

APPLIED ARTS AND SCIENCES (BAAS)

The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) is a nationally recognized program designed for highly skilled adults seeking a bachelor's degree. The 120-hour degree provides an expedited path to degree completion by recognizing and credentialing personal learning acquired outside the classroom. The process through which personal learning articulates to college credit is called Prior Learning Assessment (PLA), and the learning assessed is the type people acquire in their work, military service, technical degree programs, and/or other professional development programs and opportunities.

In addition to an expedited path to degree completion, the BAAS degree offers an opportunity to strengthen professional knowledge and skills within a chosen field of practice. Areas of study include:

- Behavioral Sciences
- Computer Technology
- Criminal Justice
- English
- Instructional Technology (online program)
- Liberal Arts
- Mass Communications
- Organizational Leadership (online program)
- Political Science
- Sociology

PREREQUISITES FOR PROGRAM ADMISSION

- A minimum of 5 years post-secondary work experience that can be documented and/or an earned AAS/AAA/AAT from a regionally accredited institution.
- Completion of ENGL 1301 and 1302 (or equivalent) with a grade of C or higher.

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Students should refer to their DegreeWorks degree audit in their Web for Students account for more information regarding their degree requirements.

First Year

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		
		Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 1301	Composition I <small>requires minimum grade of 'C', Satisfies Core Curriculum</small>	3
HIST 1301	United States History I <small>Satisfies Core Curriculum</small>	3
Life and Physical Sciences Core Curriculum Requirement (catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext)		3-4
Mathematics Core Curriculum Requirement (catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext)		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
IS 1100	University Foundations <small>mandatory for FTIC students only</small>	1
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15-16
Spring		
		Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 1302 or ENGL 2311	Composition II <small>Satisfies Core Curriculum</small> Technical Writing & Communication	3
HIST 1302	United States History II <small>Satisfies Core Curriculum</small>	3
Life and Physical Sciences Core Curriculum Requirement (catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext)		3-4
Creative Arts Core Curriculum Requirement (catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext)		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		

Spring Total Semester Credit Hours	15-16
Total First Year Semester Credit Hours	30-32

Second Year

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		
SPCH 1315	Public Speaking <small>Satisfies Core Curriculum</small>	3
or COMM 1307	Introduction to Mass Communication	
PSCI 2301	American Government I: Federal & Texas Constitutions <small>Satisfies Core Curriculum</small>	3
Social and Behavioral Science Core Curriculum Requirement (catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext)		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring		
		Semester Credit Hours
PSCI 2302	American Government II: Federal & Texas Political Behavior	3
Language, Philosophy and Culture Core Curriculum Requirement (catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext)		3
Component Area Option B of the Core Curriculum (catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext)		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Total Second Year Semester Credit Hours		30

Third Year

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		
AAS 305	The Adult Learner and Self-Development <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
ITED 350	Technology and Digital Literacy <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
AAS 395	Inductive Learning: Prior Learning Assessment Theory and Practice <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Professional Development Complement Upper Division Course <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>		3
Elective or Prior Learning Assessment- Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring		
		Semester Credit Hours
Select one of the following courses: <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>		3
ENG 340	Advanced Expository Writing (EL)	
ENG 345	Advanced Composition for Educators <small>(for ACP students only)</small>	
ENG 350	Technical Writing (EL)	
Professional Development Complement Upper Division Course <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>		3
Elective or Prior Learning Assessment- Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Prior Learning Assessment - Upper Division Portfolio Credit		6
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Total Third Year Semester Credit Hours		30

NOTE: The following courses are included in the major GPA calculation: AAS 305, ITED 350, AAS 395, Professional Development Courses, ENG 340, 345, or 350

Fourth Year

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		
LEAD 415	Organization Development and Change <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Professional Development Complement Upper Division Course	<small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Professional Development Complement Upper Division Course	<small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Upper Division Elective or Prior Learning Assessment		3
Elective or Prior Learning Assessment- Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring		
AAS 490	Deductive Learning: Self-development in Professional Contexts <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Professional Development Complement Upper Division Course	<small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Professional Development Complement Upper Division Course	<small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Elective or Prior Learning Assessment - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective or Prior Learning Assessment - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Total Fourth Year Semester Credit Hours		30
Total Minimum Semester Credit Hours Required for Degree		120

NOTE: The following courses are included in the major GPA calculation: LEAD 415, AAS 490, Professional Development Courses

NOTE: All courses in Major and Complement must be completed with a grade of 'C' or better unless otherwise noted.

NOTE: Bachelor's degree graduation requirements include these minimums: 45 upper-division hours and resident credit totaling 25% of the hours required for the degree

Bachelor of Applied Arts & Sciences (BAAS) Complements

Code	Title	Hours
All courses in Complements must be completed with a grade of 'C' or better		
Behavioral Sciences Complement		
A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours from Criminal Justice, Psychology, and/or Sociology		
Computer Technology Complement		
A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours approved by the BAAS Coordinator from the following courses:		
CS 310	Analysis of Algorithms	
CS 367	Software Engineering	
CS 410	Operating Systems	
CS 420	Computer Networks	
MIS 308	Project Management	
MIS 360	Essentials of Management Information Systems	
ITED 315	Introduction to Instructional Technology	
ITED 350	Technology and Digital Literacy	
ITED 426	Instructional Video Development	
ITED 428	Digital Citizenship, Ethics and Critical Media Evaluation	
ITED 450	Website Design and ePortfolio Development	
ITED 480	Management and Development of Instructional Technology Projects	
Other courses at 300/400 level may be substituted with advisor approval, with a limitation of 9 semester credit hours in Management Information Systems (MIS).		
Criminal Justice Complement		

A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours from Criminal Justice

English Complement

A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours from English

Instructional Technology Complement

A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours from Instructional Technology

Liberal Arts Complement

A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours from the following:

Criminal Justice

Education (up to 12sch) ⁹

English

Fine Arts (Art, Drama, Music)

Geography

History

Instructional Technology

Interdisciplinary Studies

Journalism

Kinesiology

Leadership

Mass Communications

Math

Political Science

Psychology

Science ¹⁰

Sociology

Social Work

Spanish

Mass Communications Complement

A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours as listed:

Initial Courses

MCOM 300 Mass Communication Theory

MCOM 491 Research in Mass Communication

Subsequent to MCOM 300 and MCOM 491 (Select 4):

MCOM 425 Case Studies in Advertising

MCOM 430 Public Relations Campaigns

MCOM 418 Concepts in Classical Film

MCOM 419 Popular Culture and Media

MCOM 310 News Writing and Reporting

MCOM 417 Advanced Video Production

Organizational Leadership Complement

A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours as listed:

LEAD 305 Introduction to Leadership: Concepts and Practices

LEAD 310 Leadership Theory and Practice

LEAD 420 Community Leadership

Additional 9 hours from the following:

Up to 9 upper-division semester credit hours in LEAD electives

Up to 9 upper-division semester credit hours from College of Business, Engineering & Technology

Upper-division PSCI elective

Political Science Complement

A minimum of 18 upper-division semester credit hours from Political Science

Sociology Complement

A minimum of 18 Upper-division semester credit hours from Sociology and/or Social Work

- ⁹ Up to 12 semester credit hours as approved by BAAS Coordinator. Includes: Reading, Early Childhood Education, Special Education, and Bilingual Education.
- ¹⁰ Includes Biology, Chemistry, and Physics

Undergraduate Courses in Applied Arts and Sciences

AAS 1100. University Foundations for Adult Learners. 1 Hour.

University Foundations for Adult Learners serves as an introduction to higher education and is designed to assist BAAS students become engaged members of the A&M-Texarkana academic community. This course assists students in acquiring essential academic success skills and developing a better understanding of learning processes. Focus is placed on the benefits of higher education and the expectations and values of the university. Students will examine factors that underlie learning, success, and personal development in higher education. NOTE: This is required of all BAAS students meeting 2015-16 and subsequent catalog degree requirements. Prereq: ENGL 1301 & 1302 with a grade of C or better.

AAS 1301. Prior Learning Assessment Theory and Practice. 3 Hours.

This course is designed to assist students in identifying areas of learning that may be evaluated for college-level equivalency. The course guides students through the preparation and compilation of all components required for the evaluation of a portfolio of prior learning. Students use critical reflection skills to conceptualize the value of prior learning and its implications for future learning. Adult learning theory, models, and concepts are discussed and applied to case studies. Admission to course requires BAAS program admission and permission by BAAS Coordinator. Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 & ENGL 1302 with a grade of C or higher.

AAS 301. Careers and Work-Life Integration. 3 Hours.

This course examines evolving work-life issues with respect to contemporary organizations and the changing landscape of careers. Major topics will include new career models, career development strategies, the interrelationship of work and family, and career development over the lifespan. Students will conduct a rigorous self-assessment to clarify values, interests, skills and career goals and aspirations.

AAS 305. The Adult Learner and Self-Development. 3 Hours.

This course will provide a formal space to introduce adult learners to the theories of adult development and learning and allow them the opportunity to explore those theories in light of their own personal and professional development. The course will also introduce students to the importance of well-developed skill-sets that include critical thinking, problem-solving, effective communication, leadership, personal responsibility, and self-directed development. In addition, this course will house tutorials to help returning adults acclimate to higher education, specifically its environment and expectations.

AAS 390. Psychology of Work. 3 Hours.

AAS 390 assists students in analyzing effective occupational practices as they relate to adult learning theory. The course topics include a comparison of traditional and adult learning theories, self-directed learning, transformative learning, experiential learning, motivation, personality traits, communication, and how these areas of knowledge assist in developing career goals and effective workplace interaction. Prerequisite: ENG 340 or ENG 350 or ENG 345, and must be enrolled in the BAAS program.

AAS 395. Inductive Learning: Prior Learning Assessment Theory and Practice. 3 Hours.

This course is designed to lead students through the inductive learning process by assisting students in identifying specific learning events, reflecting upon those experiences, and then conceptualizing the prior learning within theoretical frameworks. Specific areas to explore include occupational-based communication and interpersonal skills, leadership, collaboration, problem-solving, and time-management. Utilizing Bloom's Taxonomy and Kolb's Experiential Learning Cycle, the course guides students through the preparation and compilation of all components required for the evaluation of a portfolio of prior learning for collegiate credit. Students use critical reflection skills to conceptualize the value of prior learning and its implications for future learning. Prerequisite: BAAS program admission and completion of ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302 with a "C" or higher.

AAS 489. Independent Study. 3 Hours.

This course provides individual instruction. Students may repeat the course when topics vary.

AAS 490. Deductive Learning: Self-development in Professional Contexts. 3 Hours.

As the summative course of the BAAS program, this course leads students through the deductive learning process of applying theoretical knowledge to experiential settings. The course requires students to develop and present a research project based on an area of professional development within their field of practice. Students will conduct a research report over the selected topic within the context of a specified setting. Prerequisite: AAS 390 or AAS 305 with a C or better, ENG 340 or ENG 350 with a C or better, and senior status.

ENG 340. Advanced Expository Writing (EL). 3 Hours.

This course advances individual writing ability by focusing upon analytical and rhetorical strategies through various exercises and the production of compositions. This course integrates the principles of Experiential Learning and meets criteria for undergraduate research. Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 with a grade of C or better, and ENGL 1302 or ENGL 2311 with grades of C or better.

ENG 350. Technical Writing (EL). 3 Hours.

This course emphasizes the principles of composition, document design, and rhetoric applied to primary genres within scientific, technical, and professional writing. This course integrates the principles of Experiential Learning and meets the criteria for undergraduate research. Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 with a grade of C or better, and ENGL 1302 or ENGL 2311 with grades of C or better.

IS 1100. University Foundations. 1 Hour.

University Foundations serves as an introduction to higher education and is designed to assist first-year students become engaged members of the A&M-Texarkana academic community. This course assists students in acquiring essential academic success skills and developing a better understanding of learning processes. Focus is placed on the benefits of higher education and the expectations and values of the university. Students will examine factors that underlie learning, success, and personal development in higher education. No prerequisites. Required of all full-time year students new to the university, and students must successfully complete this course before enrolling in any upper division courses.

Faculty

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