

Nicole T. Carr is Associate Vice President for Student Academic Success at the University of South Alabama. In this position she provides university leadership targeting one of the five institutional priorities: student success and access. Her unit encompasses a range of services rounding out students' academic experience, including academic advising, tutoring, Career Services, and the university Writing Center. Carr has developed and/or supervised a variety of student success initiatives including a wide-scale implementation of learning communities; the development and implementation of the university's First Year Advising Center, now Academic Advising and Transfer Services; the implementation of large scale technology in support of student success; the production of a university-specific first year experience course text and the establishment of common learning objectives for first year courses; a robust peer academic leader program; and the development of the annual South Alabama Conference on Teaching and Learning. She has also collaborated extensively with Student Affairs, most notably in designing the university Week of Welcome and instituting an academic Convocation.



Since 2010, with the support of the President and Provost, Dr. Carr has led the University in improving first year student retention by 13 percentage points, and four-year graduation rates by 11 percentage points. Continued focus on persistence and graduation, especially closing equity gaps, now involve need based gap grants, attendance initiatives, degree milestones, probation advising, and additional engagement with technology in support of success.

In 1998, Dr. Carr joined the faculty at the University of South Alabama as Assistant Professor of Sociology; she maintains tenure and rank of Associate Professor in the department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work. Her work in the classroom included deliberate pedagogical focus on active learning, and she was recognized with numerous teaching awards, including the University's Top 50 Faculty. She supported student learning outside the classroom by including students in funded projects, conference presentations, and scholarly publications. Her research is most often applied in nature and her interests include gender, inequality, and crime. She continues to teach a section of the university first year experience course most fall semesters. Dr. Carr joined the administrative team at the University of South Alabama in 2010.

Dr. Carr holds a bachelor's degree, with a double major in Government and Philosophy, and a master's degree in Sociology from the College of William and Mary. She earned a PhD in Sociology from Louisiana State University.