

# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Phone: (512) 245-2218

Office: Academic Services Building North, Room 100

Fax: (512) 245-8765

Web: <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/>

## Degree Program Offered

- BGS, major in General Studies\*

The BGS program is based on three Texas State minors selected to support the student's interests and supplement coursework already completed. Since the program is based on individualized combinations of courses for each student, educational objectives will vary to match the student's goals. This will be determined in the investigation, research, decision making and planning that takes place in the GNST 1150 introductory course. The objective common to all degree plans will be to learn to abstract materials from appropriate disciplines, to analyze their applicability, and to synthesize them into a cross-disciplinary examination of broad-based issues. Achievement of this objective will be strengthened through the capstone GNST 4350 course, which requires design, implementation and completion of an interdisciplinary project that incorporates all disciplines included in the individualized program.

The objective of the BGS program is to provide a mechanism whereby students may use three minors to combine curricular offerings not normally associated with each other, or to combine previously completed courses with new ones in a package that allows both specialized and generalized education.

### Bachelor of General Studies

#### Major in General Studies

Minimum required: 128 semester hours

#### General Requirements:

1. General Education Core Curriculum (46 hours)
2. GNST 1150 (1 hour)
3. Minors (18-24 hours each, of which at least 12 hours must be advanced)
4. Electives (6-24 hours depending on the minors selected for degree program)
5. GNST 4350 (3 hours)

## Courses in General Studies (GNST)

**1150 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Experiences.** (1-0) This course will include a variety of projects and written assignments designed to encourage self-analysis of career/intellectual interests, selection of appropriate coursework, and career planning. Culminates in the development of an interdisciplinary plan, incorporating three formal minors and leading to a BGS degree. Prerequisite: Declared BGS major, instructor permission.

**4350 Interdisciplinary Project.** (3-0) Students will complete a project incorporating all disciplines from their individualized program, consisting of research, literature reviews, and information analysis resulting in a written or media product. With approval, a capstone course from one of the minors or departmentally-approved experiential learning may be substituted. Prerequisite: GNST 1150.

## **General Education Core Curriculum**

In order to acquire the fundamental skills and cultural background that are the marks of an educated person, all students at Texas State complete a program of general education core curriculum courses, which serves as the common foundation for all majors and accounts for about 35 percent of the approximately 128 semester credit hours required for a bachelor's degree.

Conceptually, the general education core curriculum experience starts with a common integrative University Seminar taken by all students who have not completed an equivalent college-level course elsewhere, branches out to a series of component areas, and then moves on to the student's chosen major.

Thus, at the end of the bachelor's program, the student is prepared not only in a departmental field of study, but also in the general abilities of questioning, explaining, and learning that remain universally useful in a rapidly changing world. Texas State graduates have the raw materials to build solutions as they fulfill career and civic responsibilities.

A list of courses and course choices that fulfill the general education core curriculum is given below. In many cases, the academic plans of various Texas State colleges, departments, degrees, majors, and certifications modify or exceed these standards, so students are urged to carefully examine all sections of this catalog, which apply to the academic program of their choice.

Depending on the catalog year assignment, students transferring from Texas public institutions of higher education may have to fulfill only those portions of the general education core curriculum not completed at their previous institutions. Students from private or out-of-state institutions or those who took coursework before the core curriculum was put into place (Fall 1999), will have their coursework evaluated to determine if it is equivalent to that required at Texas State.

For all students, specific major requirements may override those in the core curriculum. Those who have completed the core requirement for college math, for instance, may have to complete Calculus if such is required by their major. In all cases, the major and core requirements applicable are those in the year catalog to which the student is assigned. A list of general education core requirements at all Texas public institutions of higher education is available online at <http://statecore.its.txstate.edu>.

## **General Education Core Curriculum Components**

### **Communication Component (9 hours)**

ENG 1310 and 1320-College Writing, Parts I & II

COMM 1310-Fundamentals of Human Communication

### **Mathematics Component (3-4 hours)**

Choose one from:

MATH 1315-College Algebra

MATH 1316-Survey of Contemporary Mathematics

MATH 1317-Plane Trigonometry



prepared to provide documentation such as catalog descriptions, course syllabi and textbook information to facilitate verification of course content. Under the provisions of the Texas general education core curriculum, Texas State must accept courses that fulfill the core curriculum at other Texas public institutions (indicated by a 3-digit code on the transcript), and may not accept other courses unless they are equivalent to the required Texas State course.

### **Academic Advising Center**

Phone: (512) 245-2218  
Fax: (512) 245-8765

Office: Academic Services Building North, Room 100  
Web: <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/advising.html>

University College provides academic advising for students who are undecided about a major, those who are changing majors, and those who are working toward admission into a particular program. Advisors will assist students in researching options, evaluating alternatives, and making decisions so that they may make realistic and satisfying choices of majors. They will also provide guidance in completing the general education requirements. The advising goal is to provide accessible, friendly, and accurate advising.

University College advising is located on the first floor of Academic Services Building North and is available between 8:00 and 5:00, Monday through Friday. Services include one-on-one appointments, registration advising sessions before and during early registration, and probation advising sessions. Electronic newsletters are sent to students with the major codes 100.00 (Undeclared) and 100.50 (Undeclared-Professional) each semester to provide reminders of the services available.

### **National Student Exchange (NSE)**

The National Student Exchange (NSE) is a University College program that offers Texas State students a unique opportunity to expand their educational horizons by enrolling at a participating university for one or two semesters. Students can benefit from the NSE program by accessing different courses, internships, career options, and exploring graduate schools at over 175 colleges and universities around the nation while paying in-state tuition.

An exchange consists of a single semester or a full academic year of coursework at any college or university in the NSE consortium. Students can choose member institutions throughout 49 United States, as well as Guam, the U. S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Credits earned at these host institutions can be transferred back to Texas State, allowing students to maintain progress toward their academic objectives. For the privilege of NSE participation, Texas State students enjoy in-state tuition and fees at their host institution on Plan A payment status, or 15 hours of coursework at Texas State in-state rates on Plan B payment.

Applications for the NSE program are due in February for fall and spring exchanges. Interested students must have a full-time course load, have completed at least 30 hours, and maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA. Requirements of the program include a completed application and a \$150 application fee. For more information about the National Student Exchange, contact University College or refer to the Texas State-NSE web site at <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/nse>

### **University Seminar**

Phone: (512) 245-7952  
Fax: (512) 245-7908

Office: Academic Services Building – North, Room 410  
Web: <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/universityseminar/>

The University Seminar course should be taken during a student's first semester at Texas State. Taught by approximately 100 faculty from every college of the university, the course introduces students to the process of college thinking by encouraging them to examine their present lives. Opening with the questions, "Who am I?", "What do I value?", "What do I want in life?", the course turns next to an investigation of the nature and purposes of a university. Finally, students are asked to relate these topics by exploring the connection between their university education and the lifestyle that they will build during and after college. This course presents the nature and structure of university education with special emphasis on the benefits and values of general education. University Seminar tries to help new Texas State students think through a most important question: "Why am I here; why is a university education for me?" The one-hour Seminar, required of all students new to Texas State who have not taken a similar college-level course elsewhere, is coordinated through University College. Distinct sections of the course serve freshmen and transfer students. These are labeled in the Schedule of Classes.

### **Course in University Seminar (US)**

**1100 University Seminar.** (1-0) University Seminar is an introduction to the nature and aims of university education, with special emphasis on the value of broad learning.

### **Mitte Honors Program**

Phone: (512) 245-2266  
Fax: (512) 245-8959

Office: Lampasas 407  
Web: <http://www.txstate.edu/honors/>

### **Minor Offered**

- Honors Studies

The Mitte Honors Program combines the advantages of a small, liberal arts college with the resources and broader degree offerings of a premier public, student-centered, and doctoral-granting institution. As a core community of scholars dedicated to the highest purposes of university education, the Mitte Honors Program attracts and retains the most highly qualified students, provides a living embodiment of collegiate ideals, and thereby enriches the institution in its entirety.

The program offers a diversity of curricula in small, seminar-type classes (limited to 17 students), where honors students discuss ideas and raise questions stimulated by readings, field trips, and presentations. Faculty members promote interdisciplinary inquiry, curiosity, creativity, and a lifetime love of learning. Recent course offerings include Art and Artists: Catalysts of Social Change, New and Old World Philosophy, The Voices of Eros in Poetry, Baseball and the American Experience, Elementary Number Theory, Religion, Science and the Quest for Meaning, C.S. Lewis: Chronicles of a Master Communicator, The Theory of Language, Astronomy in Art, History and Literature, and the course, Film Analysis, taught entirely in Paris.

In 2005, a \$500,000 initial gift from the Roy F. and Joann Cole Mitte Foundation of Austin created a permanent endowment for the program, which was then named in honor of the Mitte family. Currently, the program directly involves more than 500 Texas State students. Additionally, Mitte Honors serves a much broader population through several collaborative programs: 1) the Scholars of Promise recruiting

initiative to attract students from across the state, 2) the Scholars of Promise development initiative to groom Texas State students for nationally competitive scholarships, including the Rhodes, Fulbright, and Rockefeller competitions, 3) the Common Experience, a series of activities and course-based discussions that build on a common theme and foster dialogue across the campus and into the community, and 4) quality Study Abroad opportunities, such as recent programs offered in Paris and at Oxford University.

The Mitte Honors Program is now housed in the historic Lampasas building, adjacent to Old Main. The renovated space includes seminar rooms, a student computer lab, a conference room, offices for staff and for student academic organizations, and the Mitte Forum coffee house—a large area designed for coffee, conversation, and study, complete with wireless internet access.

**Programs and Requirements.** The Mitte Honors Program accepts students on a rolling admissions basis. Entering 1<sup>st</sup> year students from the top 10 percent of their graduating class, or those with a composite score of 27 on the ACT or 1180 on the SAT, are eligible to apply for admission to the program. Transfer or currently enrolled students with a GPA of at least 3.25 are also eligible to apply. Mitte Honors classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Students wishing to graduate in the Mitte Honors Program now have two avenues available for doing so: (1) the traditional Honors Program, where students complete at least five honors courses (15 hours), including the Honors Thesis and (2) a minor in Honors Studies, where students complete at least seven honors courses (21 hours), including the Senior Seminar (an integrative and culminating thesis/project development course) and the Honors Thesis. All Mitte Honors students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.25 to remain in and to graduate from the program. Students may elect to participate in the Mitte Honors curriculum and community, but without completing honors graduation requirements. For additional details on either of the programs, please consult the Mitte Honors Program staff.

**Programs Benefits.** Mitte Honors students receive access to early pre-registration each semester. Students may receive special travel assistance from the Mitte Honors Program to present research at regional and national conferences and are eligible for a variety of scholarships awarded through the Mitte Honors Program.

Texas State rewards completion of the Mitte Honors Program requirements with recognition at Commencement (name and thesis title is included in the program), a special transcript annotation, and a Mitte Honors Program certificate as a supplement to the diploma. The Mitte Honors Program also provides a special medallion to its graduates, especially suited for wearing at Commencement.

**Program Faculty.** The Mitte Honors Program builds on the strength of master teacher-scholars from across the campus, many of whom have been recognized for their contributions in teaching, scholarship, or service. Faculty teaching in the Mitte Honors Program include persons who have garnered Presidential Excellence awards, Piper Professor and other state/national teaching awards, Fulbright Fellowships, and awards for their writing, research, and service contributions.

Current and recent Mitte Honors Program instructors include: S. Beebe (Communication Studies), J. Bell (Management), R. Bell-Metereau (English), M. Brennan (History), P. Cagniard (History), S. Crixell (Family and Consumer Sciences), D. Ferrero (Mathematics), B. Friedman (Family and Consumer Sciences), C. Frost (Psychology), G. Fulmer (Philosophy), H. Galloway (Physics), J. Garcia (Counseling and Guidance), D. Gilb (English), H. Ginsburg (Psychology), J. Gordon (Philosophy), R. Gorman (Political Science), A. Gragera (Spanish), K. Grasso (Political Science), T. Grimes (English), C. Hanks (Philosophy), S. Hanson (English), T. Hindson (Political Science), E. Holt (English), P. Hutchesson (Philosophy), C. Jaffe (Spanish), G. Joy (Philosophy), L. Kelsey-Jones (Art and Design), Senator R. Krueger (Political Science), J. Leavell (Curriculum and Instruction), D. Lochman (English), B. Locklin (Spanish), V. Luizzi (Philosophy), G. Lumia (Psychology), R. Mandziuk (Communication Studies), C. Martin (French), S. Mayo (Theatre), D. McCabe (Mitte Honors), T. McCabe (Mathematics), A. McKinney (Philosophy), J. McWilliams (History), M. Menninger (History), M. Michell (Theatre), S. Morrison (English), J. Neely (Music), D. Olson (Physics), K. Peirce (English), R. Raphael (Religious Studies), O. Renick (Health Administration), P. Salem (Communication Studies), N. Schuler (Music), P. Sigenthaler (History), D. Stimmel (Psychology), S. Ugalde (Spanish), K. Ward (Political Science), R. Warms (Anthropology), M. Warshauer (Mathematics), N. Wilson (English), S. Wilson (English), and L. Yuan (Philosophy).

## **Courses in Honors (HON):**

New Honors courses are created continually, a process that ensures innovative, thoughtful offerings not duplicated elsewhere. Faculty members who lead and students who participate in Mitte Honors classes represent many different academic departments and colleges from across the campus. Mitte Honors courses feature an explicitly interdisciplinary component, and all Mitte Honors courses are, by definition, writing intensive. The courses are also discussion intensive, and students are expected to communicate effectively orally, as well as demonstrate problem-solving skills. Many of the courses are designed to replace general education core requirements.

To see particular Mitte Honors courses that are offered within the general rubrics listed, please see course listings at the Mitte Honors Program website: <http://www.txstate.edu/honors>

(WI) **1390 History of Ideas I.** (3-0) A course centering on selected aspects of culture, how these aspects contribute to people's understanding of themselves and their universe, and the relevance of these aspects to contemporary society. Examples: The Evolution of American Culture; Origins of Civilization. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **2370 Contemporary Issues in Mathematics and Computer Science** (3-0) A course that addresses current issues in mathematics and the computer sciences, especially those which have particular significance for today's society. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **2380 Contemporary Issues in Natural Science** (3-0) A course that addresses current issues in the natural sciences, particularly those which have particular significance for today. Examples: Astronomy in Art, History, and Literature; Nanotechnology and the Science of the Very Small. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **2381 Mathematical Foundations of Science** (3-0) A course that introduces liberal arts students to the fundamental ideas in science and provides the mathematical background necessary for an understanding of scientific subjects. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **2390 History of Ideas II.** (3-0) A course that explores the quest for an ideal society and the ideologies that quest has produced. Examples: Old and New World Philosophy; Art and Artists: Catalysts of Social Change. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **2391 History of Ideas III** (3-0) A course that focuses upon intellectual and cultural developments in western history, which have particular significance for contemporary society. Examples: Nature and the Quest for Meaning; Democracy in America. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **3390 The Nature of Society** (3-0) A course that probes some of the antecedents of modern society as reflected in the philosophy, art, science, and religions of the medieval and early modern era of Western Europe. Examples: Renaissance Concepts of Humanity; The Problem of Evil. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **3391 The Nature of Modernity** (3-0) A course which explores some of the philosophical and ethical problems in the realms of modern science, technology, urbanism, and social and cultural change. Examples: Elementary Number Theory; Philosophical Explorations in Film. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **3392 The Nature of the Human Experience I.** (3-0) A course that explores some of the historical, philosophical, and cultural aspects of our relationship to each other and to our world. Examples: Religion, Science, and the Quest for Meaning; Technology, Gender, and Bodies in Film. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **3393 The Nature of the Human Experience II.** (3-0) A course that focuses on some of the cultural, historical, technological, philosophical and ideological aspects of the modern world. Examples: Entrepreneurs, Leaders, Teams: Best Practices; Sex, Drugs, and Cabaret: Europe 1880-1914. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **3394 The Nature of the Human Experience III.** (3-0) A course that focuses on some of the cultural and philosophical developments in history, which have particular significance for contemporary society. Examples: Consciousness: Interdisciplinary Perspectives; The Japanese Urban Experience. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **3395 The Nature of the Human Experience IV.** (3-0) A course that focuses on some of the intellectual and cultural developments in the arts and sciences, which have particular significance for understanding today's world. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

(WI) **4390A Senior Seminar: Thesis Development.** (3-0) A course that provides a context within which students are asked to reflect on and integrate their prior Honors courses and their academic major, particularly as they prepare to conceptualize and design an independent research project or creative achievement that culminates in a thesis.

(WI) **4390B Honors Thesis.** (3-0) A course in which students pursue an independent project of research, study, or creative achievement that culminates in a paper, laboratory or field research problem, or creative project (play, book of poetry, artwork, etc.) of significant size and scope.

(WI) **4391 Honors Independent Study.** (3-0) Individual study under direct supervision of a professor for Honors credit. May involve field trips. This course may be repeated for credit but a student may not exceed six hours of credit in Honors Independent Study.

(WI) **Contracted Course Designation "H"** Any regular Texas State course can become a contract course with the concurrent approval of the student, faculty member, and Director of the Mitte Honors Program. A contracted class will count toward Mitte Honors Program requirements only when taken as a departmental elective.

## **Mathworks**

Phone: (512) 245-3439

Office: Academic Services Building South 110

Fax: (512) 245-1469

Web: <http://www.mathexplorer.math.txstate.edu/>

Mathworks, a center for innovation in mathematics and math education, designs and hosts programs for students from kindergarten to high school, conducts research on math curriculum, and provides training for teacher education students as well as current teachers. In addition, outreach programs provide Texas State students with classroom experience and mentoring by experienced teachers. Mathworks received the 2001 Star Award for Closing the Gaps from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

## **Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC)**

Phone: (512) 245-2515

Office: Alkek Library 411

Fax: (512) 245-3002

Web: <http://www.txstate.edu/slac/>

Texas State's Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC) provides a wide range of academic support programs. Whether students are seeking help with course content, study skills, or test preparation, SLAC provides a walk-in tutoring lab, Supplemental Instruction, campus presentations, and online services in writing and mathematics.

The Learning Lab gives academic assistance in accounting; sciences such as physics, biology, and chemistry; English; statistics; computer information systems; history; philosophy; languages such as Spanish; and a number of math courses. The Lab also contains study materials, handouts, and computer-assisted instructional software on a wide range of topics and levels, from correcting comma splices to preparing for graduate school. Students may also visit SLAC for assistance in preparing for the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) test and admissions tests for graduate (GRE), law (LSAT), and business (GMAT) colleges as well as local tests such as the School of Journalism and Mass Communication's Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation (GSP) exam.

Supplemental Instruction, a nontraditional approach to collaborative learning, provides structured group study for students in historically difficult courses like HIST 1310 and 1320, ACC 2361 and 2362, PHYS 1310, CHEM 1341 and selected honors courses. Supplemental Instruction Leaders (SI's) act as role models and facilitate multiple study sessions per week in order to assist students, not only with course content, but also with the development of positive study skills and habits.

SLAC staff members also provide informational and interactive presentations on test-taking and anxiety management, learning styles, time management, note-taking, and other topics. Upon request, SLAC's staff will design specialized programs on study skills and academic improvement to fit the needs of a campus club, organization, or professor. In addition, SLAC works to facilitate the College Note-Taking session of PAWS Preview by showing incoming freshmen proper techniques and giving tips for successfully negotiating a college lecture.

SLAC also provides Texas State students with a number of online resources. By simply visiting [www.txstate.edu/slac](http://www.txstate.edu/slac), students can access the Learning Lab's tutoring schedule and hours, times and locations of Supplemental Instruction sessions, information regarding becoming a lab tutor or SI Leader, content area handouts, and test preparation materials. SLAC also maintains an Online Writing Lab (OWL) and a Math Online Lab (MOL), providing tutoring in an electronic format accessible via email.

## **Athletic Academic Center (AAC)**

Phone: (512) 245-2978

Office: Academic Services Building-North 210

Fax: (512) 245-1736

Web: <http://www.txstatebobcats.collegesports.com/academics/txst-academics.html>

The Athletic Academic Center (AAC) provides services and resources that aid student-athletes in maintaining excellence both in the classroom and on the playing field. The AAC staff strives to ensure the fulfillment of all five components of the program: Academic Excellence, Athletic Excellence, Community Service, Career Development, and Personal Development.

The AAC, open six days a week, houses a computer lab, a learning lab, areas for both individual and group study, and offices for the AAC staff. The AAC is staffed by a director, associate director and two student development specialists who serve as liaisons between the Athletic Department, College Academic Advising Centers and academic departments, and the administrative units of the University. In coordination with the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance, the AAC staff also monitors academic eligibility and ensures that all athletes are maintaining satisfactory progress toward their degrees.

### **Texas Success Initiative Program (TSIP)**

Phone: (512) 245-3942      Office: Academic Services Building-North 101

Fax: (512) 245-7648      Web: <http://www.txstate.edu/tsip/>

This office monitors the Texas Success Initiative, a legislatively mandated program for certain college freshmen and transfer students, and is located within the University College. Additional information about this program and its requirements can be found in the Academic Policies section of this catalog.

### **Testing, Research-Support and Evaluation Center (TREC)**

Phone: (512) 245-2276      Office: Lower Commons Hall

Fax: (512) 245-2903      Web: <http://www.txstate.edu/trec/>

The Testing, Research-Support and Evaluation Center (TREC) administers national, state and local academic testing programs, including the Credit by Examination program. The TREC also maintains information and registration materials for several tests not administered at Texas State.

Among national tests available at Texas State are: the American College Test (ACT), a college entrance examination consisting of subtests in English, Mathematics, Reading and Science reasoning; and the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), a college entrance examination measuring verbal and mathematical skills.

Tests for which the TREC maintains only registration materials include: the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), required for admission to most graduate schools; the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT), required for most business schools; the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT); the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and the PRAXIS Series Professional Assessments for Beginning Teachers.

The TREC is also a testing center for the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) test, which students must take before enrolling in any college coursework (see Academic Policies section).

Students who do not achieve an SAT math score of at least 480 or an ACT math score of at least 21 should take a math placement exam administered by the Testing, Research-Support and Evaluation Center. The examination determines which students must first enroll in MATH 1300 (Pre-College Algebra) and/or MATH 1311 (Basic Mathematics) before they can enroll in the appropriate required general education core curriculum math course.

Credit by Examination is a program that recognizes many students, independent of the college environment, have attained college-level proficiency in academic subjects. Credit by exam satisfies degree requirements in the same way credit earned by passing courses does except that it does not count as credit earned in residence. Students, who pass the same test as those who have successfully completed the course, can earn credit for certain courses without enrolling in them. The following options are available: 1) the College Board's Advanced Placement Examination Program (APP), 2) College Level Examination Program (CLEP), 3) SAT II Subject Tests, 4) International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, and 5) departmental examinations where available. Credit established in this manner through the TREC will be recorded as "credit only" ("CR") on the transcript and will not affect the GPA. Texas State is an institutional testing center and only those students who have attended Texas State or are currently enrolled are eligible to participate in the Credit by Examination program. Note that evidence of credit established by any of these means must be processed by the Center before it can be entered on a transcript. More detailed materials on this and other TREC programs are available at the TREC office.