



Valdosta State University

2005-2006
Graduate Catalog

A Regional University
of the University System of Georgia

June 2005

The Graduate School
Valdosta State University
Valdosta, GA 31698
Telephone 229 333 5694

Academic Calendar 2005-2006

Fall 2005

Registration	Friday, August 12
First Class Day	Monday, August 15
Labor Day Holiday	Monday, September 5
Midterm	Wednesday, October 5
Fall Break Days	Monday-Tuesday, October 17-18
Thanksgiving Holidays	Wednesday-Friday, November 23-25
Last Class Day	Monday, December 5
Exam Preparation Day	Tuesday, December 6
Final Examinations	Wednesday-Friday, December 7-9
Graduation	Saturday, December 10

Spring 2006

Registration	Friday, January 6
First Class Day	Monday, January 9
MLK, Jr. Holiday	Monday, January 16
Midterm	Thursday, March 2
Spring Holidays	Monday-Friday, March 13-17
Last Class Day	Monday, May 1
Exam Preparation Day	Tuesday, May 2
Final Examinations	Wednesday-Friday, May 3-5
Graduation	Saturday, May 6

Summer 2006—Maymester

Registration	Monday, May 8
First Class Day	Tuesday, May 9
Memorial Day Holiday	Monday, May 29
Last Class Day	Tuesday, May 30
Final Examination	Wednesday, May 31

Summer 2006—Sessions II, III, and IV

Registration, Sessions II & III	Thursday-Friday, June 1-2
First Class Day, Sessions II & III	Monday, June 5
Last Class Day, Session III	Monday, June 26
Exam, Session III	Tuesday, June 27
Registration, Session IV	Wednesday, June 28
First Class Day, Session IV	Thursday, June 29
Holidays	Monday-Tuesday, July 3-4
Classes resume	Wednesday, July 5
Last Class Day, Sessions II & IV	Monday, July 24
Exam, Session IV	Tuesday, July 25
Final Exams, Session II	Wednesday-Friday, July 26-28
Graduation	Saturday, July 29

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Use the same one as last year.

Insert campus map: same as undergraduate



Mission Statement Valdosta State University

Since 1913, Valdosta State University has been a major provider of educational services for south Georgia. The beauty and consistency of its Spanish Mission style of architecture are indicative of its dedication to serving the region's heritage while developing programs and services to enhance its future.

Within the context of the University System's mission and vision, Valdosta State University possesses the core characteristics of a regional university. The core characteristics include:

- ◆ a commitment to excellence and responsiveness within a scope of influence defined by the needs of a specific region of the state, and by particularly outstanding programs or distinctive characteristics that have a magnet effect even beyond the region;
- ◆ a college-wide commitment to a technologically enhanced learning community that promotes student success, sustains instructional excellence, serves a diverse and well-prepared student body, offers academic assistance, and provides enrichment for all students;
- ◆ a range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary academic programming at the baccalaureate and master's levels as well as a range of professional programs at the baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate levels, including a limited number of professionally oriented doctoral level programs;
- ◆ a commitment to public service, continuing education, technical assistance, and economic development activities that address the needs, improve the quality of life, and raise the educational level within the university's scope of influence;
- ◆ a commitment to scholarly and creative work to enhance instructional effectiveness and to encourage faculty scholarly pursuits and a commitment to research in selected areas of institutional strength and focused on regional need.

As a regional university in south Georgia, Valdosta State cooperates with other University System institutions to insure that the region receives the services it needs. To expand its programmatic outreach, it develops and offers programs by distance learning and at off-campus locations throughout the region. It will continue to exercise a leadership role in meeting the needs of the region, particularly in providing access to professionally oriented doctoral programs, primarily in education, and to applied research.

VSU prides itself on offering nationally accredited programs in Art, Business, Music, Nursing, Sports Medicine/Athletic Training, Speech and Language Pathology, School Psychology, Theatre, Public Administration, Social Work, and Teacher Education, which have a magnet effect beyond the institution's primary setting. In its academic credit programming, VSU will place a priority on developing existing programs that aid the

educational, economic, cultural, and social advancement of its region and new programs in health-related professions and public administration. The programs will continue to be supported by strong preparatory courses and majors in the humanities, sciences, and social studies. VSU also remains committed to pre-professional programs preparing its undergraduate students for medical, legal, technical, and other professional study.

In its service to students, VSU concentrates on those from the region, including a large number of older, non-traditional students who live and work off-campus and many who transfer from other institutions. To serve its region and to attain maximum educational benefits, the university promotes an atmosphere that attracts a diversified student body, of which a representative proportion will be minority students.

VSU promotes a successful learning experience by maintaining services for minority, disabled, veteran, international, and other students with special needs. To aid in developing the whole student, it provides counseling, health services, academic advising, special assistance, honors programs, international programs, career planning, and many co-curricular activities.

VSU is committed to providing life-long learning and to the economic and cultural development of its region. It offers various non-credit programs and services through the South Georgia Institute, ArtSouth, the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra, the Music Society, and other organizations. Community relations are enhanced through alumni services and VSU-TV and Radio. Community service and technical assistance are offered by faculty and staff in a variety of forms.

Research, scholarship, and creative endeavors exist primarily to meet the regional needs of schools, businesses, and other organizations, and to promote faculty development and instructional improvement.

VSU aspires to improve continuously the quality and effectiveness of its programs, scholarship, and student services. Assessment of programs, the raising of standards, and the refinement of learning technologies will improve the university. To aid in obtaining this objective, institutional research and planning, external funding, and collaborative relationships with other institutions will be promoted. To a great extent, VSU will continue to develop as a regional university serving its south Georgia constituency by implementing programs that meet student needs and providing the maximum opportunity for faculty development.

HOW TO USE THIS CATALOG

The statements set forth in this catalog are for informational purposes only and should not be constructed as the basis of a contract between a student and the institution.

While the provisions of this catalog will ordinarily be applied as stated, Valdosta State University reserves the right to change any provision listed in this catalog, including but not limited to academic requirements for graduation, without actual notice to individual students. Every effort will be made to keep students advised of any such changes. Information on changes will be available in the Office of the Registrar. It is especially important that all students note that it is their individual and personal responsibility to keep themselves apprised of current graduation requirements for their particular degree program.

ACCREDITATION AND MEMBERSHIPS

Valdosta State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools [1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097; Telephone 404-679-4501] to award associate, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees. In addition, numerous academic programs have attained accreditation from national professional organizations.

Valdosta State University is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and of the National Association of Schools of Theatre. Also in the College of the Arts, programs in music are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music. The Public Relations emphasis within the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a major in Speech Communications has been awarded Certification in Education for Public Relations by the Public Relations Society of America.

The Bachelor of Science degree program in chemistry has been approved by the Committee on Professional Training of the American Chemical Society. Students who complete the approved program are eligible to have their degree certified by the American Chemical Society.

The Applied and Clinical Sociology Program is accredited by the Commission on Applied and Clinical Sociology.

Both the bachelor's degree (BSN) and the master's degree (MSN) programs in the College of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education [One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, Phone: 202-887-6791 Fax: -202-887-8476].

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education has accredited all teacher education programs. The Sports Medicine/Athletic Training program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, and the master's degree program in Communication Disorders is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The graduate program in School Psychology is accredited by the National Association of School Psychologists.

The Master of Public Administration program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration.

AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accredits the programs in the Harley Langdale, Jr. College of Business Administration.

The Master of Social Work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.