



The rising STAR of Texas

**Department of Occupational, Workforce, & Leadership Studies (OWLS)
Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS)
<http://www.owls.txstate.edu>**

PURPOSE

Texas State University has a proud history of serving the working adult student with individualized academic programs. It was one of the first institutions in the country to recognize this need and has one of the most-respected programs in the country. Since 1973, more than 8,000 students completed the program. The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) is designed for individuals who need interdisciplinary academic program with an option to award credit for work/life experience.

The heart of an adult academic program rests with its ability to provide quality access to quality programs. Often, institutional apathy toward the special needs of adult students makes it difficult to complete a college degree. Individuals can also receive credit for knowledge and experience they may already possess: up to 24 credit hours can be awarded. Others may have training conducted by business, industry, or the military that is recognized by the American Council on Education. These experiences may qualify you for up to 30 semester hours of credit.

PROGRAM FEATURES

- ◆ Maximum of 24 semester hours may be awarded for work/life experience.
- ◆ Maximum of 30 semester hours may be awarded for training conducted by business or industry (non-collegiate training) if recognized by the American Council on Education or approved agency.
- ◆ Unlimited number of hours may be awarded for examinations (CLEP, DSSTs (formerly DANTEs)). Refer to “Credit by Examination” under the Undergraduate Degree section at www.owls.txstate.edu.
- ◆ Advisors are available in Round Rock and San Marcos by appointment. Online advising can be requested through advisor approval.
- ◆ Courses are offered at the Round Rock Campus (RRC) and on-campus in San Marcos. Courses are offered at traditional times, online, or as a hybrid course that requires 3 meetings.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ Minimum of 120 semester hours of undergraduate work for degree completion.
- ◆ Minimum of 30 semester hours must be completed with Texas State (credit awarded for work/life experience and/or CLEP examinations does not count towards the requirement).
- ◆ 24 of the last 30 hours of the degree must be completed at Texas State.
- ◆ Minimum of 36 advanced hours must be completed.
- ◆ Minimum of 24 advanced (junior/senior hours) must be from Texas State (credit awarded for work/life experience and/or CLEP examinations does not count towards the requirement)
- ◆ Cumulative GPA of 2.00 required for graduation.
- ◆ Students desiring to receive credit for work/life experience and/or non-collegiate training must enroll in OCED 4111.
- ◆ 66 semester hours can be transferred from junior colleges.
- ◆ Cumulative GPA of 2.25 is required in the professional development module for graduation.
- ◆ Students have a maximum of 6 years to complete the degree under the student’s catalog. A student who does not complete the degree with the 6 years will be moved to the current catalog and must adhere to the requirements.
- ◆ Minimum of 9 hours of writing intensive courses are required (satisfied by OCED 4350, OCED 4360, OCED 4361).
- ◆ Program is normally a minimum of three semesters but it is self-paced.

THE BAAS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree is a modular degree program and contains six modules. The modules are:

1. Core Curriculum Components (42-43 hours)

Communication (6 hours) – core 010

English 1310 and 1320

Mathematics (3 hours) – core 020

Select one from the following:

Math 1312, Math 1315, Math 1316, Math 1317, Math 1319, Math 1329, Math 2321, Math 2417, Math 2471

Life & Physical Sciences (6 hours) – core 030

Select one from the following:

Anth 2414, Bio 1320, Bio 1330, Bio 1331, Bio 1421, Chem 1310, Chem 1341, Chem 1342, Chem 1430, Geo 1305, Geol 1410, Geol 1420, Phys 1310, Phys 1320, Phys 1340, Phys 1350, Phys 1315, PHYS 1325, Phys 1430, Phys 2425

Language, Philosophy and Culture (3 hours) – core 040

Select one from the following: Phil 1305, Phil 1320

Creative Arts (3 hours) – core 050

Art, Dan, Mu or Th 2313

American History (6 hours) – core 060

Hist 1310 or Hist 1320

Government/Political Science (6 hours) – core 070

Posi 2310 or Posi 2320

Social & Behavioral Science (3 hours – core 080)

Select one from the following: Anth 1312, Eco 2301, Eco 2314, Geo 1310, Psy 1300, Soci 1310

Communications (3 hours) – core 090

Comm 1310

Language, Philosophy, & Culture (3 hours) – core 090

Select one from the following: Eng 2310, Eng 2320, Eng 2330, Eng 2340, Eng 2359, Eng 2360

Texas State Component (1 hours) – US 1100-University Seminar (for Freshman – 16 hours or less)

2. Occupational Emphasis Module (48 hours) - This module relates to your prior or current career and/or college work. It can be completed with academic or vocational education (VE) transfer work or credit awarded for work/life experience, training, or examinations. CTE 3313E and OCED 4350 are required courses and should be taken as early as possible in the program. OCED 4111 is also required if you are interested in applying for work/life experience or training credit. It is strongly encouraged to have completed ENG 1310 and 1320 due to the writing intensive nature of CTE 3313E and OCED 4350.

An overall transfer GPA of 2.25 and if you have Texas State coursework a Texas State GPA of 2.25 is required (Note: a 2.25 GPA is required for admission to Texas State).

Students at the Round Rock Campus (RRC) must have completed all core curriculum and the foreign language (if required) to enroll in CTE 3313E/OCED 4350 at the Round Rock Campus.

3. Professional Development Module (21 hours) - This sequence for the BAAS degree is interdisciplinary and individualized to the student's needs. All BAAS professional development sequences must have courses from three academic departments and be at the 3000 and/or 4000 level. These courses are selected during CTE 3313E.

4. Foreign Language (8 hours) - Students who have completed two years of the same foreign language in high school may be exempt from this requirement by submitting their official high school transcript. Students may also demonstrate this competency by taking sign language or testing out of the required foreign language courses.

5. Elective Module (varies) - The number of hours needed in electives is determined by the remaining number of hours needed to meet the 120 minimum requirement or to satisfy a rule pertaining to such issues as residency or advanced hours.

6. Capstone (6 hours) (this is a required independent activity done during the student's last semester)

*Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences Capstone Part I (OCED 4360)

*Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences Capstone Part II (OCED 4361) – prerequisite OCED 4360

Department of Occupational, Workforce, & Leadership Studies (OWLS)
Questions about the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences Degree
www.owls.txstate.edu

- 1. What degree can I earn in the program?**
You may earn an interdisciplinary degree, the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) with a major in Applied Arts and Sciences. There is no minor
- 2. What are interdisciplinary degrees?**
They are degrees that focus on the development of broad generic skills applicable to a wide range of occupational opportunities. This is especially critical when one considers that the average worker will probably hold six jobs requiring different skills in a lifetime. If your academic preparation is too specialized it may not be applicable to some future jobs. Additionally, the knowledge explosion has caused specialized degrees to become dated. Therefore, interdisciplinary degrees emphasizing the development of skills that are not related to a single occupational path provide the greatest flexibility in career development. These broad generic skills are what really matter once a person starts advancing in a career. Interdisciplinary programs are not for everyone. They are best suited for the mature adult student who is motivated, able to learn independently, and has well-developed organizational skills.
- 3. What is an individualized program?**
An individualized program allows students to cooperatively select educational goals and academic courses that are related to their career and life objectives. Therefore, relevance and applicability to their career pattern is ensured. On the other hand, most traditional degree programs are "prescriptive" in nature. They specify what you must take and do not take into account what you have learned from experience or your career objectives. Generally, prescriptive programs are for traditionally-aged students and individualized programs are for more mature adults who want to assume active roles in determining their educational programs.
- 4. What can I study in the program?**
You can study a wide range of topics from many disciplines. Examples of these topics might be: psychology, technology, communication, planning and people skills, career and technical education. Remember, it is important to identify topics that have applicability to a variety of career or occupational options. Since the program is individualized, you have an almost unlimited option of curricular organizational patterns.
- 5. Is the degree accredited?**
The institution (Texas State) is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and the degree is approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Additionally, it is affiliated with Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) and the Bachelor Degree for Soldiers (BDFS) Program.
- 6. How much does the program cost?**
Texas State is a state supported institution, so tuition and fees should be somewhat less than those at private schools. Consult the current University schedule of classes for tuition and fees.
- 7. What is the residency requirement?**
To qualify for graduation a student must complete 30 semester hours with Texas State for the degree at Texas State University. Additionally, 24 of the last 30 hours towards the degree must be from Texas State University. On-line courses and Correspondence study from Texas State University count as resident credit, as do Texas State courses taken at the Round Rock Campus, as well as through Certified Public Manager Program.
- 8. What services are provided to students at off-campus sites?**
Some courses are offered at the Round Rock Campus (RRC). Note: core curriculum courses are not offered at the Round Rock campus. Advising and degree planning are also provided in Round Rock, and San Marcos, as well as on the web.
- 9. What kind of reputation does the program have?**
Program quality and reputation is based upon several factors. First, the degree at Texas State is the oldest adult degree in Texas. Secondly, it has been used as a model by other institutions. Thirdly, since its inception, approximately 8,000 students have completed the program. These students have enjoyed career mobility, salary incentives, and the opportunity to attend graduate school. Some of our most successful students have completed law school or have received doctoral degrees from prestigious institutions or have gained positions of very high authority and compensation.

Texas State

ADMISSION CHECK SHEET FOR FOR THE BACHELOR OF APPLIED ARTS AND SCIENCES

with a major in Applied Arts and Sciences

Remember, you may be advised by OWLS advisors and you may declare your major prior to enrollment in CTE 3313E and OCED 4350, or even before you actually enroll in courses at Texas State.



Attend an information session for the BAAS degree. A schedule of information sessions can be found at www.owls.txstate.edu, click on Undergraduate Degree, then Undergraduate Information Sessions.



Apply to Texas State University online at: www.applytexas.org. (You should indicate College of Applied Arts: Applied Arts and Sciences as your first choice school and major on the application).



After admittance to Texas State University:

San Marcos students – schedule an appointment with Sean Stevens for a degree planning session by calling 512-245-1490.

Round Rock students – call 512-716-4040 to schedule an appointment to meet with the academic advisor in the One Stop Center to review the degree audit and core curriculum. They will provide subsequent steps including an RSVP for the degree planning session in order to plan for future courses.



Apply for a PIN. Admissions provided you with your Texas State ID (A0.....). Follow the instructions that were given to you by Admissions to set up your new PIN that will allow you to access Texas State Self-Service where you can access registration, view degree plan, final grades, financial aid status, etc.



Complete the New Student Orientation (NSO) Requirements as outlined by the Admission's Office <http://www.admissions.txstate.edu/admitted/orientation>.



Established Texas State e-mail account. Go to <http://catsweb.txstate.edu>, then click on "Students" then "Set Up My Texas State ID" that is under Online Services.