

APPLIED ARTS AND SCIENCES, BAAS

Program Description

All Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences tracks are designed to seamlessly incorporate an associate degree and/or vocational-technical credit from an accredited institution of higher learning into a bachelor's degree. The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) degree program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) is a unique program that offers students the opportunity to apply up to 42 vocational or technical credits towards the completion of a bachelor's degree. The program tracks are designed to meet the needs of students in the region with vocational-technical experience who seek to expand their knowledge, skills, and career opportunities in a variety of fields. With eight different tracks to choose from, students are able to tailor their degree to meet their career goals.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- understand concepts and practices within community-accepted standards relevant to each track;
- apply teamwork and communication skills to develop successful careers in their fields;
- apply professional and ethical awareness in the practices of their fields.

General Requirements

| Requirements | Credit Hours |
|--|--------------|
| First-Year Seminars (when applicable) ¹ | 0-2 |
| Vocational/Technical Credit | 3-42 |
| Core Curriculum Program (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/university-college/programs/core-curriculum-program/) | 42 |
| Professional Track Curriculum | 24-27 |
| Electives as needed to fulfill university graduation minimum requirements | 51-7 |
| Total Credit Hours | 120 |

¹ Full-time, first time in college students are required to take the first-year seminars.

- UNIV 1101 First-Year Seminar I (1 sch)
- UNIV 1102 First-Year Seminar II (1 sch)

Program Requirements

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Full-time, First-year Students | | |
| First-year seminars | | 0-2 |
| UNIV 1101 | First-Year Seminar I | |
| UNIV 1102 | First-Year Seminar II | |
| Vocational/Technical Credit | | |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Transfer of Vocational/Technical credit hours | 3-42 |
| Core Curriculum Program | |
| University Core Curriculum | 42 |
| Professional Track Curriculum | |
| Select one of the following Tracks: | 24-27 |
| Applied Leadership (p. 1) | |
| Early Childhood Education (p. 2) | |
| Community and Mental Health (p. 2) | |
| Criminal Justice (p. 2) | |
| Environmental & Occupational Safety/Emergency Response (p. 3) | |
| Information Technology (p.) | |
| Legal Studies (p. 3) | |
| Technical Communication (p. 4) | |
| University Electives | |
| Select electives with BAAS Advisor to meet minimum of 120 hours ¹ | 51-7 |
| Total Hours | 120 |

¹ Students must consult with the BAAS Advisor to select appropriate electives to meet graduation requirements. All BAAS students must earn a minimum of 120 semester credit hours, 36 of which are upper-division courses taken at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

* Online offering

^ Blended offering

Applied Leadership

The BAAS Applied Leadership degree assists students with identifying leadership traits on an individual basis to leadership of an organization. In this degree, students will not only examine different styles of leadership, but also the far-reaching implications leadership can have on organizations, communities and regions. They will also learn how leadership styles can uniquely impact a crisis. Students will gain hands-on practical experience in addition to classroom learning and will work with community agencies to solve real life problems. Students will learn how to present their classroom-based knowledge to the community through a variety of modalities, including written, oral and digital.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|---|-------|
| Required Courses | | |
| COMM 1321 | Business and Professional Communication | 3 |
| | or COMM 3350 Leadership | |
| COMM 3330 | Persuasion | 3 |
| COMM 4345 | Intercultural Communication | 3 |
| COMM 4350 | Organizational Communication | 3 |
| POLS 3341 | Introduction to Public Administration | 3 |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| Designated Electives | | |
| Select 9 hours of electives from the following: | | 9 |
| COMM 3311 | Nonverbal Communication | |
| COMM 4360 | International Leadership | |
| ENGL 3379 | Writing for the Web | |
| ENGL 3380 | Visual Rhetoric | |
| MGMT 3310 | Principles of Management | |

SOCI 4315 Complex Organizations

Total Hours 27

* Online offering

Early Childhood Education

The BAAS Early Childhood Education track is designed for students who are, or wish to become, child-care providers and seek additional qualifications. In the state of Texas, it is not necessary to hold a bachelor's degree to be child-care worker in a day care setting. However, if you wish to provide care for more than 6 children in your home, or if you wish to be a Director of a licensed child care center, one of the minimum education requirements is a bachelor's degree with 12 college credit hours in child development and 6 college credit hours in management. The BAAS Early Childhood Education track provides the opportunity to not only receive a bachelor's degree and fulfill the child development requirement, but it has enough room in electives that a student can easily add in the management courses as well. In addition, all licensed child-care centers must provide their workers with annual professional development in child growth and development, age appropriate curriculum, and serving children with special needs. With a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, students can explore becoming a trainer and leading workshops for child-care centers.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|---|-----------|
| Required Courses | | |
| ECED 3324 | Child Development | 3 |
| ECED 3380 | Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Education | 3 |
| EDUC 3311 | School and Society [^] | 3 |
| READ 3310 | Principles and Practices of Early Reading Instruction | 3 |
| SPED 4310 | Students with Exceptionalities [*] | 3 |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| Designated Electives | | |
| Select 9 hours of electives from the following: | | 9 |
| BIEM 4345 | Language Acquisition and Development | |
| BIEM 4357 | Methods of Teaching English as a Second Language | |
| ECED 4350 | EC-6 Social Studies Curriculum | |
| READ 3320 | Principles and Practices of Reading Instruction | |
| READ 3352 | Content Area Reading for Elementary Students | |
| READ 3380 | Children's and Adolescents' Literature | |
| Total Hours | | 27 |

* Online offering

[^] Blended offering**Community and Mental Health**

The Community and Mental Health track is designed for those students who wish to seek entry level positions in social service agencies or in child or elderly care facilities. It is also designed for those hoping to further their education in graduate school, as students wishing to provide mental health counseling in the state of Texas must be licensed. Graduate schools will provide the coursework, internship, and practicum opportunities necessary for licensure.

For those students who wish to work as an Adult Protective Service Worker, a Child Care Licensing Inspector or a Residential Child Care Licensing Inspector, a bachelor's degree is required. A bachelor's degree meets one of the minimum education requirements for a Child Protective Service worker.

Students who would like to work as a Nursing Facility Administrator must have at least a bachelor's degree in any subject, plus 15 hours in long term care administration or equivalent.

The BAAS Community and Mental Health degree allows students to not only earn a bachelor's degree, but also has several electives available for students, which can be used to tailor the degree to meet the needs of a specific career, graduate school or agency.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|---|-----------|
| Required Courses | | |
| PSYC 3361 | Psychology of Personality [*] | 3 |
| PSYC 3363 | Abnormal Psychology [*] | 3 |
| SOCI 2319 | Social Psychology | 3 |
| SOCW 2361 | Introduction to Social Work | 3 |
| SOCW 3310 | Approaches to Social Welfare | 3 |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| Designated Electives | | |
| Select 6 hours of electives from the following: | | 6 |
| CRIJ 3325 | Community?Based Corrections | |
| SOCI 3312 | Racial and Ethnic Relations | |
| SOCI 3340 | Sociology of the Family | |
| | or PSYC 231 Lifespan Developmental Psychology | |
| SOCW 3320 | Social Services in the Community | |
| Total Hours | | 24 |

* Online offering

Criminal Justice

The BAAS Criminal Justice track is designed for those students who wish to work in law enforcement, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or Texas State Parks and Wildlife. It also provides a solid foundation for students who are interested in pursuing a further degree in a law related area.

In order to be a police officer in Texas, you do not need to have a bachelor's degree; however, many of the police departments require their officers to have a minimum of 45-60 college credit hours in order to qualify for entry level position. According to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, jobs for police and sheriffs in Texas are projected to grow by 16% over the next 5 years.

Students who hope to work for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice as a Parole Officer and those students interested in a career as a Game Warden with Texas State Parks and Wildlife must have a bachelor's degree.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Required Courses | | |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| CRIJ 3325 | Community?Based Corrections | 3 |
| CRIJ 4345 | Research Methods in Criminal Justice | 3 |
| CRIJ 3302 | Police and Society | 3 |

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| or CRIJ 4351 | POLICE SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT | |
| CRIJ 4312 | Law and Evidence | 3 |
| or CRIJ 4313 | Criminal Procedure | |
| CRIJ 4320 | Offender Rehabilitation | 3 |
| or CRIJ 4321 | American Prisons and Prisoners | |
| CRIJ 4331 | Juvenile Delinquency | 3 |
| or CRIJ 4335 | Criminology | |
| Total Hours | | 21 |

Environmental & Occupational Safety/Emergency Response

The Environmental and Occupational Safety/Emergency Response track prepares students who plan to work as environmental safety officers, management of workplace safety issues, or in an emergency response field. Students who wish to work for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality should be aware that a large majority of their jobs require a bachelor's degree. For those who plan to move directly into the oilfields or refinery work after earning their bachelor's, this track provides students with professional certifications meeting industry standards.

In ESCI 4370, students receive 4 professional certifications (ICS 100, ICS 700, HAZWOPER, and HAZWOPER Supervisor.) The course satisfies the 40-hour off-site employee training requirements for U.S. OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) regulations as specified in 29 CFR 1910.120 as well as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) and Section 126 of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). This course qualifies students to support, and supervise, emergency response operations at the local, state, and federal level.

Students receive 3 professional certifications in ESCI 4430 (ICS 100, ICS 700, (or ICS 200 and 800)) in addition to the 40-hour training HAZWOPER for Oil Spill Response. The course meets the off-site training requirements for U.S. OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) regulations as specified in 29 CFR 1910.120 and qualifies students to support oil spill response operations at the local, state, and federal level.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Required Courses | | |
| CHEM 4490 | Special Topics | 4 |
| or ESCI 4490 | Selected Topics | |
| COMM 4335 | Crisis Communication | 3 |
| ESCI 3202 | Professional Skills | 2 |
| ESCI 4301 | Environmental Regulations | 3 |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| Designated Electives | | |
| Select 6-8 hours of electives from the following: | | 6-8 |
| BIOL 2421 | Microbiology | |
| CHEM 4443 | Environmental Chemistry | |
| ESCI 3443 | Environmental Biology | |
| ESCI 4320 | Environmental Health | |
| ESCI 4498 | Internship in Environmental Science | |
| GEOG 3443 | Environmental Geology | |
| GISC 1470 | Geospatial Systems I | |

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| POLS 3341 | Introduction to Public Administration | |
| Total Hours | | 21-23 |

Information Technology

The BAAS Information Technology track provides students with a broad understanding of basic computer languages, systems, software and hardware, giving them a firm foundation for a variety of careers such as personal computer technician, network administrator, database manager, information security technician, and computer technology manager within commercial, industrial, educational and government organizations.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|---|--------------|
| Required Courses | | |
| COSC 1435 | Introduction to Problem Solving with Computers I | 4 |
| MISY 2305 | Computer Applications in Business * | 3 |
| COSC 2348 | Introduction to Scripting | 3 |
| COSC 3336 | Introduction to Database Systems | 3 |
| or MISY 3330 | Database Management | |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| Area of Specialization (9-11 semester hours): | | 9-11 |
| <i>Programming</i> | | |
| COSC 1436 | INTRODUCTION TO PROBLEM SOLVING WITH COMPUTERS II | |
| COSC 2437 | Data Structures | |
| Approved COSC upper-division elective 3 sem. hrs. | | |
| <i>Information Security</i> | | |
| COSC 2465 | Linux Systems | |
| COSC 2466 | Network Systems | |
| COSC 3372 | Network Security | |
| <i>Project Management</i> | | |
| MGMT 3310 | Principles of Management | |
| COSC 3301 | Cyber Security | |
| Approved MISY upper-division elective 3 sem. hrs. | | |
| Total Hours | | 25-27 |

* Online offering

^ Blended offering

Legal Studies

The BAAS Legal Studies track is designed for students who seek advancement in private law firms, federal or state governmental agencies, legal departments or corporations, banks, insurance companies, mortgage companies, law libraries, legal services/legal aid offices, and special interest groups or associations.

While it's true that in Texas a paralegal does not need to have a bachelor's degree, the State Bar of Texas recommends that attorneys hire paralegals who meet certain educational requirements, one of which is holding a bachelor's degree in any subject area. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics reports that Texas has the 4th highest employment level of paralegals and legal assistants in the United States.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Required Courses | | |
| COMM 3330 | Persuasion | 3 |
| CRIJ 4310 | Constitutional Law | 3 |
| CRIJ 4312 | Law and Evidence | 3 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| CRIJ 4313 | Criminal Procedure | 3 |
| POLS 3313 | The Legislative Process | 3 |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| Designated Electives | | |
| Select 9 hours of the following: | | 9 |
| BLAW 3310 | Legal Environment of Business * | |
| COMM 3311 | Nonverbal Communication | |
| ENGL 3378 | Document Design and Publishing | |
| POLS 3317 | Judicial Politics | |
| POLS 3351 | U.S. Constitution and Federalism | |
| Total Hours | | 27 |

* Online offering

Technical Communication

The BAAS Technical Communication track is designed for students who seek preparation for careers that demand excellent communication skills, such as working as an editor, organizing and presenting information, writing technical manuals for companies, providing text for social media, or writing copy for media, public relations, or advertising.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Required Courses | | |
| COMM 4350 | Organizational Communication | 3 |
| ENGL 3378 | Document Design and Publishing | 3 |
| ENGL 3379 | Writing for the Web | 3 |
| ENGL 4320 | Professional Writing Workshop | 3 |
| ENGL 4321 | Grants and Proposals | 3 |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| Designated Electives | | |
| Select 6 hours of the following: | | 6 |
| COMM 1321 | Business and Professional Communication | |
| COMM 4345 | Intercultural Communication | |
| ENGL 3380 | Visual Rhetoric | |
| Total Hours | | 24 |

Course Sequencing

Applied Leadership

| Course | Title | Hours |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| First Year | | |
| Fall | | |
| College Core | | 3 |
| College Core | | 3 |
| College Core | | 3 |
| UNIV 1101 | First-Year Seminar I | 1 |
| POLS 2306 | State and Local Government | 3 |
| ENGL 1301 | Composition I | 3 |
| Hours | | 16 |
| Spring | | |
| College Core | | 3 |
| College Core | | 3 |
| College Core | | 3 |
| UNIV 1102 | First-Year Seminar II | 1 |

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| POLS 2305 | U.S. Government and Politics | 3 |
| ENGL 1302 | Writing and Rhetoric | 3 |
| Hours | | 16 |

Second Year

Fall

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| College Core | | 3 |
| College Core | | 3 |
| HIST 1301 | U.S. History to 1865 | 3 |
| SOCI 1301 | Introduction to Sociology | 3 |
| Creative Arts Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Hours | | 15 |

Spring

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|
| College Core | | 3 |
| College Core | | 3 |
| HIST 1302 | U.S. History Since 1865 | 3 |
| Life & Physical Science Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Component Area Option Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Hours | | 15 |

Third Year

Fall

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| COMM 4360 | International Leadership | 3 |
| MGMT 3310 | Principles of Management | 3 |
| Mathematics Core Requirement | | 3 |
| PHIL 2306 | Introduction to Ethics | 3 |
| COMM 3350 | Leadership | 3 |
| Hours | | 15 |

Spring

| | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| COMM 1321 | Business and Professional Communication | 3 |
| Component Area Option Core Requirement | | 3 |
| MGMT 4320 | Leadership Development | 3 |
| POLS 3341 | Introduction to Public Administration | 3 |
| ENGL 3380 | Visual Rhetoric | 3 |
| Hours | | 15 |

Fourth Year

Fall

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------|
| ENGL 3379 | Writing for the Web | 3 |
| COMM 3311 | Nonverbal Communication | 3 |
| COMM 4345 | Intercultural Communication | 3 |
| Upper Divisional Elective | | 3 |
| Life & Physical Science Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Hours | | 15 |

Spring

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| COMM 4350 | Organizational Communication | 3 |
| UNIV 4350 | University Studies Capstone | 3 |
| COMM 3330 | Persuasion | 3 |
| SOCI 4315 | Complex Organizations | 3 |
| Upper Divisional Elective | | 3 |
| Hours | | 15 |
| Total Hours | | 122 |