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/
Students who choose to live in on-campus housing are required to buy a meal plan. For information please follow this link: https://universityservices.tamucc.edu/Dining/Meals.html.

If you would like to live off campus, there are many options. Many apartment complexes are located on the bus route. Bus rides are free to students with a current student ID (SandDollar$). For information on off-campus housing, please go to http://www.tamucc.ocm101.com/housing.html.
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.tamu.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. If you’d like, your SandDollar$ card can be a prepaid declining balance account that can be renewed each time you make a deposit. SandDollar$ can be used at vending machines, copy machines, and at all food service locations. But that's not all! 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. Don't forget your SandDollar$ card to gain free access to athletic events. For more information please go to SandDollar$ (Corpus Christi Hall 103)
Academic Advising

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

Career Services
Career Guide
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

Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/)

![QR Code to Like on Facebook](image-url)
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
http://casa.tamucc.edu/temp-paa3.php

Complete the Pre-Assessment Activity (PAA) activity
http://casa.tamuccd.edu/tsi.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!!!
* 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

**Services Offered**

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

Counseling is when you meet 1 to 1 with a counselor and talk about your concerns or troubles.

You and the counselor will figure out ways to resolve the problems and help you feel better.

Examples of stressors or problems that international students have include sadness, depression, homesickness, anxiety, isolation, cultural adjustment, discrimination, academic problems, concentration trouble, sleep trouble, and relationship troubles with other students, professors, friends, girlfriends/boyfriends.

Counselors can work with you to resolve these problems so you can focus on your academic work.
• IOL Student Resources
• Blackboard Tutorials
• Blackboard Workshops
• Technology Support
• Blackboard Technical Requirements
• Online Learning Strategies
• Student Services A-Z
• Online Degree Programs
• Islander Mobile
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
Honors Program

Our goal is to enhance our students’ skills, abilities, and experiences through our courses, peer and faculty mentoring, out of classroom experiences, research, and more. The curriculum, activities, and programs offered through Honors are designed to prepare students for whatever they choose to do after graduation. Many of our students attend graduate or professional school while receiving significant financial aid packages and/or research opportunities. Others start their career after graduation, proving to be well prepared for their position.

Accordingly, the Honors Program is focused on developing fundamental skills that will prove useful for any major and any career. Graduates of the Honors Program will be:

- Expressively sophisticated in oral and written communication;
- Analytically skilled in argument and problem-solving; and,
- Technically adept at deploying formal and mathematical tools.

As a result of their mastery of the distinctive and challenging honors curriculum, graduates of the Honors Program will also be disposed to:

- Challenge the status quo, lead when they must, and contribute where they can;
- Demonstrate in their activities both self-discipline and self-determination; and
- Actively and enthusiastically engage in understanding the world about them.

In wondering whether to apply to the Honors Program, your question should not be, "am I good enough to be an honors student?". You must ask instead, "have I the ambition to dig deep and push myself beyond the limits of the average college student?"
Tangible Benefits/Advantages

• Option to live on the Honors Floor at Camden Miramar on-campus housing;
• Utilize our study room to read, review course material, and hold group tutoring/test review sessions;
• Financial support through scholarships that increase the further you progress within Honors;
• Lively and engaging Honors classes that only have 20 or fewer students;
• Early registration;
• Travel support;
• Recognition at graduation;
Intangible Benefits/Advantages

• Surround yourself early with like-minded students;
• Ease your transition to college right at the start by developing support networks with fellow students and Honors faculty and staff;
• Indulge your curiosity and explore your creativity;
• Develop relationships with students that are passionate about learning;
• Enhance your skills in writing, speaking, and critical thinking;
• Encouraged and supported by amazing faculty to accomplish your goals (and goals that you didn’t know you had!).
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.

Not all students choose to drink or use drugs. Islanders THINK, CHOOSE and GRADUATE. According to the 2014 CORE Survey data, only 58.7% of Islanders reported consuming alcohol within a 30-day period compared to 68.8% of college students nationally. Click here to find more information about the CORE Survey.
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.

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.
Judicial Affairs

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

http://judicialaffairs.tamucc.edu/index.html
Welcome to S.A.I.L

S.A.I.L. is a secure student portal where you can access your student, academic, and financial information.

S.A.I.L. will allow you to:
- Maintain your contact information
- Register for classes
- View unofficial transcripts
- Pay your tuition
- ... and much more

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

For more information go to http://sail.tamucc.edu/.
With S.A.I.L. you can also:

- Register for classes
- Get your IslanderID
- Find academic advisors
- Purchase textbooks
- Get your refund
- Resolve a complaint
Office of International Education

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

We have compiled this manual to assist you in identifying campus and community resources. We also encourage you to come and visit our office and bring your questions, ideas, and concerns as we want your transition and stay to be successful.

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 ESLI 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 share your culture while learning about others.

Office Of International Education

- Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  Monday–Friday
- Website: http://oie.tamucc.edu/
- E-mail:
  - Ana Billeaux, Director: ana.billeaux@tamucc.edu
  - Karin Griffith, International Student Services Coordinator: karin.griffith@tamucc.edu
  - Mary Beth Davis, International Initiatives Coordinator: marybeth.davis@tamucc.edu
- Programs: http://www.tamucc.edu/

Please visit http://oie.tamucc.edu/international_students/Student%20Handbook%20Final%202.pdf for more information.
Telephone SCAMS
(to CHEAT, DEFRAUD, TRICK)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Telephone Message</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“You owe us money”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Send us money, now”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“There is a warrant for your arrest”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I’m from the Government”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“If you don’t pay we’ll come and get you”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I’m from the Police”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“If you don’t ___ we’ll harm your family”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I’m from U.S. Immigration”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Your credit card has been ___”</td>
<td>End Call / Hang Up Immediately!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Don’t be cheated or tricked

When in doubt...

End Call / Hang Up Immediately!
Intermission
DISCOVER YOUR PASSION

Inquire

Innovate

Impact
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
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
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
Graduate Awards

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
Thank you...