

CHECK OUT THE CHALLENGE COURSE



Low Ropes Course Elements

- Rev's Rope Swing
- Ol' Rock's Web
- 12th Man Team Wall
- Sulfur Shuffle
- Aggie Trust Fall
- Howdy Mountain
- Aggies Aboard
- E-Walk
- The Ring Dance
- Texas Skis



Scan to schedule a session

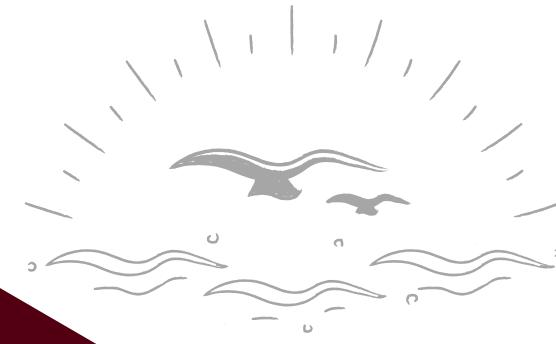


Scan for Staff Contact Info!



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY

GALVESTON CAMPUS®



LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

- Galveston Freshman Leadership Organization

This year-long freshman leadership organization will help first-year students connect to student leaders and staff on the TAMUG campus, while learning the skills to become a future leader. There is an application and interview process for admission into this program

- 12th Man Leaders

Highly involved students who strategically select co-curricular activities in order to enhance their academic experiences. These experiences will help increase your marketable skills and overall wellness

- Strengths Quest

This program provides participants with an online quiz to tell you what your natural strengths are. In the 3 hour workshop, learn to recognize those strengths in yourself and others, transfer those strengths into your academic and career planning, and how to use your strengths in positions of leadership

A FIRST
YEAR
GUIDE TO
GETTING
INVOLVED

Student Affairs

Howdy!

HOWDY!

Welcome to Texas A&M University at Galveston (TAMUG) from the Division of Student Affairs! Our office sponsors many of the activities that make up the "Other Education," or the education you receive as a result of activities outside the classroom. As a student, you will only spend 8% of your time in the classroom. What you decide to do with the rest of your time can greatly influence the end results of your time spent in Aggieland. We hope this brochure can help you pick and choose the activities that are right for you! Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or for help choosing your activities!

Gig 'Em,
Department of Student Activities

DOWNLOAD THE TAMUG
APP TO STAY UP TO DATE
ON CAMPUS EVENTS



@tamug_studentactivities



@tamugcounselingcareerservices

@tamugcampusrec

TAMUG Student Activities



TOP 10 THINGS TO DO YOUR FIRST YEAR AS AN AGGIE

- Go to a Midnight Yell Practice in the McCloy Arena on Thursday Nights
- Attend Gig 'Em Week events
- Join a student organization
- Join an Intramural Team
- Go to a Fightin' Texas Aggie Football Game
- Pay Tribute to Your Fallen Aggies at Aggie Muster
- Make A Difference - Vote for Your Student Government Representatives
- Attend Midnight Breakfast the Night Before Finals
- Volunteer at Big Event (One Day Campus-Wide Community Service Project)
- Go to Maritime Ball



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

New Student Transition

- Orientation Leaders
- SALT Camp

Specific Interest

- Aggie Gentlemen Society
- Aggie Gulf Coast Fisherman
- Baking Club
- Chess Club
- Democracy on Campus Coalition
- Drill Team
- E-Sports Club
- Food Recovery Network
- Galveston Ecological Conservation Organization
- Galveston Freshman Leadership Organization
- Game Club
- Golf Club
- Hearn Honor Guard
- Maroon Delegates
- Orchestra
- Residence Hall Association
- Sea Aggie Coding
- Sea Aggie Spirit Band
- Sea Turtle Aggie Rescue
- Sisterhood of University Leaders
- Students for Life
- Student Government Association
- Sword & History Club
- TAMUG Buddies
- TAMUG Choir
- TAMUG Two-Step
- TAMUG Wrestlign Club
- Traditions Council
- Turning Point USA
- Uplift Her
- Yell Leaders

Student Publications

- Society of Expressive Arts (SEA)
- The Nautilus - Student Newspaper

Club Sports

- Aggie Crew
- Men's Soccer Club
- Men's Volleyball Club
- Sailing
- Sea Aggie Barbell Crew
- TAMUG Lacrosse
- Triathlon
- Women's Soccer Club
- Women's Volleyball Club

Professional/Academic

- Allied Health Association
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
- Circle K
- Council of American Master Mariners
- Dive Club
- Future Military Leaders of America
- Future Professionals in Tech
- Galveston Engineering Student Organization
- Galveston Graduate Student Association
- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE)
- Lambda Kappa Alpha Honors
- Marine Tech Society and Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineer
- Maritime Business Associates
- Nautical Institute - TX Maritime Chapter
- Propeller Club
- Sea Aggie Former Students Network
- Student Association of Maritime Administration
- Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers & Marine Technology Society
- Society for Underwater Technology
- TAMUG Aquatics Robotics Team
- US Coast Guard Auxiliary University Programs
- Women Engineering Outreach
- Women on the Water
- Women in Maritime Operations

Identity

- Asian Pacific Islander Student Organization
- Black Student Alliance
- Central College Ministries
- Neurodivergent Leadership on Campus
- Sea Aggie Pride
- South Asian Student Organization (SASO)
- Student Association of Latino Leaders
- Student Veterans Association

Service

- FreshTX
- LaRue Service Corps
- Save Our Seas
- SPROUT
- The Big Event

Faith-Based

- Catholic Sea Aggies
- Current Ministries
- Christian Fellowship



CONTACT US!

 @saltcamp

 (409) 740-4969

 saltcamp@tamug.edu

 [www.tamug.edu/
newaggie/saltcamp.
html](http://www.tamug.edu/newaggie/saltcamp.html)

S.A.L.T CAMP

SEA AGGIES
LEARNING TRADITIONS



Who: SALT Camp is open to all newly accepted students who will be attending the Galveston campus in the fall semester.

What: At SALT Camp students are introduced to their new "Aggie family" and get a chance to learn and participate in Aggie traditions. SALT Camp is about having fun, learning traditions, and meeting new people.

When: August 16-18, 2026 held at Camp Cho-Yeh in Livingston, TX.

REGISTRATION

**SALT CAMP 2026
REGISTRATION WILL
OPEN APRIL 1ST!**

**The cost to attend SALT Camp
2026 is \$250.**

**For financial assistance, please
consider applying for the SALT
Camp Grant**



If you have additional questions, please reach out to us. SALT Camp is a student-led program coordinated by Student Directors, so response time may be a few days (school comes first!). Thank you for your patience

Nature Of Services

We offer our services to enrolled students using individual, couple, and group formats. Our approaches are supported through scientific research. Specific information about the type of counseling to be used will be discussed between you and your counselor. You should evaluate this information along with your own opinion about whether you feel comfortable working with a particular counselor. Should you have any doubts or desire a different approach to address your issues, you will be assisted in finding an appropriate referral to another mental health professional.

No Additional Cost

A Student Service fee included in your tuition funds all services we provide. No additional fee is required for any of our services.

Relaxation Room

Need a quiet place to meet, study or relax? Check out our relaxation room! Stocked with snacks, sodas, water and a massage chair, the relaxation room is here for all your distress needs.



Scan the QR Code to schedule an appointment or simply stop by our office for a walk in!

Location: Seibel Student Services Center Bldg. 3030 Suite 104

Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Phone: 409.740.4736

Email: studentservices@tamug.edu

Fax: 409.740.4741

Campus Police: 409.740.4545

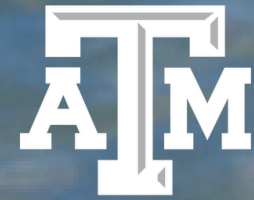
For emergencies please contact the police department by dialing 9-911 (campus phones) or 911 (personal phone)



Texas A&M University Galveston Counseling, Career & Ability Services



[tamugcounselingcareerservices](https://www.instagram.com/tamugcounselingcareerservices)



**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
GALVESTON CAMPUS**

Counseling, Career & Disability Resources



Meet Our Staff



Daisey McCloud,
M.A.P.C.P. LPC-S
Director of Counseling
Services



Ken Bailey, MA, LPC-S
Director of Career &
Disability Resources



Thomala Walker, MA,
MS, LPC
Professional Counselor



Dr. Dana Little, MS,
LMFT-S
Access Coordinator



Dana Keenan
Business Coordinator



Maya Sandy, BS '22
Career Services
Coordinator

How We Can Help

Counseling Services

Students can meet with one of our several licensed counselors about a variety of concerns or problems. Counseling can be used for handling issues ranging from personal enrichment to stress and other psychological components of academic difficulties, relationships, family dynamics and other topics affecting individual functioning.

Career Services

We offer a variety of services for students in every stage of their career planning process from freshman year through graduation. These services include career counseling, resume/cv and cover letter assistance, mock interviews, professional development, job search/networking tips, career fairs every semester and more.

Disability Resources

The goals of services for students with disabilities are to provide resources that will enable all students to participate fully in university life and to ensure that no individual will be denied full and equal access to academic and co-curricular programs.

Additional Services

- Substance Abuse Prevention & Education
- Crisis Intervention
- Stress Management Workshops
- Ethical Decision Making Course
- Referrals
- Health Services Liason with UTMB
 - We do not have a health clinic on campus. Instead, we have partnered with the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) on the island for students to schedule sick visits. Ask us to learn more about the partnership!

Confidentiality

As counselors we are bound by the law as well as our professional code of ethics and do everything to maintain your confidentiality and privacy. Please note that under Texas law, we are required to violate confidentiality if:

- You are a danger to yourself or others
- There is a situation involving child or elder abuse
- The unlikely event that our records are subpoenaed

All accommodations requests are processed by [Disability Resources](#) in College Information about the process is below.

Requesting Accommodations with Disability Resources

- **Submit a [New Student Application](#) with appropriate [supporting documentation](#) through the Accessible Information Management (AIM) Portal to begin the accommodation request process.**
- Get more information about requesting accommodations at disability.tamu.edu/process
- After the request is reviewed an Access Coordinator will contact you to discuss your request and/or to schedule an appointment to discuss potential accommodations.

Disability Resources works with students who have different types of disabilities, which may include, but are not limited to, the following: health related, mental health, autism, neurological, learning disabilities, physical/orthopedic, ADHD, blind/visual, Deaf/hard of hearing, and speech.

Contact Disability Resources

Phone (979) 845-1637

Fax (979) 458-1214

disability@tamu.edu

<http://disability.tamu.edu>

THE 12TH MAN STANDS READY TO HELP OUT OTHERS

When you see a
concerning behavior,
let's handle it together!

- Aggies deserve a campus community free from harm
- Our community cares and supports each other

If you are ever concerned about someone in the TAMUG community, send in a CARE report to get a referral for your community

We
CARE

Know When to Get Help Risk Factors

Mild Risk

- Trouble adjusting to new situations
- Changes in academic performance
- Changes in appearance to include weight loss, hygiene change, illness
- Changes in their interactions with others

Moderate Risk

- Escalation of mild risk factors
- Social isolation
- Emotional outbursts
- Higher levels of irritability
- Conduct interferes with school or group activities

Elevated Risk

- Feelings of hopelessness
- Irrational speech or social media posts
- Suspicious, irrational behaviors
- Loss of contact with reality
- Narrowing of goals to ultimatums
- Signs of physical violence to self or others
- Disclosure of thoughts of death or suicide

This is not a system to be used for emergencies. If you are in an emergency situation that requires medical, psychological or police services, call 911.

TX.AG/TAMUGREPORT

WHEN TO REPORT

CARE

Use this form when a student is experiencing physical, emotional, academic difficulties impacting their overall well-being and student success. These reports go to the TAMUG Care Team so we can offer comprehensive and holistic support to students.

CONDUCT

Use this form when an alleged student code of conduct violation has occurred. Examples include: disruptive behavior, hazing, academic integrity, violence, theft. These reports go to the Office of Community Standards.

CIVIL RIGHTS & TITLE IX

Use this form to report discrimination, harassment, sexual violence, stalking, retaliation, or related concerns that impact someone's work, education, or campus environment.



Need Guidance?

Consult with a member of the Student Assistance Services or Campus Living & Learning.

Call 409.740.4973 or 409.740.4829



**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
GALVESTON CAMPUS.**



Center for Academic Learning Support

tamug.edu/cals

cals@tamug.edu | 409.741.4343

MAIN suite 206 | Zoom ID 645-791-400

CONTENT SUPPORT

Academic Success Course (ASCC) focus on building academic skills and support for students by strengthening core skills and teaching effective strategies to improve success in college-level courses. Students are selected into ASCC based on the Texas Success Initiative (TSI).

Course Support provides peer learning consultants who guide learning while working through difficult course concepts & example problems in 1-On-1 or Small Group sessions.

Guided Group Study provides large groups with interactive study sessions to reinforce course content in a fun, relaxed environment. These sessions provide the opportunity to meet other students in your class and form your own study group.

FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

First Year Experience (FYEX) proactively supports students' transition into college through coordinated academic, social, and support initiatives.

Hullabaloo U (HU) is a required, small, community-based course with a peer mentor to create a personalized environment to promote student success during the first semester.

ACADEMIC COACHING

Early Alert Program proactively identifies students who may be at-risk academically and connects them with timely support interventions. Through faculty referrals and progress monitoring, the program provides targeted outreach, coaching, and resource navigation to address challenges early and help students stay on track toward academic success.

General Academic Coaching provides student-centered support to develop effective academic strategies to achieve their goals. Professional and peer coaching supports students in time management, study strategies, goal setting, and self-regulation while connecting to campus resources.

Pathways Program provides structured support for students during academic challenges. The program includes a weekly course, individualized coaching, skill-building, peer coaching, and progress monitoring to strengthen core academic behaviors, increase campus engagement, and promote persistence toward degree completion.

FIRST GENERATION PROGRAMS

FIRST Gen Program supports first-generation students' transition to and through the university by providing community and engagement to improve academic success.

Regents' Scholars & Texas Leadership Scholars supports students from Texas through scholarships, academic support, and enrichment to promote success, leadership and degree completion.



Dr. Krista McBrien

Director for CALS

I can help you with:

- Special projects & collaborations
- Overarching CALS questions and info
- Escalated issues or concerns



Ashley Dawson

Program Coordinator for Academic Operations

I can help you with:

- General questions, customer service, student worker related inquiries

CALS | cals@tamug.edu

We **engage, empower, and enable** learners to reach their academic and professional potential.

Get more info at tamug.edu/cals

Academic Coaching | coaching@tamug.edu

We can help you with:

- Academic soft skill development
- Early intervention & probationary student support

tamug.edu/coaching



Dr. Joseph Sullivan

Scholastic Performance Specialist I for Pathways Program



Kathryn Hall

Scholastic Performance Specialist I for Early Alert Program

Content Support | tsi@tamug.edu

We can help you with:

- Course support and guided group study
- Curricular support related questions or concerns
- TSI and Developmental Education information

tamug.edu/tutoring | tamug.edu/incoming/tsi



Laurissa Noack

Assistant Director for CALS



Samantha Harris

Program Coordinator for Developmental Education

First Gen Programs | firstgen@tamug.edu

I can help you with:

- First-generation program questions

tamug.edu/first



Rebecca Frazier

Scholastic Performance Specialist II for First Gen Programs

First Year Experience

I can help you with:

- FYEX related ideas, questions, or concerns

tamug.edu/hu



Vacant

Program Coordinator for FYEX Programs

Academic Advising

We can help you with:

- Degree planning, registration, schedule updates, holds, and graduation checks
- Major and minor exploration and academic support

Marine Sciences & Maritime Studies Advising Team



Rachel Ball
Director, Academic Advising



Lana Polzin
Maritime Business
Administration



Alexis Buck
Marine Engineering
Technology



Sam Theis-Damian
Maritime Studies, Honors &
Foundational Sciences



Amanda Bleier
Maritime Transportation



Rachel Sellers-Jaime
Marine Biology & Marine and
Coastal Environmental Science



Brandon Davey
Maritime Transportation



Brianna Zabawa
Marine Biology & Marine and
Coastal Environmental Science

General Engineering Advising Team



**Kimberly
Joyner**



**Samantha
Melendez**



**Dianna
Wilson**

More information

Helpful Resources



Schedule an Advising Appointment

New Student Advising



Incoming Student Advising Resources

Academic Calendar 2026-2027

Fall 2026

August

- 24 | First Day of Classes
- 28 | Last day to Add/Drop Courses

September

- 07 | Labor Day - No Classes

October

- 12 | Mid-semester Grades Published

November

- 05 | Spring 2027 Preregistration begins
- 16 | Q-drop/Withdraw Deadline
- 18 | Bonfire 1999 Remembrance Day
- 25 | Reading Day - No Classes
- 26 | Thanksgiving Holiday - No Classes
- 27 | Thanksgiving Holiday - No Classes

December

- 01 | Redefined Day - Attend Friday Classes
- 03 | Last Day of Classes
- 04 | Reading Day - No Classes
- 07 | Final Exams Begin
- 10 | Final Exams End
- 11 | Commencement

Spring 2027

January

- 18 | MLK Day - No Classes
- 19 | First Day of Classes
- 25 | Last Day to Add/Drop Courses

March

- 08 | Mid-semester Grades Published
- 15 | Spring Break Begins
- 19 | Spring Break Ends
- 25 | Fall 2027 Preregistration Begins
- 26 | Reading Day - No Classes

April

- 20 | Q-drop/Withdraw Deadline
- 21 | Muster

May

- 04 | Redefined Day - Attend Friday Classes
- 04 | Last Day of Classes
- 05 | Reading Day - No Classes
- 06 | Final Exams Begin
- 11 | Final Exams End
- 14 | Commencement

HOW DO I QUALIFY FOR HONORS?

INCOMING FRESHMEN (one of the following):

- Graduated in top 10% of high school class
- SAT composite score of 1300 (minimum 620 for Math and 660 for Reading/Writing)
- ACT composite score of 28 (minimum 27 each on verbal and math)

INCOMING TRANSFER STUDENTS: earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50 from prior institution

CURRENT TAMUG STUDENTS: earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50 at Texas A&M University

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Honors students must complete 18 hours of Honors credit (including three required Honors Seminars) maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA, attend 2 Honors meetings per semester, and complete 10 volunteer hours per semester.

IS HONORS APPLICABLE TO MY MAJOR?

Absolutely! We strive for interdisciplinary focus in our collective courses, and we encourage you to dig deeply into your chosen discipline!



Check us out online:



This student-led group fosters a vibrant social and educational community within the Honors Academic Program.

The student organization hosts social events and networking opportunities throughout the year and organizes volunteer activities that promote selfless service. Through these efforts, Honors students connect with peers and community members to make a meaningful impact.

The student organization encourages leadership, nurtures creativity, celebrates knowledge, and upholds kindness and compassion as core values.

HONORS LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITY

This wing on the 2nd floor of Atlantic Hall is for our Honors students, and includes:

- 4-student suites with two 2-person bedrooms and one common living area and bathroom
- An *exclusive* lounge area to relax, watch TV, play games, craft, or meet socially
- Multiple areas with desk space and large TVs to which you can connect for presentation practice
- Easy access to the kitchen area on the first floor of Atlantic Hall

Off-campus Honors students are always welcome to use the amenities of the Honors LLC other than the suites.

This Honors LLC strives to provide our diligent Honors Students with a comfortable living area to support your academic success!

HONORS PROGRAM



ENRICHING YOUR EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE

Center for Academic Learning Support
MAIN Suite 206
www.tamug.edu/honors

HONORS CHAIR: **Mona Hochman '94**
409.740.4753
hochmanm@tamug.edu

HONORS ADVISOR: **Sam Theis-Damian '16**
stheisdamian@tamug.edu

What is the HONORS PROGRAM?

The Honors Program is an academic track designed to help you maximize your college experience. Filled with unique courses, close relationships with professors, and professional engagement, the TAMUG Honors Program helps translate your experience as a student into your development as a professional.

MISSION STATEMENT

The TAMUG Honors Program enhances your undergraduate experience at the Texas A&M College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies by offering opportunities to:

- Conduct research both independently and collaboratively with peers, faculty, and industry professionals
- Engage in service-learning projects that promote civic responsibility and benefit both campus and community
- Participate in social activities that strengthen our sense of community

Rooted in Texas A&M's core values of excellence, integrity, leadership, loyalty, respect, and selfless service, the Honors Academic Program fosters a welcoming, inclusive environment that celebrates individuality and works in conjunction with all departments on the Galveston Campus.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN HONORS?

First-Year Experience: Enjoy regular meetings with the Honors Chair, peer mentorship, and exclusive access to tutoring and academic support. We are here to support you!

Priority Registration: Register early to secure your preferred classes and stay on track for timely graduation.

Scholarship Opportunities: Honors students are eligible for additional scholarships across various disciplines.

Exclusive Access: Attend specialized workshops and receive guidance from an Honors peer mentor. The Honors Chair, Honors Advisor, and Academic Advisors are all working to help you succeed!

Honors Living-Learning Community (LLC): Live in Atlantic Hall with fellow students who share your commitment to academic excellence.

Marketable Skills: "Honors" on your résumé or CV signals strong skills and dedication, which are impressive qualities valued by grad schools and employers!

Enriched Experience: Honors adds depth and breadth to your undergraduate academic journey, enhancing your learning and personal growth.

Faculty Connections: Small seminars, research opportunities, and Honors Contracts help you build meaningful, individual relationships with professors. This is ideal for recommendations and helps open doors for professional connections!

Career & Grad School Preparation: All these experiences prepare you for life after graduation, giving you a standout résumé or CV to either continue in grad school or impress potential employers!

THE HONORS CURRICULUM

The Honors curriculum aims to help you expand your knowledge and experience both in and outside the classroom.

Through **Honors Contracts**, you work with your instructor in a course you're already taking to design a way to increase the depth of your knowledge in that topic. These contracts allow you to connect with faculty and staff on a more personal level than you would normally.

Through **Honors Seminars**, you get to apply real-world occurrences to the topics you're learning:

- The **Connections** (GALV 101) seminar is designed to teach students how to think in an interdisciplinary manner. This is accomplished through various topics that blend humanistic and scientific inquiry. This seminar is meant to be taken in your first year in the program.
- The **Service Learning** (GALV 401) seminar exposes you to the theory, practice, and benefits of community service. You'll be surprised to learn all the ways you can help others!
- The **Writing Methods** (UGST 405-200) seminar allows you the opportunity to learn different ways that disciplines acquire, record, and present information.

Through **Honors Courses** you'll be able to work with a smaller cadre of classmates to give you a deeper, richer experience and a closer relationship with the professor.



Academic Opportunities in DIVE

Minor in Dive Technology and Methods (DVTM)

TAMUG's minor in Dive Technology and Methods is one of only a few of its kind in the world. Courses in the minor allow students to develop skills and earn certifications in:

- **Basic and advanced diving skills**
- **Scientific and research diving**
- **Divemaster**
- **Problem management, rescue, and first aid**
- **Boat diving, drift diving, wreck diving**
- **Underwater photography and full-facemask diving**
- **Technical diving**
- **Cavern diving**
- **Underwater survey and mapping**
- **Expedition planning**

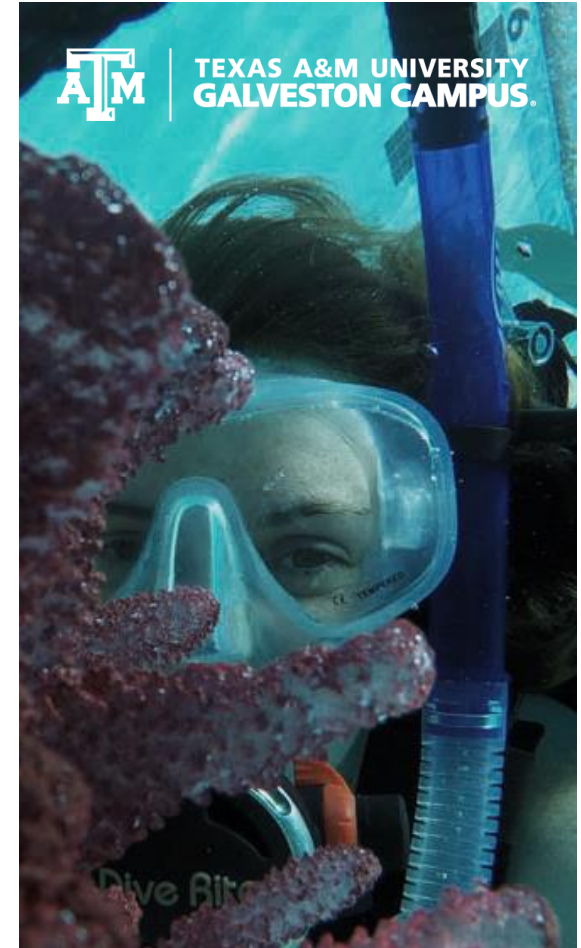
Hullabaloo U

Two sections of the introductory diving course (DIVE 250) are designated as HU sections in the fall, so students can be completing required HU activities while gaining academic credit and completing dive certifications. There is also an HU section specifically for already certified divers! Ask your advisors about whether a SCUBA HU is right for you!



**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
GALVESTON CAMPUS®**

200 Seawolf Parkway
Galveston, TX 77554



Learn more about the TAMUG Dive Program by
visiting our website:

<https://www.tamug.edu/diveprogram/>



Or by emailing diveprogram@tamug.edu

**DIVE Program
and DVTM Minor**

TRAINING TOMORROW'S UNDERWATER INNOVATORS.

The TAMUG Dive Program has a long history of producing graduates that become leaders in the scientific and recreational diving industry.

Scientists and engineers need a varied tool kit, and diving is important if you are interested in becoming a marine biologist, marine scientist, oceanographer, maritime archaeologist, and even those interested in ocean engineering. Scientists and engineers dive to collect information or specimens that are then returned to the laboratory for additional study. Underwater survey techniques are of particular interest to nautical archeologists and oceanographers.



*"The TAMUG Dive Program allowed me to build the foundation I needed for my career as a scuba instructor and a scientific diver for the NOAA Flower Garden Banks.
-Donavon French, Class of '22, Research Operations Specialist, CPC for NOAA*

DIVE Program Resources

- **180,000 gallon campus pool** that is available for group and individual diving and fitness training
- **Two on-campus dive lockers** providing in-house access and service of diving equipment used in teaching and research
- **Research and teaching vessel** (R/V Trident) available for offshore diving opportunities
- Public school costs with private school environment: **maximum 12 to 1 student/faculty ratio** in labs
- Active **extracurricular diving club** to maximize in-water opportunities
- **Training locations** in international and local openwater locations, including California, Mexico, Florida, and Roatan
- **Industry leading instructors** with expertise in underwater forensics, marine biology, maritime archaeology, offshore diving, cave and cavern diving, technical diving, underwater photography, and more!

Career Opportunities in Diving

- Biologists or mariculturists at aquariums and zoos
- Diving researchers for academic institutions in marine biology, marine sciences, maritime archaeology, and more
- Instructors and divemasters for the tourism, cruise ship, and resort industry
- Entrepreneurs: manage your own dive company
- Research assistants at state and federal agencies such as NOAA, EPA, USGS, Army Corps of Engineers, and TPWD
- Dive Safety Officers and Assistant Dive Safety officers at educational institutions, aquariums, and private organizations
- Technicians at environmental consulting firms (e.g., aquatic environmental impact assessments)



Dive Minor:

To enroll in the dive minor, you need to meet in person with the Dive Program Academic Coordinator, Jesse Pintacuda to complete the Minor Form (provided at the meeting).

Dive Minor Appointments:

Dive Minor appointments can be scheduled after you have enrolled in or completed a “DIVE_XXX” course at TAMUG. The in-person appointments take approximately 20 minutes and will cover the course flow, pre-requisites, swim test requirements, equipment needs, etc. of each course. You will then fill out the form based on the course offerings and submit it to your academic advisor. The form typically needs to be completed by add/drop day (5th day of classes) of the semester that you are taking a course.

Appointments will resume in August, and timeslots will be posted by August 3rd. The link to schedule an appointment is: <https://calendly.com/jpintacuda/>. There is currently no availability posted.

General Information:

If you are not a certified scuba diver, you would enroll in DIVE 250. This course is offered every Fall & Spring semester and includes Open Water (license to dive) and Nitrox Certifications.

If you are already certified, please contact Jesse via email with your current certifications, comfort level in the water, last time that you went diving, and approximate number of dives so we can determine the best course for you to take.

If you have any questions, please email Jesse and she will typically respond within 48 hours.

We look forward to seeing you in class!

Jesse Pintacuda

jpintacuda@tamu.edu

<https://www.tamug.edu/diveprogram/index.html>

TAMU Galveston DIVE Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What kind of certifications does TAMUG offer?

We offer a wide range of dive training and certification courses for divers pursuing basic, advanced, or specialized recreational certifications, or for those interested in pursuing professional careers in scientific, technical, or recreational diving. (See back for our training progression). Our primary certifying agencies are TDI/SDI/ERDI, DAN, and AAUS.

Why should I take dive classes here instead of at a dive shop?

Generally, an open water class taken at a scuba shop is completed in two weekends, and often most of the instruction is conducted via e-learning. We conduct our classes over 14 weeks, with in-water sessions and lecture sessions EVERY week, which vastly increases student comfort and competence. Additionally, our courses can be credited toward a minor in Diving Technology and Methods!

What do I need to buy to participate?

At the entry level, students are only required to buy a mask, snorkel, fins, and booties. In later classes, students may be required to buy wetsuits and accessories such as underwater slates, surface marker buoys, whistles, compasses. We also welcome students who have or wish to buy their full complement of diving equipment, but access to all life support equipment (tanks, regulators, BCDs, etc) and most accessories are included in course fees.

What are my employment options in or after DIVE?

There are two opportunities for student employment WITHIN the program: we employ student Divemasters to support the safety mission of the DIVE program, and Dive Locker workers, who support equipment service and maintenance. Many of our grads go on to conduct diving research in graduate school, but others are employed with NASA, NOAA, the Corps of Engineers, Texas and Louisiana Parks and Wildlife, Moody Gardens, the Pacific Whale Conservancy, SeaWorld, and more!

How do I pay for the classes, and what are the costs involved?

Courses through the TAMUG dive program do cost more than equivalent courses at a scuba shop, because they are academic courses that have lecture and lab components (and therefore, include both tuition and field trip fees). ALL scuba classes include field trips, including anything from local Texas lakes to California, Florida, or Mexico! If you are a student in the DIVE minor, your DIVE classes counting toward the minor may be covered by financial aid.

What are the classes like?

Classes are taught by professional, experienced faculty and provide hands-on, high-impact dive training in open water and in the pool.

What is the Minor in Dive Technology and Methods all about?

Requirements:

- Complete 16 hours total (see training progression on the back)
- Minimum of 8 hours at the 300-400 level
- Must complete a medical statement or have recreational scuba divers physician examination
- Must maintain a GPA of 2.5
- Must maintain good health and fitness appropriate to the level of diving required

Can I count certifications I got at a dive shop for academic credit?

No, but certifications that you got at a dive shop can count as a prerequisite that allows you to accelerate your training.

Can I take classes out of order?

Sometimes! In the event of a direct prerequisite, you must take the prerequisite first (or provide evidence of equivalency).

What extracurricular dive activities are there?

TAMUG DIVE also supports the TAMUG dive club and a Hullabaloo U Course! You do NOT need to have taken a dive class (or even be a diver!) to participate in DIVE club, but you will need to show proof of certification to be allowed to dive.

I have more questions! Where can I find answers?

Check the website! <http://www.tamug.edu/diveprogram/>. We do our best to keep the website updated with current information concerning the dive manual, course offerings, procedures, faculty/staff, etc.

Otherwise, feel free to contact Jesse Pintacuda (jpintacuda@tamug.edu), the Academic Coordinator for the DIVE program.

TAMUG DIVE Training Progression

