Credit requirements change for students

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As of summer 2012, students on federal financial aid will no longer be able to use the summer semester to make up credit hour deficiency.

In the past, if students were receiving federal financial aid, they had to take credits toward their degree while making academic progress.

The way the University and the federal government define academic progress is that students have to complete a percentage of their credits each year, maintain academic standing so that they are eligible and complete their degree within a certain amount of time.

The component that has changed is completing the certain percentage of credits each year.

At the University, students have to pass 67 percent of every course attempted in the fall and spring.

Before, if this requirement was not met, students could get financial aid and make it up in the summer. If students did not want to take classes to make up during the summer, they had another alternative.

“If you could not go to summer school, you could appeal and say something happened that wasn’t your fault. Perhaps you were in a car accident, you were ill, a family member was ill and you had to be limited,” said Ashley Ferbeyer, a senior journalism student.

A lack of opportunity in the region has encouraged many young professionals to look to other states for career caliber jobs.

“I’m going far, far away. I don’t want to be Us. I’m going far, far away. I don’t want to be Us. I’m going far, far away. I don’t want to be Us.” said, “I love Miami and would love to stay for my physical therapy career, but I feel like leaving Miami would provide a better education and opportunity. There’s not a large enough market here, but out of state, yes.”

Ivette Duarte, associate director of career services said her office provides help for students looking for a job.

“The Geopolitical Summit brings to South Florida some of the leading thinkers in the U.S. and beyond to discuss the urgent issues that face our nation and the world,” said University President Mark Rosenberg in an email about the event.

A three-time Pulitzer Prize winner, Friedman has worked at The New York Times since 1981, where he covered such events as the First Palestinian Intifada and the 1982 Lebanon War.

He is also the author of best-selling books “The World is Flat” and “Hot, Flat, and Crowded.”

“In his latest book, [Friedman] analyzes the critical challenges the U.S. currently faces and spells out what needs to be done to sustain the American dream and preserve American interests in the world,” said Rosenberg in the email.

The teach-in, scheduled for 3 p.m., will include discussions by professors Shlomi Dinar, Jose Gabi- londo, Allán Gummerson, Cem Karayalac, Paul Kowert and Judith Stiehm.

The sisters of Delta Phi Epillon gathered around Jonathan Gomez, the new Campus Man for 2012, signaling their sorority’s mascot, the unicorn. All funds raised from the Jan. 6 event will be donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Post-grads seeking jobs outside of South Florida

JILL BOUCHER
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The beaches, nightlife and gorgeous people attract outsiders to come to South Florida, but not staying.

“The component that has changed is completing the certain percentage of credits each year.

At the University, students have to pass 67 percent of every course attempted in the fall and spring.

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“If you could not go to summer school, you could appeal and say something happened that wasn’t your fault. Perhaps you were in a car accident, you were ill, a family member was ill and you had to be limited,” said Ashley Ferbeyer, a senior journalism student.

South Florida is ranked fifth for metro areas that are losing people in the 25 to 34 age demographic, according to the Brookings Institute.

For many, it’s the lack of opportunity in South Florida that has them leaving to find a job in another city.

These other cities include Seattle, Denver, Houston, Dallas and Austin.

When asked about the job market in South Florida for her field, Lauren Samani, a senior journalism student, said, “I love Miami and would love to stay for my physical therapy career, but I feel like leaving Miami would provide a better education and opportunity. There’s not a large enough market here, but out of state, yes.”

Ivette Duarte, associate director of career services said her office provides help for students looking for a job.

Through the NACElink online database, students of FIU enrolled with Career Services can search through local, national and international job opportunities.

Still, South Florida is losing many of its brightest prospects.

They’re finding success in other states and opting not to return to Miami.

This trend is known as “brain drain,” and means that the well-educated young professionals in local college systems are taking their talents elsewhere.

“We encourage students to consider relocation in particular cities, not just anywhere. Certain industries are headquartered outside of South Florida,” said Duarte.

She mentioned Silicon Valley as a hot spot for computer science majors.

In Los Angeles.

Although this major averages some of the highest pay nationally, there is a minimal market for it in South Florida.

The Miami Herald reports that Miami rates among the top for cities with the smallest percentage of tech jobs.

MSNBC ranks Austin, Texas, Boston and Washington D.C. as the three best jobs markets in the United States.

The sisters of Delta Phi Epillon gathered around Jonathan Gomez, the new Campus Man for 2012, signaling their sorority’s mascot, the unicorn. All funds raised from the Jan. 6 event will be donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.
Ecuadorian columnists ask US for asylum

A former Ecuadorian newspaper columnist who faces prison and millions of dollars in fines for criticism of President Rafael Correa is asking for asylum in the U.S.

Emilio Palacio claims he is the victim of persecution aimed at stifling free expression in Ecuador. Palacio was chief opinion writer for the opposition El Universo newspaper when he was sued for libel by Correa’s president. He and the paper’s three owners and the newspaper itself were fined $42 million because of a February 2011 column titled “No To Lies.” The four men were also sentenced to three years each in prison.

A hearing is set Wednesday in Miami on his U.S. asylum request. A decision isn’t likely for weeks or months.

Correa has claimed the verdict was a victory for responsible journalism.

Hackers post W.Va. police officers’ personal info

Hackers affiliated with the Anonymous hacking group obtained more than 150 police officers’ personal information from an old website for the West Virginia Chiefs of Police Association and posted it online.

William Roper, the association’s president, told the Charleston Gazette the FBI is investigating. Roper is also the police chief of Ranson, W.Va.

Roper said a group called Cabincr3w hacked the website Monday and obtained the home addresses, home phone numbers and cellphone numbers of current and retired police chiefs.

—Compiled by Lauren Rovira


care for them,” said Francisco Valines, director of financial aid at the University. “You can always appeal and say ‘these are the circumstances; this is why I couldn’t do it.’ Based on that, we would be able to say ‘we understand you couldn’t do it,’ in which case you would be given another opportunity and aid for the coming semester.”

Starting summer 2012, students who do not meet the 67 percent will have two choices: they can make it up by paying out of their own pocket or appeal if they had circumstances outside their control that explain why they were unable to complete the 67 percent.

“We have about 1,500 to 1,700 students who don’t make progress because they don’t pass the 67 percent. About half of them either appeal or make it up in the summer and get their aid in the fall,” said Valines.

According to Valines, valid reasons are recognized.

“It’s going to affect me; I live in Homestead and I use financial aid to get to campus and for food,” said Rogelio Ludenas, a junior majoring in biology. “Students will have to pay out of their own pockets and this change will cause students to not take summer classes.”

Claudia Sifontes, freshman psychology major, who found the changes online, said, “I am still going to do summer using loans; I will do whatever it takes. I know for some students it will be harder.”

One of the new things students are asked to do is submit their plan for success, along with an academic plan and their appeal to explaining what happened.

“Economics and the social sciences. He served as the presid- ent of the Cuban Government in Cuba and the United States. He also worked as the chief economist of the National Association of Manufacturers in Havana, and as vice minister of Finance and Chief Economist of the Cuban government.

When he left Cuba in the 1960s, Jorge assumed teaching positions at a number of institutions including St. Thomas University, where he also worked as provost. Jorge’s expertise in Cuban economics, and presence as a voice for the Cuban exile community helped to bolster the University’s understanding of Latin American economies.

He taught in four different departments—history, economics, political science, international relations and sociology—specializing in Latin American studies.

During his time teaching at the University, Jorge wrote or edited 20 books, and published a number of articles, essays and monographs in areas including the external debt and the economic development of Latin America, foreign investment and international trade, and modernization and social change.

Jorge is survived by nine of his ten children. Written and compiled by Lauren Rovira.

Miami ranked third city with the worst job market

Miami was ranked third in cities with the worst job market, with Orlando and Jacksonville ranked tenth and ninth, respectively.

“I’m staying, Florida is home. I would prefer to pursue a career where I can see friends and family on a regular basis instead of just on holidays. Not to mention that by building your career where you live, you strengthen your hometown. The city isn’t doing anything,” said Bogotia Saiz, a second year graduate student studying Social Work when asked about her plans for the future.

Several of the top cities in the city, internships are a key for any post-graduate.

“Internships help you. Either two percent of internships lead to a job offer,” said Duarte.

Some students around FIU agree it would be easy for someone to come here and find a job. There’s a lot of different markets in the area. I just want to move elsewhere,” said Nicole Perez, a senior journalism student.

Recently, The Miami Herald, published an article regarding the subject: “Brain drain in Miami? More like ‘brain gain.’”

Some students around FIU agree it would be easy for someone to come here and find a job. There’s a lot of different markets in the area. I just want to move elsewhere,” said Nicole Perez, a senior journalism student.

Recently, The Miami Herald, published an article regarding the subject: “Brain drain in Miami? More like ‘brain gain.’”

“Miami is not permanent, and your job or family may not last. We have to think of ways to attract young professionals and students,” said Perez.

“A lot of the factors mentioned are Miami’s accessibility to Latin American markets, the low cost of living and the opportunity for development within the region.”

Major corporations can look to Miami as a new market, one where they have leverage.

According to Duarte, jobs with great potential in South Florida after graduation include those within the tourism, travel management and accounting fields.

“Understanding that relocation is not permanent, and your job or family may not last. We have to think of ways to attract young professionals and students,” said Perez.

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Golden Opportunity

Season Outlook
Check out the 2012 softball preview by Anthony Guivas as the Panthers are projected to finish fourth in the conference. They’ll get set to host the COMBAT Classic on Feb. 10-12.

Projected lineup and rotation
Find out who will take the field for the Panthers on opening night as FIU will face Michigan State at home on Feb. 10. Find out who will toe the rubber this weekend.

New Coach
Jake Schumann is the new skipper for FIU. Find out his previous track record at other schools and why he is not worried about replacing Beth Torina this season.
OPENING NIGHT

Panthers set to kick off Combat Classic versus Spartans

ANTHONY GUivas
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With the season a few hours away, the Panthers prepare to take it on and prove they are better than the fourth place finish of last season. As high as the Panthers confidence is heading into the 2012 season, early season predictions are stating that FIU will eventually find itself in the standings last season – Florida Atlantic and South Alabama.

Against the Owls, FIU won the season series 2-1 and against South Alabama the Panthers dropped two of their three games on the year. The Panthers may have a steep competition in the Sun Belt, but they do have the pitching and hitting to keep up with the competition.

Standing at an imposing 6-feet, Gniadek will look to finish her collegiate career with a bang. Sophomore Dawson went 9-9 along with a 2.87 ERA in 2011. Standing only at 5-3, Dawson throws fire when on the mound, which resulted in her leading the team with 133 strikeouts on 129.1 innings pitched. Opponents batted a meager .192 against her.

Senior year, posted a 14-13 record to go with a 2.65 ERA last season. And when the games mattered most, she pitched. Opponents batted a meager .259 against her.

Last but not least is McClain. McClain, the star of the team, is mostly known for her offense, but she also dominated the mound in last season. McClain posted an impressive 8-5 record with a 2.56 ERA. And like Gniadek, McClain stepped up her game in conference play as she posted a 1.91 ERA.

“I am very confident that they will do their job. Hopefully they will stay healthy…we are going to mix and match everybody to work on the best possible matchup,” Schumann said.

As the Panthers pitching staff look to fill the void left by the departure of several key pitchers, they will need to post runs on the board to secure wins as well. Offensively, FIU will look upon McClain, Shelby Graves and Kayla Burri. McClain dominated in 2011 posting up a .401 average, 12 home runs and 44 runs batted in. Graves, a freshman from California, will be positioned at first base – a position she has played sporadically in high school.

Kayla Burri, a junior, will play shortstop in 2012. She posted a .343 average to go with five home runs and 29 runs batted in last season. But one question mark that had loomed around camp for a while was who was going to play Catcher and left field, and that question has been answered. On opening night, Rachel Slowik will be in left field and Megan Horne will be behind the plate.

The team will take on Michigan State on Feb. 10, then a double-header against Louisville and UMass on Feb. 11, followed by another double-header against Illinois and UAB on Feb. 12 to round off the weekend.

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SCHUMANN has successful track record as skipper

ANTHONY GUivas
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Softball head coach Jake Schumann has proven to be a great coach in the making, long before he decided to take his coaching talents to FIU.

Schumann started his collegiate coaching career as an assistant coach at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M. During his tenure at Northeastern Oklahoma, Schumann assisted in all aspects of the program, including recruiting, budgeting, travel, on-field instruction, classroom monitoring and field maintenance.

Schumann then spent four seasons in the state of Oklahoma culminating a record of 101-16. During his time there, Schumann placed his focus solely on putting the ball on play and forcing the defense to make a play.

“My style of play is that I like to run, to steal, and to hit and run, all the short fast things that put all of the pressure on the defense,” Schumann said.

After Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, Schumann proved that his success was no fluke as he continued to win, climbing up the ranks as a coach.

In 2002 Schumann joined Carl Albert State College, a team that before his arrival compiled a record of 19-35. Schumann then helped Carl Albert State make an astonishing turn-around as the club had a record of 31-23 in his first year as a head coach. In his second at the helm, Schumann went 31-17.

After two successful years at Carl Albert State, Schumann, which produced five all-region infielders, began to coach at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for four seasons, leaving with a school record of 120 victories.

And like Schumann has done in the past, he continued to improve his teams win total year after year. In 2010, Schumann led the Islanders compile a record of 35-22 leading to a Southland Conference regular season title.

That momentum then led to a break-through in the 2011 season, which saw the Islanders notch 41 wins and a Southland Conference regular season championship. As the team advanced to the finals of the Southland Conference Tournament, it solidified the fact of Schumann deserving the Southland Coach of the year award.

Now Schumann will fill in the shoes of the successful coach Beth Torina who finished with a record of 129-111 in her four-year tenure as a Panther.

“You’re not trying to fill another person’s shoes, you’re going to be who you are, and when you look in the mirror you’re going to do the best you possibly can,” Schumann said.

For many coaches, that pressure may be difficult to handle, but Schumann isn’t focused with the past, he is looking ahead.

“If I think in anything in life you’re going to have to do your best and it’s what you can do. It’s your footprint and not anybody else’s,” Schumann said.

Coach Schumann is also looking towards surpassing early season predictions that predict FIU finishing fourth in the Sun Belt.

SCHUMANN has successful track record as skipper
“Extremely loud” proves to be incredibly frustrating

The narrative at the film’s core is truly fascinating, but almost everything else about Dal dys’ cinematic interpretation is an unfortunate mess. The film’s biggest flaw is probably its main character, Schell, who has been written into an insufferable child. One cannot place the blame on Horn because he works well with the poor material he is given and does a decent job at portraying a child suffering from social anxiety.

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Students bring experience and culture to play

“Live music far outweighs the creative experience for the audience. At times, the musicians are in the audience, and at other times, they are onstage. Our audience is also onstage as part of the ruler Sharyar’s court, lying back on cushions, so having the musicians in such close contact will be exciting for the audience,” said Church, an associate professor at the Department of Theatre.

While the play does contain musical cues in the original script, Church is using the original music of three students and the voice of another to capture the Arabian culture in its entire splendor. “Arabian literature and culture, in general, is very much tied in with music; it is a big part of the cultural life of Arabians. Audiences today, because they are so connected to the cinematic and video worlds, really enjoy theater that develops music as part of the dramatic fabric,” said Church.

Jessica Halim Tohme, a freshman nursing major, who will sing in Arabic, was introduced to the works of the Celine Dion and Frank Sinatra. “In the case of plays, though, there is already a story being told, and as a composer, you need to try to fit the music to the story of the play instead of the other way around.” Joey Basna, a senior religious studies major, who will be playing the Darbuka drum, did not get into music until he was 18, when he began to drum with other people.

For him, the turning point was five years ago when he met a Turkish student, Osman, who introduced him to other instruments such as the drums, guitars, bass, keyboards, as well as vocals. “The difficult part to me is connecting with the other musicians; it is really hard if everyone involved does not see eye to eye. To me, working with musicians that are good listeners make things easier, because it allows chemistry to develop and ideas to flow,” Basna said.

Basna, who has known Church for a couple of years and worked with him on a production, added, “I have composed original music before, but never for a play. The process is harder in some regards but definitely easier in others. It is harder in that there are more non-musical variables to take into account when composing for a play,” said Cao. “In the case of plays, though, there is already a story being told, and as a composer, you need to try to fit the music to the story of the play instead of the other way around.”

Joey Basna, a senior religious studies major, who will be playing the Darbuka drum, did not get into music until he was 18, when he began to drum with other people.

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Supporting cast the silver lining in contrived film

LOUD, PAGE 5

Schell’s many interesting quirks within the novel just do not fit well into the approach that Eric Roth took with the screenplay. He and Daldry illustrate the boy’s various ticks and issues through annoying scenes where one almost wants to yell at him until he shuts up. A series of frustrating voice-overs do not help to improve this grating character, either, as they just never seem to stop.

It is a damn shame that this is what we are given, but on the other hand, the movie would have to be much longer to form the character, either, as they just

With its uneven exploitative mentality that comes along right character.

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This is what we are given,
Student’s religious intolerance fueled by selfishness, scorn

Alex Sorondo
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Abiding by an increasingly fervent trend with secular youth of reflexively attacking religious gestures, Jessica Ahlquist, a high school student in Rhode Island (the country’s most Catholic state, according to The New York Times), lobbied for the removal of a banner listing when we lose as well as when we win. Teach us the value of ourselves as well as others… to be good sports and smile and morally as well as physically… to be honest with the tracts of popular contrarians and their vocab yules, and a young person – myself included – begins to have yet to realize the benefits of moderation, respect, from the toils and demands of adult responsibilities, mainstream youth, particularly with kids who, sheltered urges to the school, she pursued the prayer’s removal. Conservative ideologies will always warn the school before (suggests, in fact, that she did not even noticed the banner but had it pointed out by a friend); still, with greater selfishness and intolerance than she attributes to the school, she pursued the prayer’s removal.

Ahlquist, a high school student in Rhode Island (the country’s most Catholic state, according to The New York Times), told The New York Times that just looking at the banner, which she said was displayed all in the school’s auditorium, made her feel ostracized. She claimed to have had no trouble with religion in school before (suggests, in fact, that she did not even notice the banner but had it pointed out by a friend); still, with greater selfishness and intolerance than she attributes to the school, she pursued the prayer’s removal.

Conservative ideologies will always warn the school before (suggests, in fact, that she did not even notice the banner but had it pointed out by a friend); still, with greater selfishness and intolerance than she attributes to the school, she pursued the prayer’s removal. Conservative ideologies will always warn the school before (suggests, in fact, that she did not even notice the banner but had it pointed out by a friend); still, with greater selfishness and intolerance than she attributes to the school, she pursued the prayer’s removal.

You will find, however, that the well-spoken young contrarian will rarely wag their finger so aggressively at any other conservative orthodoxies, religious or not. In Jeffrey Eugenides’ latest novel, The Marriage Plot, he writes, “The worst part about religion is religious people.” There are misanthropic, bigoted, uninformed fanatics like those who stand outside of the Graham Center and berate us for our “drugs and homosexuals,” but they don’t accurately reflect their religion’s modern sentiments. Unfortunately, such people generate a widespread disdain for what they claim to represent. If, in Ahlquist’s situation, there was any display of intolerance, it was her own. I say this on the basis of The New York Times’ Nov. 26 story, in which no mention is made of Ahlquist being told to pray or adhere to the majority’s religious ideals. She was only asked to sit from time to time in a room where, on a tall stretch of wall, someone had written some pretty harmless words.

There are no bad words, the late comedian and atheist George Carlin argued; only bad intentions. The words on this banner were of good intent and little consequence, but because it began with an address to God and closed with “Amen,” she took offense.

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Programming expands to include triathlon

The Recreation Center at the Biscayne Bay Campus has a new triathlon program for swimmers, bikers and runners. Training for the triathlon with certified trainer Diane Calloway takes place every Saturday at 9:30 a.m. this semester, and it will take place on Feb. 18.

Interested students can register online at www.active.com or at the Fitness Center located in Wolfe University Center 160.

“Tourté will focus on his latest publication, ‘Who’s Afraid of Post Blackness?’”

Tourté will also bring his book tour to the University on Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Wolfe University Center 100. The discussion will focus on his latest publication, “Who’s Afraid of Post Blackness?”


Tourté started his journalism career as an intern for Rolling Stone magazine, after dropping out of Emory University during his junior year in 1992. A few months after being fired from his internship, Rolling Stone asked him to return and write record reviews mainly on hip-hop music.

Today he continues as a contributing editor for Rolling Stone, and just last year in April he wrote the magazine’s cover story on Adele.

According to The New York Times Sunday Book Review, in his latest book publication, “Tourté praises the effortless ‘mode-switching’ of celebrities and leaders like Oprah Winfrey and Barack Obama. Blackness is an important part of them but does not necessarily dominate their personas.”

The guest speaker event is sponsored by the African American Diaspora Studies program. The discussion comes to campus in time for the University’s celebration of Black History Month. AADS program offers students a chance to learn about racial conflicts and issues around African American identity.

GUEST SPEAKER

Tourté

- Time: 7:30 p.m.
- Where: Wolfe University Center 100

Tourté has many other programs to offer such as kayaking, paddle boarding, Zumba, yoga, pilates and the Get Fit Bootcamp.

Every month the Rec Center offers kayaking events for beginners and pros. The event’s highlight, which takes place on Feb. 17 and Feb. 25, is a trip through the mangrove trails of Oleta State Park.

Zumba known for its hypnotic latin rhythms is also another popular program offered. “It’s awesome. It’s a really good class,” said Stephanie Shimon, sophomore and public relations major. “I would definitely recommend it to other students.”

With Zumba group exercises available twice a week, Tuesdays and Fridays, students are able to dance their stress away. Another favored program in Yoga. Yoga is known for its integration of the body, mind, and soul could help students deal with the demanding workload of the semester.

“The instructor [Bonnie Quiceno] is really good. Yoga helps me get through the week,” said Adam Rospoli, a PhD student and biology major.

The gym programs are very beneficial to students because they’re giving students a chance to expand their knowledge on different physical types of activities,” said Danny Sandler, a senior and Spanish major.

The Rec Center hours are Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Break a sweat

Dimitri Defrant, freshman and biology major helps Richard Currie, freshman and undecided major, lift weights at the gym. The gym is open all week to students and staff. The Recreation Center has now added new biking, kayaking and dance programs for students to enjoy, including a triathlon.

SMOKING GUN

Peter Ferencik, junior and English major takes a break by taking a puff from his cigarette. Smoking and the use of any tobacco products on all areas of the University’s campus has been prohibited since Jan. 1, 2011.

SMOKE, TREE, FIRE

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American novelist, essayist, music journalist, and National Broadcasting Channel correspondent Tourté will be speaking at Biscayne Bay Campus on Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Wolfe University Center 100.


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Today he continues as a contributing editor for Rolling Stone, and just last year in April he wrote the magazine’s cover story on Adele.

According to The New York Times Sunday Book Review, in his latest book publication, “Tourté praises the effortless ‘mode-switching’ of celebrities and leaders like Oprah Winfrey and Barack Obama. Blackness is an important part of them but does not necessarily dominate their personas.”

The guest speaker event is sponsored by the African American Diaspora Studies program. The discussion comes to campus in time for the University’s celebration of Black History Month. AADS program offers students a chance to learn about racial conflicts and issues around African American identity.