

# UGA-Griffin campus provides numerous degree programs

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The Griffin campus of the University of Georgia (UGA) has seen a tremendous growth in academic programs offered to students over the past five years. Now it's up to potential students to take the campus up on these programs and understand what they involve.

In 2005, when the local UGA campus made such programs available for the first time, only two degree programs — environmental resource science and agribusiness — were available to students. Today, they can choose from eight bachelor degree and two graduate programs.

"I'm really proud of the strides we've made over the last years," said Halley Granitz, admissions counsel-

or at UGA-Griffin, adding that the most popular degree programs are biological science and microbiology — in part because they help students wanting to become medical doctors, dentists or veterinarians meet their prerequisites.

And yet, with approximately 200 students attending the local campus on Experiment Street, it is far from being at capacity.

"I would love to see 1,000 students on this campus," said Granitz. "As is, we could accommodate 1,200 students. That is, without adding any more facilities."

However, Granitz is not surprised the UGA-Griffin campus has not yet reached these numbers.

As the UGA-Griffin campus offers only junior and senior level classes, a common misconception of students

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interested in taking their studies here is that they merely need to earn an associate degree from a local college, such as Gordon College in Barnesville, and then transfer to Griffin.

That would be overlooking the fact that students must meet specific course requirements to attend UGA-Griffin.

"Gordon offers all the classes (to meet UGA-Griffin's entry requirements), but they may not be part of Gordon's AA (associate of arts) degree," Granitz said. "I believe that one of the biggest hurdles for us to overcome is educating people about the degree completion program."

Another misconception by some is that a degree earned

at the local campus counts less than a degree earned at UGA's main campus in Athens. On the contrary, all UGA students' degrees are equivalent, regardless of location, Granitz said.

All UGA students graduate on the same day during the same ceremony and pay the same tuition. The only difference is that student fees are less expensive in Griffin than they are in Athens, she added.

The best way to make sure that students who want to come to UGA's Griffin campus can indeed begin their studies here is to educate themselves on entry requirements for the various degree programs, Granitz said.