-In Day, or you can stop by the GSW Post Office for your assignment. This mailbox will be active as long as you are living on campus.

If you are not living in the residence halls (including during Summer semester), a forwarding request form must be submitted to the GSW Post Office to continue receiving your mail. If you do not submit a forwarding address, all mail will be returned to the sender according to the rules and regulations of the US Postal Service.

Remember, your GSW mailbox is for your use only. Any mail that does not have your name and box number on it will not be distributed into your mailbox.

Mail must be addressed to students as follows:

Surge
GSW Box 000
800 GSW State University Dr.
Americus, GA 31709

GSW Post Office
📍 MSC | ☎ (229) 931-2364
✉️ postoffice@gsw.edu

BOOKSTORE
The campus Bookstore provides the student body with goods and services at the least possible cost. The Bookstore carries new and used textbooks, with rentals also available on many titles. In addition to course materials, the Bookstore stocks:
- Laptops and tablets
- Computer books
- Study aids
- Reference materials
- School/office supplies
- GSW t-shirts, jackets, & hats
- Coffee mugs & other drinkware
- Seasonal gift items
- Engraved crystal pieces
- Other gift & apparel items
The Bookstore also offers fax services, phone cards, and special ordering for any academic materials at no cost. Personal checks, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express, gift cards, and Financial Aid are all accepted.

**STORE HOURS**
During fall and spring semesters, the Bookstore is open 9:00am - 3:00pm Monday through Friday. The Bookstore closes during breaks to restock shelves for the following term. The store is also closed on holidays. Extended hours of operation are offered during the beginning of each term to accommodate the large volume of students buying books and supplies for new classes. Textbooks and a selection of merchandise are also available for purchase online.

**TEXTBOOK BUYBACK**
The textbook buyback is conducted at the end of every semester during final exams. Books that are not changing to new editions and will be used the following term will be purchased at 50% of the price paid for the book. Books that are not being used again by the Bookstore will be purchased by the buyer at established wholesale prices. The textbooks carried by the bookstore are based strictly on faculty selection. Every attempt is made to have the books in stock before the beginning of the term, however there are occasional delays due to receiving the text information late, publishers being out of stock, late or misdirected shipments, or unexpected increases in a course’s enrollment.

**Bookstore**
📍 MSC | ☎ (229) 931-2366
✉️ books@gsw.edu | 🌐 gswbookstore.com
＠ @gswbookstore

**TUTORING**
Peer tutoring and supplemental instruction provides students with extra opportunities to learn study skills and develop good study habits. The STORM Tutoring Center is a walk-in tutoring center for students needing extra support in math and science courses. Online tutoring is available through GeorgiaView. For information on tutoring, students should contact the Office of First-Year Experience.
College of arts and sciences
The College of Arts and Sciences provides educational opportunities that emphasize intellectual development, knowledge, leadership, and skills that allow students to prosper throughout their lives. Within the College, intellectual, personal, and social growth for students, faculty, staff, and the community are fostered through active programs of creative and scholarly work, co-curricular opportunities, and engagement with the community.

Programs
• Art
• Biology
• Chemistry
• Criminal Justice
• English
• Geology
• History
• Mathematics
• Music
• Political Science
• Psychology
• Sociology

Dr. Kelly McCoy, Dean
 (229) 931-2322
 kelly.mccoy@gsu.edu
 gsu.edu/ArtsAndSciences

College of nursing and health sciences
The College of Nursing and Health Sciences is dedicated to the education of individuals to become health professionals committed to health-related practice, leadership, and service. The programs provide undergraduate education in nursing and health science professions as well as graduate education in nursing.

Programs
• Exercise Science
• Long-Term Care Management
• Nursing
• Nursing - 2nd Degree BSN
• Nursing - LPN to RN
• Nursing - RN-BSN

Dr. Sandra Daniel, Dean
 Carter I, Room 148
 (229) 931-2280
 sandra.daniel@gsu.edu
 gsu.edu/NursingAndHealthSciences
**COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND COMPUTING**

The College of Business and Computing is dedicated to offering quality academic programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. To achieve this end, the College is committed to attracting and maintaining academically and professionally qualified faculty dedicated to academic excellence. The business programs are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

**PROGRAMS**
- Accounting
- Computer Science
- Human Resource Management
- Information Technology
- Management
- Marketing

Dr. Gaynor Cheokas, Interim Dean  
📍 BHP, Room 212  
📞 (229) 931-2090  
✉ gaynor.cheokas@gsw.edu  
🔗 gsw.edu/COBAC

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

A career in education is multi-faceted, offering challenges, personal satisfaction, and interaction with individuals from diverse backgrounds. The College of Education faculty and staff are dedicated to the preparation of future educators and professional growth through graduate work in education. Partner school systems provide real-life experiences in the preparation of teachers so that College of Education graduates are ready to meet the opportunities to positively impact P-12 student learning.

**PROGRAMS**
- Elementary Education
- Health and Physical Education
- Middle Grades Education
- Special Education
- Secondary Education

Dr. Rachel Abbott, Dean  
📍 Education Center, Room 202  
📞 (229) 931-2173  
✉ rachel.abbott@gsw.edu  
🔗 gsw.edu/COE
ACADEMIC ADVISING
Students who have chosen an academic major will be advised by a faculty member from the college or department of the declared major. Students who have chosen a focus area rather than a major will be advised by the Focus Area advisor.

ATTENDANCE
Since attendance is the number one indicator of whether a student will succeed in college classes, GSW expects that you will attend all classes. Each instructor will have a course-specific attendance policy that can be found on the course syllabus. Students who do not attend class during the roster verification period, usually the first week or so of classes, will be administratively dropped from any classes for which an instructor marks them as not attending. Administrative drops can negatively affect financial aid.

EARN COLLEGE CREDIT FOR WHAT YOU ALREADY KNOW
GSW offers several ways to earn credit for what you already know, including:
- CLEP (College Level Examination Program)
- PLA (Prior Learning Assessment)
- AP (Advanced Placement)
- IB (the International Baccalaureate Program)

Courses you complete through CLEP, AP, IB, or PLA will show on your transcript with a grade of K rather than a traditional letter grade and will not be included in GPA calculations. Credit earned through alternative means is limited to 10 credit hours in a major and 30 hours toward your degree. If you want to take a CLEP test, contact the GSW Testing Center, but be aware that any CLEP test must be taken before you attempt the class for which you wish to receive credit by alternate means.

CORE CURRICULUM
GSW’s Core Curriculum is a set of focused courses, broken into five areas, that build a strong foundation for each student’s chosen area of study. These classes are designed to cultivate critical thinking and build analytical skills that put students on the path towards graduating with a GSW degree.

HOW IS THE CORE CURRICULUM RELATED TO MY MAJOR?
The core curriculum provides the knowledge, skills, and experiences you need to succeed in college and in life. Whatever your academic or career goals, the core curriculum can help you to launch a successful future.

Find the full general core curriculum sheet and the curriculum sheet for your major online at gsw.edu/Curriculum.

AREA A: ESSENTIAL SKILLS (9 HOURS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1101</td>
<td>Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1102</td>
<td>Composition II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1101</td>
<td>Quantitative Reasoning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1111</td>
<td>College Algebra</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1113</td>
<td>Precalculus</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1120</td>
<td>Calculus I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1401</td>
<td>Elementary Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AREA B: INFORMATION LITERACY & INTERCULTURAL KNOWLEDGE (4-5 HOURS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIS 1000</td>
<td>Computer Applications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1110</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Speech</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 2200</td>
<td>Intro to Professional Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 2800</td>
<td>The African Diaspora</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTL 2000</td>
<td>Intercultural Studies Seminar</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBR 1101</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Information Literacy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 2401</td>
<td>Intro to Global Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 1200</td>
<td>Global Social Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 1101</td>
<td>The World and Its Peoples</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 1110</td>
<td>Theatre Appreciation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGSS 2001</td>
<td>Intro to Women, Gender, &amp; Sexuality</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AREA D NOTES
• BIOL 1107/1107L and 1108/1108L are not open to students with credit in BIOL 2107 or 2108.
• PHYS 1111 and 1112 are not open to students with credit in PHYS 2211 or 2212.
• PSYC 3301 and SOCI 3301 cannot be used to meet Core Area D requirements.
RAIN
RAIN is the Registration and Academic Information Network that provides a convenient method for students to obtain information via the internet.

WHY USE RAIN?
Students can use this system to view information such as holds on their account, semester grade reports, unofficial academic transcripts, account summary and fee assessments, financial aid status, registration status, and current schedule. Students can also request official transcripts through RAIN.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FIRST-TIME USERS
• Go to the A-Z index at the top of the GSW home page, click on “R” and then click on “RAIN.”
• At the RAIN main menu, select the “Secured Login” option from the drop-down menu on the right.
• Enter your User ID (GSW ID #). If you do not know your GSW ID #, you can find it by clicking the “Retrieve ID” button.
• Enter your Personal Identification Number (PIN). The first time you login, your PIN will be the six digits of your birthdate (ex: if your birthdate is April 18, 2000, your PIN would be 041800). Once you have entered your PIN, click “Login.”
• The first time you log in, you will be notified that your PIN has expired. Re-enter the original PIN (the six digits of your birthdate, MMDDYY). Next, create your own PIN. Remember, the PIN must be six numeric digits.
• The “Terms of Usage” page will appear the first time you log in to RAIN. Review the terms and then click “Continue.”
• The “Update Ethnicity and Race” page is next. You may choose to answer and click “Continue” or click “Ask Me Later” to move forward.
• You will then be asked to create a security question in case you forget your PIN. Create your question and answer and click “Submit.”
• The next page is the GSW Notification System opt-in page. You may provide contact numbers to received GSW-related text messages and phone calls. See page ## for more information on GSW Emergency Notifications.

HELPFUL TIPS
• Be sure to logout of RAIN to ensure your information is kept private and secure. You can also clear the cache of your web browser for added security.
• It is recommended that you do not use the “back” or “forward” button on your web browser.
• If you find that any of your personal
information is incorrect, contact the Office of the Registrar to have it corrected.

• If you are locked out of RAIN, please contact the Office of the Registrar or email gswareg@gsu.edu from your Radar email account to reset your PIN.

MOMENTUM YEAR
Evidence-based research confirms that college students are most successful when they start out their college careers by making a purposeful choice in a focus area or program, enter with a productive academic mindset, and follow clearly sequenced program maps that include nine credits in the student’s academic focus area and 30 credits in their first year. Put together, these three elements create a momentum year for students—a starting point that helps students find their path, get on that path, and build velocity in the direction of their degree and career goals.

CLASS REGISTRATION
REGISTERING FOR CLASSES
The first step in registering for classes is meeting with your academic advisor. With your advisor, you will review your major or focus area Degree Pathway, Degree Works, and possibly a major or minor curriculum sheet to determine which classes you should register for during the subsequent term. After consulting with your advisor, you will register yourself for classes using RAIN and the plan you and your advisor determined for you. You will be shown how to use RAIN at STORM Day and again in your UNIV 1000 class.

ADDING AND DROPPING COURSES
Students may add or drop courses during the published add/drop period, usually the first week of the semester. Classes dropped are not listed on your transcript, and you are not charged for them. Once the add/drop period ends, you must follow the withdrawal process to discontinue a class without receiving a failing grade. Students who add courses after the first day of class are responsible for completing all class work regardless of whether it was assigned before they added the class. New first-year students cannot drop or add courses during their first term at GSW without getting approval from the Office of First-Year Experience.

WITHDRAWING FROM A COURSE
Once add/drop period ends, your only option if you don’t want to continue in a course is to withdraw. If you withdraw from a course before the “deadline to withdraw without penalty,” which is published on the Academic Calendar for each term, your grade for the class will be “W,” and it will not affect your GPA. Courses from which you withdraw will still be shown on your transcript as a class you attempted. If you withdraw from a class after the published deadline, you will receive a grade of “WF,” or withdrawn failing. You will also receive no refund for classes from which you withdraw before or after the published deadline.

Academic Standing
Students must maintain at least a 2.0 institutional GPA to be in Good Academic Standing with the University. After the first semester in which a student drops below a 2.0, the student’s standing becomes Academic Warning. After the second semester that a student’s GPA remains below 2.0, the student’s standing becomes Academic Probation.

Students on Academic Warning or Probation have holds on their accounts and must see an advisor to register for classes or adjust their schedules. After the third term that a student’s GPA remains below 2.0, the student’s standing becomes Academic Suspension.
Students on suspension must typically remain out of school for at least one semester before appealing to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs for Academic Reinstatement so they can return to GSW.

While a 2.0 is high enough to remain in Good Standing, it is not high enough to be accepted into professional programs such as Business, Education, or Nursing. Be sure to check the admission requirements for your major program.

TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY
Transfer credit is normally awarded for all college credit earned in courses at a college or university that is regionally accredited, provided the courses have comparable learning outcomes to those of GSW courses. The following stipulations on the transfer of credit are upheld:

1. All credit earned in 1000 and 2000 level courses used to satisfy general education curriculum requirements will be accepted, except for any Area A courses in Composition or Mathematics that do not meet minimum required grades of C. All credit earned in 3000 level and above major or minor courses require a minimum grade of C to transfer.

2. Students successfully completing a course in one institution’s Areas A–E will receive full credit in Areas A–E for the course upon transfer to another USG institution as long as the following conditions are met:

   a. The course is within the Area hours limitations of either the sending institution or the receiving institution and

   b. The student does not change from a non-science major to a science major.

3. Course work taken in two-year college technical program is transferable, if covered by the General Education Course Transfer Chart for the Technical College System of Georgia and the University System of Georgia, or if GSW has a more expansive agreement with a specific TCSG institution.

4. Transfer students must be in residence for a minimum of two semesters and must complete at least thirty hours of credit including a minimum of fifteen hours of upper division credit in the major field.

5. Credit earned through alternative means, such as credit by examination or by PLA portfolio is limited to ten credit hours in a major and thirty hours toward your degree.

6. Credits accepted in transfer by Georgia Southwestern State University do not necessarily apply toward degree requirements.

7. Credit hours are transferred, but grades are not. Every transfer students begins with a 0.0 GPA at GSW.

8. If you completed an Associate of Arts (AA) or an Associate of Science (AS) from one of the State Colleges or Universities that is a member University System of Georgia (USG), you have completed the 42 hours of the Core in Areas A through E, including Area B. Whether all or part of the 18 hours you completed in Area F will transfer depends solely on what classes you took and what major you have chosen to pursue at GSW. If you completed an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) or an Associate of Science in designated health fields, such as Nursing (ASN), at a USG or Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) institution, you will still have some Core curriculum hours to complete in Areas A through E. For Associate’s degrees from all other types of institutions, courses are transferred on a case-by-case basis.

For more information regarding transfer credit, please contact our transfer evaluation specialists in the Office of the Registrar or call (229) 928-1331.
CALCULATING YOUR GPA

Your grade point average (GPA) is calculated using the number of credit hours attempted and your final grades per semester. To figure out your GPA for a particular semester, you first have to determine how many quality points correspond with each of your final grades. There are 4 quality points associated with an A, 3 with a B, 2 with a C, 1 with a D, and none with an F or a WF.

There are no quality points associated with other grades, such as W, I, S, U, or K, so these grades and the credit for courses where you received these grades will not be part of your GPA calculation.

Use the example below to calculate your own GPA at the end of your first semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>QUALITY POINTS</th>
<th>CREDIT HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1000</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 1101</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 1100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1101</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1101</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[
\frac{34}{15 \text{ hours}} = 2.27 \text{ GPA}
\]

Use the example below to calculate your own GPA at the end of your first semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>QUALITY POINTS</th>
<th>CREDIT HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[
\text{HOURS} = \text{ GPA}
\]
INDEX

academic advising, 6, 32
Academic Affairs, Office of, 4
academic standing, 6-7, 35-36
   Good Standing, 6, 35-36
   Probation, 6, 35
   Restricted Enrollment, 7
   Suspension, 6, 35
   Warning, 6, 35
adding/dropping courses, 35
administration, 4-5
Advanced Placement (AP), 32
Aeolian, 13
Alertus, 24
Arts and Sciences, College of, 30
Athletics, Department of, 16
attendance, 32
   excused absences, 18
Bank Mobile, 21
Blackboard Connect, 24
Bookstore, 28-29
Breeze, The, 13
Business and Computing, College of, 31
Canes Card, 24
Canes Connect, 11
Career Services, 17
College Level Examination Program (CELP), 32
Corq, 12
core curriculum, 32-33
Counseling Services, 15
Dining Services, 24-25
   meal plans, 25
Disability Services, Office of, 19
Education, School of, 31
emergency notifications, 24
Financial Aid, Office of Student, 20
   Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), 20
   Federal Application for Student Financial Aid (FASFA), 20
First-Year Experience, Office of, 4, 8
Freshman Convocation, 8
GeorgiaView, 28
GSW Drop, 11
GSW Engage, 11
GSW Experience, The, 8
grade point average (GPA), 37
Health Services, 18-19
immunizations, 18-19
Information and Instructional Technology, 27-28
Office of, 27-28
international students, 18-19
International Baccalaureate Program (IB), 32
Library, James Earl Carter, 26
Merit Pages, 12
mobile app, 12
Momentum Year, 35
Move-In Day, 10
Nursing and Health Sciences, College of, 30
Orientation Week, 8
parking and transportation, 22
   tickets and fines, 22
   parking zones, 22
   shuttle service, 22
payments, 21
Prior Learning Assessment (PLA), 32
Post Office, 28
Public Safety, Office of, 23
Radar, 28
RAIN, 27, 34-35
Recreation and Wellness, Office of, 14-15
   Deriso Pool, 15
   Fitness Center, 14
   Game Room, 15
   Intramural Sports, 15
registration, 35
Residence Life, Office of, 9-10
   residence halls, 10, 27
Sirocco, 12
social media, 13
Sou’Wester, 12
Storm Spotters, 8
Student Accounts, Office of, 21
Student Engagement and Success, Division of, 4
student organizations, 11
Surge, 7, 16
refund, 21
Technology Support, 27-28
textbooks, 29
Thunder Camp, 8
transfer students, 36
tutoring, 29
UNIV 1000, 8
What’s in the Cup?, 13
wi-fi, 27
withdrawing, 35
Writing Center, 26-27