

Fayetteville State University 2016 Points of Distinction

Academic Programs - Rankings and Recognitions

- The Center for Defense and Homeland Security has become a signature program with a national identity. The CDHS offers two certificates in Cyber Security and possesses a pipeline program in Cyber for elite high school students (the AGORA program). The CDHS recently became the only HBCU to sign a Mentor-Protégé agreement with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.
- In 2015, NurseJournal.org ranked FSU's Nursing Program No. 2 program in the Eastern and Southeastern Region based on their evaluation of 1,189 using five metrics. Out of a possible 130 points, FSU received 109.42. The No. 1 ranked program received 109.59 points. This ranking reflects the pass rates on the nursing licensure exam for the last four classes which have been 100%, 100%, 94%, and 100%. Of the 73 most recent graduates of the pre-licensure program, 71 passed the NCLEX on the first attempt.
- Accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the world's most prestigious accrediting body for business schools, FSU's School of Business and Economics (SBE) continues its climb in the national and international rankings as one of the best in the country and the world. In addition, Princeton Review ranks the FSU SBE among the top 300 best schools of business based on surveys of students, administrators, and school profiles (<http://www.princetonreview.com/business-school-rankings/best-business-schools>), and Social Science Research Network (SSRN) ranks its faculty #61 in the U.S. and #3 in North Carolina based on downloads of scholarly papers (<http://www.princetonreview.com/business-school-rankings/best-business-schools>).
- The FSU Online MBA Program is nationally rated #1 for affordability among AACSB accredited institutions (<http://www.bestmastersdegrees.com/top/affordable-aacsb-online-mba-programs>); in the top 50 for affordability, flexibility, and university prestige (<http://www.onlinecoursereport.com/50-best-online-mba-programs/>); and in the top 100 in the nation by U.S. News and World Report (<http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/mba>).
- With its Master of Social Work Program offered at Fort Sam Houston, FSU is the only university in the nation to offer a MSW program on a military base. FSU's Social Work Program was recognized as the best among HBCUs at the National Media Summit and HBCU Awards Ceremony of 2013.
- The FSU Online Psychology program was recognized in 2014-2015 among the Top 25 online programs by Affordable Colleges Online (ACO). In 2015-2016, Online Psychology was recognized as the Best Online College for Psychology, ranking it 1st among similar programs with a score of 99.77 and a student-teacher ratio of 17:1.
- The FSU Master of Science program in Criminal Justice is ranked 5th in the U.S. by Go Grad.org. The program is also ranked 29th in the Top Criminal Justice Graduate Programs for Veterans by US News and World Report. The Criminal Justice online degree completion program was ranked 16th by Affordable Colleges Foundation in 2015 among the Best Online Criminal Justice degree programs in the United States.

- The first fully online degree in the FSU School of Education established in 2015-16, the Birth-Kindergarten (non-Teaching) Degree, was ranked #5 in the Most Affordable Online Degree Category.
- Military Times has named Fayetteville State University (FSU) as the top school in North Carolina and among the best in the country for veterans. The organization comprising Army Times, Navy Times, Air Force Times and Marine Corps Times placed a new emphasis on academic rigor this year when conducting and scoring the fourth annual Best for Vets: Colleges survey, a highly respected 150-question analysis of a school's complete offerings for veterans.
- The Council on Social Work Education Commission on Accreditation granted the Bachelor of Social Work Program full accreditation.
- The Nursing programs received full reaffirmation of their accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.
- FSU has been designated as Center of Excellence for Geospatial Sciences by the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. FSU's Geospatial Intelligence Certificate Program is the first at an HBCU and the 10th in the nation to be accredited by the United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation.
- The B.A. Degree in Visual Arts received full accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Students and Graduates

- For the fifth consecutive year, the Cumberland County Principal of the Year is a graduate of the FSU School of Education's Educational Leadership Department. The 2016 Regional Principal of the Year also is a graduate of the FSU Master of School Administration Program. The 2015-16 NC Superintendent of the Year is a graduate from the doctorate in educational leadership program.
- The FSU Pre-Law Society, directed by Attorney Angel Gwynn-Powell provides academic support to students seeking to attend Law School. Of the 42 students who have participated in the Pre-Law Society since 2013, 41 have applied for and been admitted to law school.
- FSU sponsors many successful student organizations and clubs. For example, a team of 4 FSU students was selected as finalists, one of four nationwide student teams, to travel to Detroit, MI to present their grant/scholarship proposal to the selection committee for the Ford HBCU Community Challenge.
- Service-learning courses with community partners enhance students' career preparation by incorporating real-world applications of classroom learning into courses throughout the curriculum and strengthen our graduates' employability by developing skill sets essential to career success, such as critical thinking, teamwork, and interpersonal skills. In the last 6 years, service learning has grown significantly, increasing student participation by 86% (167 to 1,258), student community service hours by 90% (1,940 to 19,527), and service-learning course offerings by 83% (15-88). Some FSU students' service-learning experiences have led to them pursuing jobs and professions, such as being mediators for dispute resolution or being trained to certify green businesses as examples.

- Fayetteville State University's 2012 three-year Cohort Default Rate is 10.6%, which is below the national average. The university is committed and fully understands the importance of default prevention and as a result, the Office of Financial Aid has implemented a successful and robust Financial Literacy Program: Money Matters at FSU.

Faculty

- Carole Boston Weatherford, a professor of English, has been named one of the Top 25 Professors at Affordable Historically Black Colleges by Affordable Colleges Online. To be selected, the schools at which the professors teach had to be classified as "Historically Black," be fully accredited, and also have annual tuition under \$12,000. The professors were selected based on recent achievements in their fields, the classroom, and the community. Weatherford, a New York Times Best Selling Author, was also the recipient of the North Carolina Literature Award. Weatherford's book, ***Gordon Parks: How the Photographer Captured Black and White America***, recently won the NAACP Image Award for children's literature.
- FSU has received a patent for a device that transforms body heat into electricity. The device was developed by Dr. Daryush Ila, associate vice chancellor for research and technology and a physics professor.
- Dr. Shirley Chao and students created a pesticide that kills insects but causes no harm to animals or humans. FSU has filed a patent application for the pesticide.
- Dr. Carla Padilla invented ViVex-Cel Advanced Wound Recovery Device, a topical device that expedites wound treatment and recovery. FSU has filed a patent application for this invention.
- The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) ranks Dr. Robert McGee, Associate Professor of Accounting, #1 in the world for citations and #2 in the world for downloads of his publications.

Facilities

- Renovations were made to the Rudolph Jones Student Center. More than 24,000 square feet were added to the already 37,000 square foot facility. The center has a 100-seat movie theater, larger lounge areas, a ballroom that seats 500, and multiple office spaces for staff and students.
- The 62,000-square-foot LEED Silver Science and Technology Building is open and ready to produce generations of STEM scholars. The building, now the centerpiece of this campus, is complete with laboratories for chemistry, forensics, mathematics, physics and computer science. Connecting the building's two wings is the "Discovery Forum," the building's common-use area that includes community space, seminar rooms and a coffee shop that is already receiving rave reviews from the students, faculty, staff, and community.