Welcome

On behalf of Florida Institute of Technology, welcome to Florida Tech’s Online University. We take great pride in having students join us from around the country and the world. Here at Florida Tech we are known for being “high tech with a human touch.” We hope to share that with you throughout the articles in this newsletter. It contains many items that are helpful including articles, dates, financial aid and contact information.

We look forward to being part of your journey to achieve your academic and personal goals.

If you have suggestions about additional information that should be included in the newsletter, please send this information to our student newsletter editor at apol@fit.edu.

Bridging the Distance: Research Guides

Your Source for Research Assistance

You’re a new student at Florida Tech. It’s past library hours and you’re working on a research paper. Where are the best sources for articles and other scholarly materials? Is there one place where you can find the best books/e-books, article databases, reference materials and government resources? Yes, there is!

Evans Library Research Guides

These research subject and course guides are especially created by our professional librarians to provide our students with the BEST in library resources and beyond ...

Here’s what you’ll find:

- **Subject Guide**
  - Detailed and organized information on fields such as Criminal Justice, Human Resources, Humanities & Communication and others
  - Specific resources pertaining to your subject listed under the following tabs: Reference Sources, Books & e-books, Articles & Databases, Journals, Internet Sites, Citing Sources, and Theses and Dissertations
  - Links to News, RSS Feeds, blogs and more

- **Course Guides**
  - Links to resources for COM 1101, COM 1102 and other courses
  - Each Subject and Course guide contains contact information for the librarian who maintains the guide.

To access the Research Guides, go to the Library website at lib.fit.edu, and then look for the Research Guides box.

Click on Research Guides. On the left side of the screen are links to the subject guides. To see both the subject and course guides, click on “Browse all guides.”

Remember! If you have any questions, I am here to help. I can be reached at (321) 674-8766 or at cavis@fit.edu. And, you can always use our Ask a Librarian service at http://lib.fit.edu/services/askalibrarian.php.
Bloomberg Businessweek Names Florida Tech Best College for Return on Investment in Florida

Florida Institute of Technology was recently lauded by Bloomberg Businessweek as “Best College for Return on Investment in Florida.” Runners up were University of Florida, University of Miami and Florida State University. Nationally, Florida Tech ranks No. 161 among 853 schools for annualized ROI.

The methodology starts with earnings over a 30-year period. In the return on investment (ROI) calculation, the “investment”—or total net cost—is the amount spent on college over the actual time it takes students to graduate, whether four, five or six years. The ROI figures are adjusted using each school’s graduation rate. The result is a return that reflects what incoming students can reasonably expect from their investment.

Nearly a third of the top 30 schools were engineering schools, including the top three institutions: No. 1 Harvey Mudd College, No. 2 California Institute of Technology and No. 3 Massachusetts Institute of Technology. On average, engineering schools had ROIs of $603,362, more than double the ROI for liberal arts schools ($245,943), more than triple that for business schools ($141,014), and more than 26 times that of arts and design schools ($22,328). According to the study, engineering enrollment at Florida Tech is 35 percent.

Additionally, PayScale.com ranks Florida Tech graduates’ mid-career median salaries in first place among Florida’s universities, and lists Florida Tech among the top 20 universities in the South—both public and private.

Financial Aid Corner

It’s Time to Complete the 2012–2013 FAFSA

It’s that time of year again. Please complete the 2012–13 FAFSA using the 2011 tax data retrieval option to fill in your 2011 tax information, if possible, at www.fafsa.ed.gov. All student financial aid applicants are encouraged to use the IRS data retrieval process when completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2012–2013 award year.

If any of the following tax filing scenarios apply to the student and/or parents, in the case of dependent students, the IRS data retrieval option will not be available for use.

- Tax filing status of “married filing separately.”
- Tax filing status of “head of household” (married tax filers only).
- Amended tax return filed.
- Foreign tax return filed.
- Tax return filed recently (paper tax filers).

After your application has been processed, you will receive an email instructing you to log in to PAWS to review your financial aid package. Please check your student email account frequently for important financial aid and academic updates. To access your Florida Tech student email account, visit: http://my.fit.edu.

Your login ID and password will be the same as your PAWS account: www.fit.edu/paws

Attention University Alliance Online Students.

Please follow these instructions: If you would like to use your financial aid to pay for your books, you must complete the appropriate authorization at http://authaid.fit.edu, even if you think you already have authorized financial aid to pay for your books. The Web application at http://authaid.fit.edu is the only method financial aid recognizes for these authorizations.

Financial Aid
Phone: (321) 674-8070
Email: finaid@fit.edu
### IMPORTANT DATES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMER TERM</th>
<th>SUMMER 2012</th>
<th>SUMMER 2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer 1 8-week class start</td>
<td>April 30, 2012</td>
<td>April 29, 2013</td>
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<td>Summer 1 8-week class end</td>
<td>June 24, 2012</td>
<td>June 23, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Break</td>
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<td>Summer 2 8-week class start</td>
<td>July 2, 2012</td>
<td>July 1, 2013</td>
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<td>Summer 2 8-week class end</td>
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<td>Fall 1 8-week class start</td>
<td>Aug. 27, 2012</td>
<td>Aug. 26, 2013</td>
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<td>Fall 1 8-week class end</td>
<td>Oct. 21, 2012</td>
<td>Oct. 30, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2 8-week class start</td>
<td>Oct. 22, 2012</td>
<td>Oct. 21, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2 8-week class end</td>
<td>Dec. 16, 2012</td>
<td>Dec. 15, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Break</td>
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<td>Spring 1 8-week class start</td>
<td>Jan. 7, 2013</td>
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<td>Spring 1 8-week class end</td>
<td>March 3, 2013</td>
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<td>Spring 2 8-week class start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2 8-week class end</td>
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</tbody>
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**VA Base**

Florida Institute of Technology

**POST ★ 9/11 GI BILL**

**Questions about your veterans’ education benefits?** Contact your VA representative, Andrea Morley, at (321) 674-8204 or amorley@fit.edu.

**ATTENTION! CHANGES TO POST-9/11 ACT TAKING EFFECT**

For information on the changes coming to the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act, go to www.gibill.va.gov/benefits/post_911_gibill/index.html. There are many changes taking effect, so please become aware.

**Did you know online students can receive a housing allowance?**

- **BAH or Housing Allowance**
  - The Housing allowance is now payable to students enrolled solely in distance learning. The housing allowance is $684 for 2012.
  - The amount of $684 is only for those who are considered at the 100% level. If they are at another percentage level, the VA will pay the appropriate percentage.
  - Example: If the student is at the 80% level, they would receive $547.20, 70% $478.80 and so on.
  - A student must be enrolled full-time in order to receive the housing allowance.
  - Unfortunately graduate students who are taking one three-credit class every eight weeks do not benefit from this change.

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**Policy regarding math and communication required courses**

The term after completing the diagnostic assessment as part of ASC 1006 Mastering e-learning (typically this would be the student’s second term), depending on the results of the diagnostic assessment, students must register for either a math course

- **MTH 0003 Basic Algebra**
  - (3 credit hours but credits may not be applied to any Florida Tech degree)
- **MTH 0111 Intermediate Algebra**
  - (3 credit hours but credits may not be applied to any Florida Tech degree)
- **MTH 1701 College Algebra**
  - (3 credit hours)
- **MTH 1703 Finite Mathematics**
  - (3 credit hours)

or a communication course

- **COM 0105 Basic Sentences to Paragraphs**
  - (3 credit hours but credits may not be applied to any Florida Tech degree)
- **COM 1000 Writing**
  - Elective credit only
- **COM 1001 Writing 2**
  - (3 credit hours)
- **COM 1102 Writing about Literature**
  - (3 credit hours) Required for all students

The following term, the student should register for whichever course (MTH or COM) that was not taken yet. Both sequences of courses should be finished by the end of the first year.

Students who have applicable transfer credits in the MTH and COM area should complete whatever requirements are missing by the end of the first year.

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**“Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence.”**

—Robert Frost