FACULTY-IN-RESIDENCE
Three full-time faculty members reside within the residence halls on the USF Tampa campus. The Faculty-in-Residence professors (FIRs) foster habits of curiosity and involvement in educational, cultural and service activities beyond the formal confines of the classroom.

Dr. Justin Brown is an Assistant Professor in the School of Mass Communications teaching courses in telecommunications, law and research methods. His research focuses on telecommunications law and policy issues including broadband deployment and new media. He resides in Beta Hall.

Signature Programs: Real Talk, Dr. Brown’s BBQ, Pop-Culture and Media Conversations

Dr. Kevin Mackay is an instructor in the Department of Physics. He studied Physics and Astrophysics at Queen’s University in Belfast, North Ireland and obtained his Ph.D. in June 2000 and a postgraduate qualification in higher education teaching. He has experience in industry (research engineer for Seagate Technology and Arca Technology) as well as teaching Physics and Astronomy at Queen’s University, Grove City College, and now at USF. He resides in Maple Hall.

Signature Programs: Star Party/Planet Watch, Irish Soccer Breakfast, Moonlight Canoeing, Crawfish Boil

Professor Jennifer Cainas is an instructor in the College of Business and the Pender Newkirk Teaching Fellow for the Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy. She teaches both principles of accounting and upper level financial and managerial accounting courses, as well as accounting information systems. She has received numerous teaching awards, including being awarded the “Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award” for her work at the University of South Florida multiple times. She resides in Juniper Poplar Hall.

Signature Programs: Financial Wellness and Budgeting, Cookie Decorating, Poplar 2k

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
Name: Eliseo Torres
Role: Resident Assistant in Cypress Suites
What are you studying? I am in my senior year studying chemistry.
What motivates you to succeed academically? My goal is to go to medical school and I want what is best for my future patients. Knowing that I want to be the best in the field keeps me motivated, and in order for me to accomplish this goal, I need to study hard and act ethically.
What advice would you give to our residents? Enjoy the moments you have here. Allow yourself to struggle through the experience because you will be able to transform yourself.
What are your Top 3 Success Tips?
1. Study for mastery rather than grades. Learn something you enjoy.
2. Have positive attitude towards your classes.
3. Plan your study sessions, either individually or in groups. And remember to follow them.

FINALS REVIEWS!
Housing & Residential Education’s Finals Reviews biannual Academic Initiative is fast approaching. Finals Reviews is a partnership between the department of Housing & Residential Education and the Marshall Study Center (MSC) to offer students an opportunity to attend a final exam review session outside of scheduled classroom hours. Our focus is to provide students with additional study support and resources to ensure their continued academic success. This semester, Finals Reviews will take place in the Marshall Student Center from Wednesday, November 30th to Thursday, December 8th.

Review sessions generally last 90 minutes. The review sessions available spread across many disciplines such as astronomy, chemistry, physics, biology, calculus, accounting, genetics, etc. All students enrolled in the course will be invited, but we will pay extra attention to informing residents of the available opportunities for extra academic support.
MEET OUR FACULTY FELLOWS

A Faculty Fellow is a respected faculty member seeking opportunities to engage with students outside of the classroom to broaden the academic experience of the student and to enhance the work environment of the faculty member.

The FF program provides a bridge between formal academic programs and the out of classroom developmental activities of residents. Help us welcome this year’s Faculty Fellows in Housing & Residential Education:

Dr. Ashok Upadhyaya is a Biology Instructor and advisor at USF. He teaches Cell Biology (3023) and Biology I (2010), and supervises the associated labs. In his spare time he also enjoys movies, running, and books.

Dr. Christian Wells is an Environmental Anthropologist. Over the past 20 years he has conducted ethnographic, archaeological, and geoscience research throughout Central America and the Caribbean.

Dr. Daniel Cruz is a Chemistry Instructor. His academic interests are student learning in introductory, general, and organic chemistry and addressing underrepresented groups and diversity issues in STEM.

Dr. Erika Martinez is an instructor in the Department of Economics. She teaches Microeconomics, Intermediate Price Theory, and Labor Economics.

Dr. Frank Pyrtle, III is an instructor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Pyrtle joined the USF Faculty in August 2004. He graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. In 2011, Dr. Pyrtle was licensed as a Professional Engineer in the State of Florida, with specialization in Thermal and Fluid Systems.

Dr. Jhon J. Figueroa is a Visiting Instructor in the Department of Chemistry. He is currently teaching General Chemistry II.

Dr. Johnny El-Rady is a Microbiology Instructor and he also teaches in the Honors College. He has been at USF since August 1997 and had the privilege to teach courses from the freshman to the graduate level.

Dr. Jonathan Bethard is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology. Dr. Bethard is an accomplished forensic anthropologist who has done research on the Inca Empire, bioarchaeological and historical archaeology on infant death in Romania, and ongoing forensic research on missing persons in Colombia and Algeria.

Dr. Jonathan Gaines is an instructor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. His research areas are: Human-Robot Collaborative Systems, Co-Robotics Technology for Non-Traditional Populations, STEM Education, and Sensor Perception.

Dr. Kimberly Fields is an instructor in the Department of Chemistry. She currently teaches Organic Chemistry I.

Dr. Laura Anderson is an instructor in the Department of Chemistry and the General Chemistry Lab Coordinator.

Dr. Michael Heyes is a Visiting Instructor in the Department of Religious Studies. He received his M.A. in Comparative Religion from the University of Washington (2008) and Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Rice University (2015).

Dr. Shawn Bingham is the Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs in the Honors College. He completed his graduate programs at the University of Maryland and American University in Washington, D.C. He is a former Faculty-in-Residence participant.

Dr. Steven Surrency is an instructor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. He is interested in the interaction between language, culture, and philosophy.

Mr. Coby O’Brien is an instructor in the School of Mass Communications. He teaches undergraduate advertising courses in the Zimmerman Advertising Program (ZAP).

Mr. John Sarao is the Acting Executive Director of the Joint Military Leadership Center. He oversees all programs that enhance the quality of education and training for the University’s ROTC units by maintaining a unique, state of the art joint training facility.

Ms. Kayt Ahnberg is an Academic Services Librarian. Her subject specialties are Africana Studies, LGBTQ, Religious Studies, and Women’s & Gender Studies.

If you would like to receive more information on connecting with any of the faculty listed above or to request a program or event related to support your academic success, email us at livinglearning@usf.edu.

HOUSING & RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION
Best place to LIVE. Best place to WORK. Best place to LEARN.