



Please note the potential change in the number of 300-400 courses required for graduation. We will discuss this in the Fall. It could mean a decrease in the number of double majors. So, we must carefully think about how we need to react.

There is more good news from a JSU alumnus listed below. Enjoy the long holiday week-end.
-- Lou

Department News

Changes in the Regulations at JSU—Freshman Orientation

Starting this fall, all entering freshmen will be required to take STU 101, which is a continuation of their Freshman Orientation. This class is mandatory for all new entering students who have fewer than 24 credits. The class has 0 credits, so its addition will not impact program hours to degree. There will be 45 sections of this class offered in Fall 2012.

Changes in the Regulations at JSU—300-400 level requirements for Graduation

The University Council has voted to change the Academic Regulation concerning the 300-400 level class requirement for degrees from 52 hours at 300-400 level to 36 hours at 300-400 level. Dr. Meehan has also approved this change, and it will be on the agenda for Board of Trustees' approval in July. If passed, it will apply retroactively to students graduating in Summer 2012.

Update on Alumnus Gregory Robinson

Gregory H. Robinson, Franklin Professor and Distinguished Research Professor of Chemistry at the University of Georgia, is one of a select group of international academics awarded a 2012 Humboldt Research Award from Germany's Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. The award is valued at 60,000 euro (approximately \$80,000).

Robinson has been invited to undertake prolonged periods of collaboration with colleagues in Germany, and he plans to work with chemists at the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg and the Technical University of Berlin.



The award, which is presented to up to 100 scientists worldwide annually, is granted in recognition of a researcher's entire achievements to date and is presented to academics whose fundamental discoveries, new theories or insights have had a significant impact on their own discipline and who are expected to continue producing cutting-edge achievements in the future.

Robinson earned his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Jacksonville State University and his doctorate from the University of Alabama. Before joining the UGA faculty in 1995, he was a professor of chemistry at Clemson University in South Carolina.

University News

May 4 Week Term Grades Due

Final exams for the 4 week term and 31 May (Thursday) and grades are due at 1:15 on 1 June (Friday).

CRC Handbook in Electronic Form

Paula Barnett-Ellis from the JSU Library just wanted to let us know that we now have access to the CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics in electronic form. This might be helpful in with various research projects.

Top Ten List

The Top 10 Memorial Day Travel Destinations from Southern Living

If you go to the web site, they will also recommend where to stay, where to eat, where to shop and what to do while you are there. [Although I have never been there, I could have predicted the #1 location. Can you?]

<http://www.southernliving.com/travel/top-10-memorial-day-travel-destinations-00400000007312/>

#10 Jacksonville, FL

Water. In Jacksonville, it's everywhere. Perched next to the vast Atlantic Ocean, this Florida city is split in two by the St. Johns River. With the following pointers, you'll have more than enough to keep you busy, and hopefully plenty of time to stick your toes in the ocean.

#9 Asheville, NC

Asheville makes a marvelous destination any time of year, but summers are especially wonderful. How this city in the mountains conveys the feeling of a haven for the senses and yet is so stimulating remains a paradox to which Asheville has exclusive title. That's why it's the perfect weekend getaway, for you can do everything or you can do nothing. My suggestion? How about a medley of pretty music, terrific food, great lodging, and much-needed "me" time. Enjoy the season in this city on the river, where glorious parks welcome you. Breathe the spring air, and have some fun.

#8 St. Louis, MO

Enjoy the season in this city on the river, where glorious parks welcome you. Breathe the spring air, and have some fun.

#7 Mississippi Gulf Coast

If you've never been; go. If you have gone before; go back. You'll feel the pull of that very special coastline that marks the end of Old Man River's ramble to the Gulf. It wraps around Louisiana and Mississippi like a ribbon of live oaks, shrimpboats, and colorful towns.

#6 Austin - Weekend Guide, Austin, TX

An invigorating energy wrangles each corner here. Austin's greatest appeal lies in its ability to balance its trendy scene with an inclusive attitude. The cowboy, the politician, the punk rocker, and the soccer mom all groove at the same music clubs and palm tortillas at the same Tex-Mex joints. No matter who you are, you'll fit in. Snugly.

#5 Charleston, SC

Spring gushes out all over Charleston's historic district. Wisteria vines cascade over brick walls on Meeting Street. Flowering trees electrify the skies along Church Street. Window boxes full of blossoms brighten every lane and alley.

#4 Gatlinburg, TN

Almost summertime! And the vacation bug is biting. You're ready for fun and sun--and plenty of both. You yearn for something different, and you want it right now. We have a terrific getaway suggestion--a place where the air is clear, the folks are friendly, and a weekend trip won't cost you your firstborn. Point your car toward East Tennessee, where Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge, Sevierville, and Dollywood await your arrival.

#3 Historic Triangle, VA

Raise your hand if you've ever said this: "Jamestown? My mom made me go there when I was a kid." Or this: "I read about that history stuff in school. Why would I want to visit now?"

#2 The Keys, FL

Key West. The name alone conjures up visions of sun-drenched days, turquoise water, Jimmy Buffett songs, Key lime pie, and laid-back living. It's true--you can find all of the above in this island paradise. Make the trip to the southernmost point of the United States for a whiff of the Caribbean, a dollop of decadence, and a taste of the good life.

#1 Hilton Head Island, SC

Beautiful ocean views, authentic Lowcountry cuisine and a relaxed, take-it-easy atmosphere make Hilton Head the perfect Memorial Day Destination. Beat the traffic on this gorgeous getaway by renting a bicycle and making use of the island's at least 100 miles of cycling trails. Or, better yet, rent a kayak and tour the South Carolina coast. No matter how you navigate Hilton Head, the island's laid back atmosphere is sure to provide a relaxing vacation.

Contact Details

If you have items of news or interest that you would like included in the Department of Physical and Earth Sciences newsletter, then contact **Tracy Casey** before noon on Thursdays at: tscasey@jsu.edu or phone (256) 782-5232.