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# The Nature and Purpose of Graduate Study

Graduate work consists of advanced study in focused or specialized programs. There are generally two components of graduate study: coursework and independent study, the latter often leading to a report, thesis, dissertation, or creative presentation. In some areas, internships, field studies, and other professional experiences may also be an integral part of the program. The proportion of each type of study varies according to the previous training of the student and the nature of the major area.

The objective of graduate study is to develop intellectual depth and to provide the specialized training necessary to a career in teaching, in research, or in the professions. Emphasis is placed on the knowledge, methods, and skills needed for scholarly teaching, original research and problem solving, intellectual leadership, creative expression, and other modes of achievement in the student's discipline.

## Graduate Degrees Granted

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi offers course work leading to the following graduate degrees:

### Master's Degrees

Accounting	MAcc
Art (Studio Art)	MA
Biology	MS
Business	MBA
Communication	MA
Computer Science	MS
Counseling	MS
Curriculum and Instruction	MS
Early Childhood Education	MS
Educational Administration	MS
Educational Technology	MS
Elementary Education	MS
English	MA
Environmental Science	MS
Fisheries & Mariculture*	MS
Geospatial Surveying Engineering	MS
History	MA
Interdisciplinary Study	MA
Kinesiology	MS
Marine Biology	MS
Mathematics	MS
Occupational Training and Development	MS
Nursing	MSN
Psychology	MA
Public Administration	MPA
Reading	MS
Secondary Education	MS
Special Education	MS

### Doctoral Degrees and Other Terminal Degrees

Coastal and Marine System Science	PhD
Counselor Education	PhD
Curriculum and Instruction	PhD
Educational Leadership	EdD
Marine Biology	PhD
Studio Art	MFA

\*Name Change Pending Approval