Texas A&M University Corpus Christi

New Student Orientation

Office of International Education
Welcome to Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi

We hope this short presentation will provide you with helpful information.

Congratulations on being admitted to Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi.
TAMU-CC is a beautiful campus. Care to experience the Island University online through a virtual tour?

http://virtualtour.tamucc.edu/

The Office of International Education Website link:

http://oie.tamucc.edu/
Housing

Camden Miramar
Momentum Village
Islander Village
Campus Quarters
As a new student, you will need to activate your Islander ID. Go to https://passwords2.tamucc.edu/ and click on New User.

You will need to have your A number (student ID number) ready. This number was provided to you in your university acceptance letter.

You will receive official university correspondence, updates, notes from the International Education Office, notes from your professors, and emergency announcements, just to name a few. It is very important to activate your email account.

More information on the Islander ID and email accounts can be found at http://it.tamucc.edu/accounts/index.html
To get your *SandDollar* ID card you must be enrolled in classes.

- This is your official student ID.
- It also allows you to ride the bus free of charge.
- *SandDollar* can be used at vending machines, copy machines, and at all food service locations.
- Your card allows you to check out books at the library, pay for printing in our computer labs, and gives you access to our recreational and fitness facilities.
Your Academic Advisor will help you map your studies.

Each College has a number of academic advisors ready to assist you with your degree plan. For more information, please use the links below:

College of Business:
http://www.cob.tamucc.edu/advising.html

College of Education:
http://advising.tamucc.edu/

College of Liberal Arts:
http://cla.tamucc.edu/advising/index.html

College of Nursing and Health Sciences:
http://conhs.tamucc.edu/advising_nursing.html

College of Science and Engineering:
http://www.sci.tamucc.edu/advising/index.html
2014-2015
CAREER GUIDE
THE ISLANDERS’ SOURCE TO MASTERING CAREER SKILLS
Services and Resources

Consultation
- Choose a Major
- Internships / Careers
- Resume / CV Assistance

Events / Programs
- Career Fairs
- Graduate School Fair

Student Employment
- On-Campus Part-Time
- Graduate Assistantships
- Off-Campus (CPT/OPT)
All CASA services are free for students

- Math and Science Tutoring
- Writing Center
- Retention Specialist
- Supplemental Instruction
- Islander Success Advocates
- Reading Tutors

For more information visit: [http://casa.tamucc.edu/](http://casa.tamucc.edu/)

- Hector Duarte
  CASA Assistant Director
  Hector.Duarte@tamucc.edu
  (361) 825-5941

- Kathleen Ramirez
  Retention Specialist
  Kathleen.Ramirez@tamucc.edu
  (361) 825-3775

- Andrea Amaya
  Retention Specialist
  Andrea.Amaya@tamucc.edu
  (361) 825-3649
Texas Success Initiative (TSI)
Contact Academic Testing to schedule an appointment or for other testing center locations \( (361) - 825 - 2334 \)

PRACTICE, practice, practice:
- https://www.khanacademy.org/
- https://store.collegeboard.org/sto/productdetail.do?Itemkey=130095469

Complete the Pre-Assessment Activity (PAA) activity
- http://casa.tamuco.edu/ksi.php print it and take it with you on the day of the exam.

Scores must be sent to Office of Admission on the Monday before the first day of classes
If you are TSI Liable, you must meet with a retention specialist

- The retention specialist will go over all TSI information and have you sign a contract

- After you see the retention specialist, you will meet with your academic advisor to pick your other courses (12 hours = Full time)

* For information about re-test contact Academic Testing or the Retention Specialist
Integrated Reading and Writing (IRW) ENGL 0399

- Passing is a grade of C or above.
- Does not count towards GPA
- Does not count towards your degree program
- It is a 3 hour credit course

Developmental Math 0300

- Passing is a grade of C or above (Completion of 12 math modules)
- Does not count towards GPA
- Does not count towards your degree program
- It is a 3 hour credit course

You CANNOT drop these courses!!!
University Counseling Center

Driftwood Building

Services Offered

* Crisis Counseling
* Individual Counseling
* Group Counseling
* Psychiatrist Services
* Assessment

* Free (no cost) for enrolled students
* Confidential (private)
* On campus
* Nice professionals
* Call to make an appointment or walk in and talk to the Counselor on Duty
• IOL Student Resources
• Blackboard Tutorials
• Blackboard Workshops
• Technology Support
• Blackboard Technical Requirements
• Online Learning Strategies
• Student Services A-Z
• Online Degree Programs
• Islander Mobile

iol.tamucc.edu
Blackboard Learn Fall Workshops

Each semester we offer workshops to provide:

• An overview of Blackboard navigation
• Hands-on activities to learn tools such as the discussion forum, wikis, blogs, journals and quizzes.

See upcoming Blackboard workshop schedules at:
https://iol.tamucc.edu/student_workshops.html

For more information call 361-825-2122
The Honors Program is a uniquely interdisciplinary opportunity for ambitious and dedicated students who seek a community of like-minded student-scholars and faculty-mentors, are eager to hone fundamental skills in expression and reasoning, and hope to achieve special recognition by Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for having gone well above and beyond the ordinary college accomplishment.
Did you know...

Every year 1,700 college students die from alcohol-related injuries, including motor vehicle crashes. These deaths are also linked to alcohol poisoning so it is important for students to be aware of their limits. Plan ahead, think now about your reasons to drink or not drink. Make a choice to be safe. Use protective behaviors if you choose to party. Be aware of the symptoms and watch out for others.

Want to become involved or have questions about alcohol and other drugs?
E-mail Islander.alcohol-education@tamucc.edu.
Don’t forget...

In order to register for classes for any upcoming semester, the Alcohol-Wise course must be completed!

If you do not complete Part I within 30 days from the beginning of the term a registration hold will be placed on your account until it is completed.

ALCOHOL-WISE
An online education course required for all incoming students under 21 years of age

1. Go to www.3rdmilclassrooms.com
2. Click on “Begin Enrollment-College”
3. Enter control number as TAMUCCAW
4. Enter your student ID number (A number) accurately

Students who do not complete this requirement will have a hold placed on their student account and will not be able to register for future semesters. The hold will be removed by 5:00pm the working day following course completion.

The course is free, takes one hour to complete and you can log in and out as needed.

For technical issues, please contact 3rd Millennium Classrooms at info@3rdmilclassrooms.com or 888-810-7990.

For questions regarding university compliance, contact the Islander Alcohol Education Program at Islander.Alcohol-Education@tamucc.edu.

http://www.3rdmilclassrooms.com
Judicial Affairs

- Student Handbook
- Student Code of Conduct
- Academic Misconduct and Student Grievances
- University Judicial Process

http://judicialaffairs.tamucc.edu/index.html
With S.A.I.L. you can:

- Register for classes
- Get your IslanderID
- Find academic advisors
- Purchase textbooks
- Get your refund
- Resolve a complaint
- Pay your tuition
- Update your address

To log in, enter your Student ID number (Axxxxxxxxx) as your User ID. Your PIN is your date of birth: mmddyy.

For more information go to http://sail.tamucc.edu/.
Office of International Education

International Student Services
Immigration / Visa Assistance
Student Concerns / Problems
Academic Advising
Course Registration
Advocacy

Telephone: +1.361.825.3346
Fax: +1.361.825.2223
email: International@tamucc.edu
http://oie.tamucc.edu
University Center Room 226
What’s the difference between a Visa and the I-20?

Your visa allows you to gain entrance to the U.S.
You must have your visa to enter the U.S.
It is legally acceptable to have an expired visa once you have entered the U.S. as long as your I-20 is valid.

Your I-20 shows that you have a purpose and are allowed to stay in the U.S.
You must have your I-20 to enter the U.S.
It is NOT legally acceptable to remain in the U.S. with an expired I-20. Your I-20 must be valid for the duration of your stay.

Immigration Basics

Welcome to Texas A&M University Corpus Christi.
This document has been prepared in order to review important information about your status as an International Student. Your student visa, I-20, and all requirements to maintain your legal status in the U.S.

Important Terms

USCIS — United States Citizenship and Immigration Service
I-20 — Certificate of Eligibility to study at an institution in the U.S.
F-1 Visa — For entry to the U.S.
SEVIS — Student & Exchange Visitor Information System.
I-94 — Arrival/Departure Record
Visa Status — You must follow certain rules to maintain your F-1 status while you are in the U.S.
International Student Handbook

Dear International Students:

We are delighted that you have chosen to attend Texas A&M – Corpus Christi, the Island University. The Office of International Education (OIE) welcomes you. We are here to help you have positive experiences as you participate in the academic, social, and cultural life of this campus and we hope that you will share your rich cultural heritage with us.

Office of International Education

Office of International Education is here to help international students adjust to the new surroundings and to understand how to navigate through the university’s rules and services. We encourage you to participate in orientations at the beginning of each semester. For ESL students, there are orientations provided when you first arrive on campus and upon completion of Level 3. OIE also offers cultural and social events throughout the year to give you the opportunity to learn about other cultures.

Office Hours:
- Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday
- Location: UC 216
- Derek Yu, Director
  Derek.yu@tamucc.edu
- Karen Griffeth, Coordinator
  Karen.griffeth@tamucc.edu
- Richard Carhart, Coordinator
  Richard.Carhart@tamucc.edu

Website:
http://oie.tamucc.edu/
Telephone SCAMS
(to CHEAT, DEFRAUD, TRICK)

Telephone Message
“You owe us money”
“Send us money, now”
“There is a warrant for your arrest”
“I’m from the Government”
“If you don’t pay we’ll come and get you”
“I’m from the Police”
“If you don’t ___ we’ll harm your family”
“I’m from U.S. Immigration”
“Your credit card has been ___”

Action
Hang up

Don’t be cheated or tricked
When in doubt...
End Call / Hang Up Immediately!
Intermission
Pathways to Success

What Every Graduate Student Needs to Know…

College of Graduate Studies
Areas of Focus

- General Issues
- Graduate Assistantships
- Master’s Degrees
- Doctoral Degree
The LANGUAGE of Higher Education

- You were **ADMITTED** to: the College of *Graduate Studies* at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

- You are **ENROLLED** in: one of 5 colleges –
  - College of Business
  - College of Education
  - College of Liberal Arts
  - College of Nursing and Health Sciences
  - College Science and Engineering

- You are seeking a degree in a **DISCIPLINE** – e.g., Psychology, Math, Special Education, Business Administration, Nursing

- Disciplines reside in a **DEPARTMENT**, e.g., Special Education is housed in Teacher Education/discipline may be in its OWN department, e.g., Math
Available Online Only
http://catalog.tamucc.edu

Contains university program requirements

Degree must be conferred within seven years from 1st term of enrollment
General Issues

COURSE NUMBERS

- **Master Level Courses**
  - Numbered 5000 or higher

- **Doctoral Level Courses**
  - Numbered 6000 or higher

The second digit in the series denotes the number of credit hours.

Each program defines the number of hours required and the courses required.
General Issues

DEGREE PLANS

“ When do I need to submit my degree plan? 
“ Master’s Students: *Completion of ½ program
“ Doctoral Students: *Completion of 36 hours

*may vary depending on program

“ Where do I submit my degree plan? 
“ College Academic Advisor, who in turn, submits to the College of Graduate Studies
GRADE POINT AVERAGE

3.0 (B) – Minimum GPA on all graduate level coursework

TAMUCC uses a 4.0 scale for GPA calculations
General Issues

SCHOLASTIC PROBATION

• When is a student placed on scholastic probation?
  – When GPA is below a 3.0 & more than two C’s or below.

• How long is a student placed on scholastic probation?
  - A student must achieve a 3.0 GPA within the next 9 semester credit hours to be removed from scholastic probation.
  - If GPA is not met, student may be placed on Enforced Withdrawal.
Graduate Assistantships

3 TYPES OF ASSISTANTSHIPS

– Graduate Teaching Assistants
– Graduate Research Assistants
– Graduate Assistants, Non-Teaching
Master’s Degree

HOURS REQUIRED

• Most programs require 36 hours

• Check specific program requirements
Master’s Degree

RECENCY OF CREDIT

Credit WILL NOT be counted toward a graduate degree if it is more than SEVEN YEARS OLD!
DOCTORAL REQUIREMENTS

Credit Hour Requirement

• beyond Bachelor’s – Minimum of 90 hrs
• beyond Master’s – Minimum of 60 hrs

Degree Planner Tutorials

• Must be submitted prior to 18 months in program
• Changes - approved by Committee Chair and Graduate Dean
IRB, IACUC, and RCR:
And other acronyms you need to know

Services provided to faculty, staff, and students include:

• Assisting with preparation of protocol applications
• Conducting training (workshops, individual, group, classroom, etc.)
• Providing guidance on research compliance

AND More Compliance…

• Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)
• Conflict of Interest (Conflict of Interest Review Committee – CIRC)
• Export Controls (research related)
• Biosafety (Institutional Biosafety Committee – IBC)
Online Resources

- A Brief History of Texas A&M Corpus Christi
- Sail and Email
- Forwarding Email
- Blackboard
- Preparing Your Computer for Blackboard
- Financial Aid
- Elite Program
- Toastmaster flyer
- Wells Fargo Banking
- Scholarship Flyer
- Campus Map

http://gradschool.tamucc.edu/orientation.html
6 New Awards:
Outstanding Teaching and Research Assistant
Outstanding Graduate Master’s and Doctoral/MFA Student
Outstanding Master’s and Doctoral/MFA Mentor Award

Recipients will receive a plaque and $1000 travel award.

For more information, visit:
http://gradschool.tamucc.edu/award.html