Academic Success at Texas State University
About Texas State

- Offering 97 bachelor’s, 88 master’s, and 12 doctoral degree programs in eight colleges
  - Enrollment: 36,790 students (Fall 2014)
  - Freshman Retention Rate: 76% (Fall 2013 Cohort)
  - Four-Year Graduation Rate: 27% (Fall 2010 Cohort)
  - Six-Year Graduation Rate: 55.1% (Fall 2008 Cohort)

- Residential First Year Experience
  - >93% of first year students live on campus

- A Hispanic Serving Institution
  - 32% Hispanic (Fall 2014 Freshman Cohort 37% Hispanic)

- Gender Imbalanced
  - 57% Female (Fall 2014 Freshman Cohort 62.2% Female)

- An Emerging Research University
What Are Degree Requirements?

- **Minimum Degree Hours and Advanced Hours**
  - Most undergraduate degrees require 120 hours, including 36 advanced hours (junior and senior level courses)
  - A Texas State GPA of 2.00
  - 15 - 17 hours per semester = a four year plan

- **Core Curriculum**
  - Gen Ed Core = 42 hours (14 classes)

- **Major Field of Study (Major-Associated Courses)**
  - Most majors require 33 hours (11 classes)
  - A GPA of 2.25 in the major(s)

- **Minor, If Applicable**
  - Number of hours varies by minor (typically between 18 - 24 hours)
  - A GPA of 2.00 in the minor(s)

- **Electives**
What Are Expectations for Success?

- **The Syllabus**
  - Information about the class and faculty member
  - Contact information and office hours
  - Assignments and class calendar
  - Course policies
  - Grading scale
  - Extra credit

- **Attendance / Attendance Policies**
  - Defined in the course syllabus

- **Participation**
  - Discussion
Academic / Placement Testing

- **Texas Success Initiative Program (TSIP)**
  - A state-legislated program to improve success in college through the development of academic skills
  - TSI Assessment: Placement and College Readiness Testing
  - [http://www.txstate.edu/tsip/](http://www.txstate.edu/tsip/)

- **Advanced Placement / CLEP / Dual Credit**
  - What’s the difference?

All information about testing can be found at the **Testing and Research-Evaluation Center (TREC)**

Website: [www.txstate.edu/trec](http://www.txstate.edu/trec)
Location: Commons Hall, Ground Floor
Phone: 512-245-2276
Important Policies

- **FERPA**
  - Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
  - A federal law that defines access to student records, including access to grades
  - Parents can be granted defined access by their students

- **Drop Policy**
  - Defined by the Texas Legislature
  - First time freshmen will be limited to a total of six drop courses during their undergraduate career

- **Attendance**
  - Missing class has greater impacts on a number of programs, including financial aid eligibility
  - What to do about illness or family-associated absences?
    - Early communication with faculty is always important
    - Contact Student Emergency Services at the Dean of Students Office
      - Absence Notification Service
      - Emergency Financial Assistance
Important Dates

- **Move-In Weekend**
  - August 15 - 16, 2015
  - Report directly to Strahan Coliseum at your assigned time

- **Bobcat Preview**
  - August 17 - 22, 2015
  - [www.bobcatpreview.txstate.edu](http://www.bobcatpreview.txstate.edu)

- **First Day of Classes**
  - Fall 2015: August 24, 2015
  - Spring 2016: January 19, 2016

- **Family Weekend 2015**
  - September 18 - 19, 2015
  - Open to all family and friends

- **Holiday Breaks**
  - Review Academic Calendar for official Holiday Break dates
  - Avoid leaving campus before holiday breaks officially start
Student Academic Support

- **PACE Center**
  - Discussed in a previous presentation
  - Undergraduate Academic Center (UAC), First Floor

- **Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC)**
  - A multi-faceted academic support program for all TXST students
  - Includes both tutoring (individual, group, online) and supplemental instruction
  - Alkek Library, Suite 411

- **Writing Center**
  - Committed to improving writing one student at a time via 1:1 tutoring
  - Academic Services Building North, Ground Floor

- **Math Tutoring and Computing Laboratory**
  - Free drop-in math tutoring
  - Derrick 233 and Derrick 117
Student Academic Support

- Retention Management and Planning
  - Develops and deliver high quality retention programs and services
  - E.g., Brilliant Bobcats – a workshop series focused on teaching students strategies and skills for college success
    - [http://www.studentsuccess.txstate.edu](http://www.studentsuccess.txstate.edu)

- Office of Disability Services
  - Provides services to students to with disabilities at Texas State University
    - [http://www.ods.txstate.edu](http://www.ods.txstate.edu)
Parent Resources

- **Texas State Family Association**
  - A support organization dedicated to helping Bobcat families feel connected to their students’ university experience
  - [http://www.parentandfamily.txstate.edu/resources/family-association.html](http://www.parentandfamily.txstate.edu/resources/family-association.html)

- **Parent and Family Relations**
  - Providing parents and families with information about campus and community resources
  - [www.parentandfamily.txstate.edu](http://www.parentandfamily.txstate.edu)
Thank you for joining us!

Questions?