

NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

WHAT IS THE CIVIC LITERACY INITIATIVE?

The 2017 Florida Legislature amended Section 1007.25, Florida Statutes to require students initially entering a Florida College System institution or state university in 2018-19 and thereafter to demonstrate competency in civic literacy. This means beginning in Fall 2018 students who are first enrolled in a Florida public institution in Fall 2018 or later must meet the new state civic literacy requirement regardless of residency or past post-secondary enrollment.

The goal of the civic literacy initiative is to ensure a level of understanding among all graduates in the principles and practices of American democracy through an understanding of the U.S. Constitutions and other founding documents, as well as landmark Supreme Court cases and legislation and their impact on law and society.

WHO IS IMPACTED BY THE CIVIC LITERACY REQUIREMENT?

- All FTIC (first time in college) undergraduate degree-seeking students who enrolled at USF in Fall 2018 or later are impacted.
- Students transferring to USF in Fall 2018 or later who have never been enrolled in a public Florida institution are impacted.
- Dual enrollment students who complete an AA are EXEMPT from meeting the civics literacy requirement.

HOW TO MEET THE CIVIC LITERACY REQUIREMENTS:

USF students can meet the state mandate in the following ways:

- Scoring 3 or higher on the AP exam for [POS 2041: American National Government](#),
- Scoring 4 or higher on the AP exam for [AMH 2020: American History II](#),
- Scoring 50 or higher on the CLEP American Government Exam, or
- Scoring 60% or higher on a test based on the US Citizenship and Immigration Services Naturalization Test with supplemental questions developed by the Florida Board of Governors.

Students who have not met one of the requirements above (and are not enrolled in [POS 2041: American National Government](#) or [AMH 2020: American History II](#)) are auto-enrolled into the Civics Literacy Prep and Test Canvas Course which provides:

- Preparation materials for the Civic Literacy Test and
- Access to the Civic Literacy Test.

ABOUT THE CIVIC LITERACY TEST:

Universal among all Florida state university systems (SUS), the test spans 100 questions compiled by the Florida Board of Governors. Students must score 60% or higher and are allowed unlimited attempts.

WHEN DOES THE CIVIC LITERACY REQUIREMENT NEED TO BE FULLFILLED?

The civic literacy requirement must be met in order to graduate. USF strongly encourages students to complete the civic literacy requirement within their first year to ensure timely graduation.

FURTHER QUESTIONS:

Please visit USF's Civic Literacy Initiative website at bit.ly/civics-lit.



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