



# HEADLIGHT ON TRAFFIC



## Danger on the Streets

### Walking in Traffic:

- **Walk on the sidewalk**

Stay on the sidewalk and crosswalks. Avoid walking in traffic where there are no sidewalks or crosswalks. If you have to walk on a road that does not have sidewalks, walk facing traffic.

- **Cross at intersections**

Most pedestrians are hit by cars when they cross the road at places other than intersections.

- **Look left, right, and left for traffic**

Stop at the curb and look left, right, and left again for traffic. Stopping at the curb signals drivers that you intend to cross. Cross in marked crosswalks and obey the signal.

- **See and Be Seen**

Drivers need to see you to avoid you. Stay out of the driver's blind spot. Make eye contact with drivers when crossing busy streets. Wear bright colors or reflective clothing if you are walking near traffic at night.

Please do not let these instructions to vehicle drivers give you a false sense of security. There are many drivers traversing campus every day for the first time and they may not be aware of the requirement to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Some drivers may not see you due to congested traffic, darkness, or sun glare.

Before entering a crosswalk, stop at the curb, look both ways, and establish eye contact with any drivers ensuring that they see you and yield

When using crosswalks at intersections you must obey the electronic walk and don't walk indicators

## Crosswalk Etiquette

Thousands of students, faculty and staff on campus and around town use crosswalks during their daily travels. Crosswalks are provided for the convenience and safety of both pedestrians and motorists. But do you know how to correctly and safely use them?

- Vehicles must stop for pedestrians in designated crosswalks.
- Pedestrians should behave predictably.
- Pause before entering a crosswalk and look both ways to indicate your intentions to cross the street.
- Cross the street in a purposeful manner.
- Watch to make sure any traffic still moving observes you and respects your right-of-way.
- Crosswalks are very helpful, but we all must remember to stop, look, and use common sense.



## SPRING 2019

Crosswalk Guidelines	1
Street Safety	2
Is it Legal?	3
Bicyclists Beware	4

# Street Safety Suggestions...

Here are some safety tips to make you safer as you walk on the pathways and sidewalks of the University of Florida:

- Remain alert and conscious of your surroundings.
- Always look both ways when crossing the street, even if you are using a designated crosswalk!
- Remember to look in the bike lane! Even though many roads through campus are closed during the day, many students, faculty, and staff use the bike lanes and **they have the right of way** unless you are in a crosswalk!
- Obey all “walk/don’t walk” signals.

## Things to remember as a driver:

- You can encounter pedestrians anytime and anywhere--even in places where they are not supposed to be found.
- Pedestrians can be very hard to see--especially in bad weather or at night. You must keep a lookout and slow down if you can’t see clearly.
- Stop for pedestrians who are in a crosswalk. When you stop for a pedestrian in a crosswalk, stop far away enough so that drivers in the other lanes can also see the pedestrian in time to stop.
- Cars stopped in the street may be stopped to allow a pedestrian to cross. Do not pass if you have any doubt!
- Don’t assume that pedestrians see you or that they will act predictably. They may be physically or mentally impaired--or drunk!
- When you are turning, you often will have to wait for a “gap” in traffic. Beware that while you are watching for that gap, pedestrians may have moved into your intended path. Don’t run someone down.

## If You Are a Motorist

- Do not drink and drive. Alcohol slows your reaction time, impairs your judgment, and affects your alertness and coordination.
- When you drive, particularly at night around populated areas, watch for sudden, unexpected movements by pedestrians. Scan the road widely and often, and prepare for the unexpected. Slow down!

## If You Are a Pedestrian

- Remember that alcohol affects your balance, impairs your judgment, and reduces your alertness and coordination. It can also affect your vision.
- Limit how much alcohol you consume, especially if you plan to walk. Do not fool yourself about your ability to walk in traffic safely.
- Be more visible to traffic by carrying a flashlight or wearing reflective clothing at night. During the day, wearing fluorescent colors is best. Wearing white, especially at night, is not enough.
- If you know someone who has been drinking and is planning to walk, offer to call them a cab or escort them, even if it is only for a short distance.



# MOTORCYCLES AND SCOOTERS

Motorcycles and scooters are both vehicles that are powered by a motor.

- Drivers of these vehicles must obey the same laws on the road as other vehicles.
- Drivers of these vehicles must yield to all pedestrians in crosswalks.
- These vehicles may NOT be driven on the sidewalk or in bike lanes.
- They may NOT park on the sidewalk or bicycle racks.
- A permit to park a scooter or motorcycle in specially designated campus motorcycle spaces must be obtained from UF Transportation and Parking Services.



## ***REQUIREMENTS FOR MOTORCYCLES & SCOOTERS 50CC & UNDER***

- No motorcycle endorsement is necessary, only a valid driver's license.
- No helmet or eye protection is required for drivers over the age of 16 unless the motorcycle or scooter has more than 2bhp and can travel more than 30mph on floor-level ground; however, it is highly recommended.

## ***REQUIREMENTS FOR MOTORCYCLES & SCOOTERS OVER 50CC OR MORE THAN 2 BRAKE HORSEPOWER OR CAPABLE OF TRAVELING MORE THAN 30 MPH ON LEVEL GROUND***

- Both a regular driver's license and a motorcycle endorsement are required.
- Completion of a motorcycle safety course for drivers under the age of 21 is required.
- A helmet is required unless you are over 21 and meet specific insurance requirements - minimum of \$10,000 insurance coverage.
- The driver must wear eye protection. Goggles, face shields, eyeglasses, and sunglasses are acceptable. Contact lenses do not qualify.



# Bicyclists Beware...

Bicycles are a popular form of transportation on campus and in the Gainesville area. However, cyclists, drivers, and pedestrians are not always aware of each other when they are traveling on campus or in the community.

Although drivers are legally responsible for making sure it is safe to turn, cyclists and pedestrians need to watch out for vehicles that are turning! Especially if you are riding along the major roads in Gainesville, some drivers may not be familiar with sharing the road with bicyclists, so be extra vigilant.



## Bicycling Tips

- Never ride against traffic.
- Always stop and look for approaching vehicles.
- Become adept at checking over your left shoulder for traffic, especially before turns.
- Be alert for left-turning vehicles in which the driver may not see you. Be prepared to yield or change positions if the driver doesn't see you.
- Watch for the doors of parked vehicles that could swing into your path.
- Use a handlebar mirror. If you don't have one, get one!
- If you are riding in the rain, be aware of turning corners, braking, and other hazards such as deep puddles and metal grates.

## Did You Know You Can Get a DUI on Your Bike?

According to Florida State Statute 316.2065, bicycles are vehicles. Cyclists share the roads with motor vehicles and have the same rights as car drivers. This means that cyclists also have to follow all the same rules and assume all the same responsibilities as car drivers.

Obeying the laws that apply to bicycles is one way to be as safe as possible, and it can help you avoid a costly ticket. The five most common mistakes campus cyclists make, followed by the ticket cost, are as follows:

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Riding against traffic (including in a bike lane) or riding the wrong way on a one-way street.                                      | <b>\$159.00</b> |
| 2. Failure to obey traffic signs, such as stop signs or yield signs.   | <b>\$159.00</b> |
| 3. Failure to obey traffic signals, such as red lights.  | <b>\$257.00</b> |
| 4. Wearing headphones while cycling (on the road or on the sidewalk).  | <b>\$109.00</b> |
| 5. Riding at night without a white light on the front of the bike and a red light in the back (either on the road or on the sidewalk). | <b>\$59.50</b>  |