



Gators!

I hope you are having a good semester. I realize though, the many pressures you are facing. I write today to applaud you for your continued commitment to your education during these tumultuous times and to affirm the support that SF State has provided and will continue to provide.

Faculty and staff are here to ensure your success, and we are working hard each day to improve your experience on campus. Among many recent student-centered innovations, you may have seen the library's new "living room" on Instagram. Perhaps you were able to swing by our Staff Council craft fair and donut give-away last week. We are also developing three new undergraduate certificates in AI, as well as a new baccalaureate degree in video game studies that will be ready for you in Fall 2026. And, we have every indication that you are succeeding. Our four-year graduation rate for freshman continues to improve every year and stands 32% higher than seven years ago. Our two-year graduation rate for transfer students reached an all-time high last year at 50%. Your success remains our greatest priority. And we are committed to doing even better!

I know, though, that news of our enrollment decline and subsequent changes in the class schedule or in programs may have you concerned. We are committed to adjusting to our new size with as little disturbance to your college experience as possible. To do this, faculty and Deans' Offices are hard at work revising curriculum and adjusting class sizes. We will continue to offer the classes you need to graduate. Fewer required units in a major does not mean diminished quality. It will allow you to take a variety of classes, maybe even study abroad, or develop additional competencies to make you more competitive in the job market. And, even more importantly, it might accelerate your time to degree—the very goal we all share for you.

SFSU offers seventy-one certificates in areas such as conflict resolution, real estate, music/recording industry, cyber security, and marketing in the digital economy. Add one or two credentials to your major to give you more skills as you graduate from college. Or, embrace your adventurous side and take classes outside of your department and take advantage of affordable study abroad experiences or internships. Yes, we are changing. But not in the ways that matter the most — we remain deeply committed to your success and to ensuring that you enjoy the upward mobility for which we are nationally ranked. We are in the top 5% of universities nationally!

If though, you do experience challenges accessing classes or need additional help, please reach out to us ueap@sfsu.edu, or feel free to reach out to me at sueyoshi@sfsu.edu.