

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Dean

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 Undergraduate Academic Center Room 149
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Associate Dean

Kambra K. Bolch, J.D.

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Lauren M. Hindson

Program Directors

Athletic Academic Center—Lauren M. Hindson
 CHAMPS Life Skills—John Anderson M.Ed.
 Common Experience—Twister Marquiss, M.F.A.
 General Studies—Jeremy S. Roethler, Ph.D.
 HSI STEM IMPACT—Sylvia Gonzales, M.Ed.
 National Student Exchange—Lisa Chrans, M.A.
 PACE Academic Coaching—Catarina Dominguez, M.A.
 PACE Advising Services—Vacant
 PACE Center—Daniel A. Brown, Ph.D.
 PACE Peer Mentoring Services—Victoria Black, M.Ed.
 Strategic Initiatives—Nicholas "Nick" E. Weimer, M.B.A., M.P.A.
 Student Success Initiatives—April S. Barnes, M.Ed.
 University College Advising Center—Amelia I. Beck, M.A.
 University Seminar—Kambra K. Bolch, J.D.

Academic Advising Centers

PACE Center

Undergraduate Academic Center Room 120
 Telephone: 512-245-7223 Fax: 512-245-8765
<http://pace.txstate.edu/>

University College Advising Center

Undergraduate Academic Center Room 120
 Telephone: 512-245-2218 Fax: 512-245-8765
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University College houses two academic advising centers, the PACE Center and University College Advising Center (UCAC). The PACE Center serves first-time-in-college students with fewer than 16 college credit hours completed after high school graduation, and UCAC serves Exploratory, Exploratory Professional, and Bachelor of General Studies majors.

At Texas State, first-time-in-college students begin their educational journey at the PACE Center—the University's commitment to Personalized Academic and Career Exploration. It reflects a philosophy of enhancing student achievement within and outside the classroom through five student-centered programs:

1. Academic Coaching - helps students to take an active approach to learning and self-advocacy by utilizing intentional methods and developing essential critical and academic skills to improve overall success.
2. Academic Advising - helps students select the right classes, build a class schedule customized to meet their personal and academic

needs, and develop a plan for educational success focused on graduation.

3. Career Counseling - helps students clarify career interests and develop the resume needed to successfully transition to the professional world.
4. Mentoring - helps students transition to university life, become part of the campus community, and connect with resources and services that support academic success.
5. University Seminar (US 1100) - this required course helps students transition to academic life at Texas State by identifying and developing practical learning skills and concepts, exploring and reflecting on academic and career opportunities, and connecting to university opportunities and resources.

University College Advising Center provides academic advising for students who are undecided about a major, those who are changing majors, those who are working toward admission into a particular program, and those majoring in General Studies. Advisors will assist students in researching options, evaluating alternatives, and making decisions so that they may make realistic and satisfying choices of majors. They will also provide guidance in completing general education requirements. The advising goal is to provide accessible, friendly, and accurate advising.

University College Advising Center and PACE Center are located on the first floor of the Undergraduate Academic Center and are open between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Services include one-on-one appointments, advising sessions before and during registration, and probation advising sessions.

Bachelor of General Studies

The Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.) provides an individualized, interdisciplinary degree that allows students with a broad range of academic interests to achieve personal educational goals. The program helps each student who enters develop a unique career or academic goal that is matched by three Texas State minors. Those best suited for the B.G.S. (1) have a clear interest that overlaps the boundaries or blends the disciplinary areas of other academic majors available at Texas State; (2) have invested in a traditional degree program but wish to redirect their career or academic goals while building on some of the courses already completed; or (3) have difficulty choosing an existing major and are willing to assemble three minors based on organized career research and preparation.

The B.G.S. includes GNST 4300 – Interdisciplinary Preparation, a course that helps students learn how to assess their talents, match them with potential careers, and maximize or choose three Texas State minors to best prepare them for the requirements of the career. Then they practice interviewing and preparing resumes, cover letters, etc., and discover how to market themselves. Following completion of most of the courses in the three B.G.S. minors, the capstone B.G.S. course (GNST 4350 – Interdisciplinary Project) challenges students to make use of their education in tailoring a research-based project that innovatively contributes to the career or academic goal, incorporates all three minors, and gives them good supporting material to use in job interviews and graduate and professional school applications.

Information about admission into the B.G.S. is available at www.txstate.edu/ucollege/bgs. (<http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/bgs.html>)

As with any major, it is important to check with a University College advisor on a regular basis to ensure that progress is being made in meeting B.G.S. program requirements.

The following B.G.S. policies are particularly important to note:

- In order to be advised for the B.G.S. program, register for GNST 4300 or GNST 4350, or enter the B.G.S. program, students must be in good academic standing at Texas State University. Those who are not in good academic standing and/or have questions about potential majors may make an appointment with University College Exploratory advisors.
- Only B.G.S. majors may register for GNST 4300 and GNST 4350 and both courses must be successfully completed at Texas State in order to be applied to the B.G.S. degree. (Under some circumstances, students with Honors minors may be allowed to substitute HON 4390B-Honors Thesis if the topic meets the requirements of GNST 4350.)
- Both courses are offered each semester, including summer. They are not available online.
- Each B.G.S. minor requires at least 12 advanced hours, so B.G.S. minors may differ from the minors offered by the departments in that regard.
- Certain minor combinations may not be allowed if the coursework or content is duplicative. A course may be counted toward more than one minor only if it is specifically required by those minors.
- Both GNST 4300 and GNST 4350 as well as all courses that are part of the three B.G.S. minors must be completed with a grade of C or higher. In addition to a minimum Texas State GPA of 2.0, graduation with a B.G.S. degree requires a GPA of 2.25 in each B.G.S. minor.

Writing Intensive

Certain Texas State courses are designated as “writing intensive” and are labeled as (WI) in this catalog and the schedule of classes. In order to achieve this status, at least 65% of the course grade must be based on written assignments and a minimum of one extended piece of writing must be required. Academic colleges require a minimum of 9 credit hours of these courses for graduation. In addition to certain major and elective courses, the two history and two philosophy courses included in the general education core curriculum are writing intensive. These courses as well as other courses appropriate for writing intensive credit must be taken at Texas State. The University College Associate Dean manages Writing Intensive Courses.

Transfer Course Evaluation

Students transferring from other institutions of higher education will have their transcripts initially evaluated by the Undergraduate Admissions Office. Under the provisions of the Texas general education core curriculum, Texas State must accept courses that fulfill the core curriculum at other Texas public institutions (indicated by a 3-digit code on the transcript), and may not accept other courses unless they are equivalent to the required Texas State course. Students seeking evaluation of courses from out-of-state or private institutions for fulfillment of general education core curriculum components may contact University College to initiate the process. Students should be prepared to provide documentation such as catalog descriptions, course syllabi and textbook information to facilitate verification of course content. Students seeking evaluation of coursework for application to a major or minor requirement should contact their college advising center for information about the process for evaluation by department faculty.

National Student Exchange

The National Student Exchange (NSE) is a study away program administered by University College that offers Texas State students a unique opportunity to expand their educational horizons by enrolling at a participating university for one or two semesters while paying an in-state resident tuition rate. Students can benefit from the NSE program by accessing courses, internships, field experiences, and exploring graduate schools at over 160 colleges and universities in the United States, U.S. territories (including Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands), and Canada.

Credits earned at these host institutions can be transferred back to Texas State, allowing students to maintain progress toward their academic objectives. For the privilege of NSE participation, Texas State students can pay in-state tuition and fees directly to their host institution or pay Texas State for 15 credit hours of coursework.

Applications for the first round of NSE placements are due in February for fall and spring exchanges, though placements can be made throughout the year. Requirements of the program include a minimum 2.5 Texas State GPA, plus a completed online application with a \$200 application fee. For more information about the National Student Exchange, contact University College or visit www.txstate.edu/ucollege/programs/nse (<http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/programs/nse>).

Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.)

- Major in General Studies (<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/undergraduate/university-college/general-studies-bgs>)

Courses in General Studies (GNST)

GNST 4300. Interdisciplinary Preparation.

This course includes a variety of activities and written assignments designed to encourage self-analysis of intellectual/career interests and career planning. Students will develop an interdisciplinary career plan incorporating three formal minors that lead to a Bachelor of General Studies degree. Prerequisite: Texas State GPA 2.0 or better; Departmental approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

GNST 4350. Interdisciplinary Project.

Students will design and complete an interdisciplinary capstone project incorporating their three selected BGS minors. The project components will include a project proposal, substantial research, and a final applied project directed toward a specific audience. Presentations of some or all of the components of the completed project are required. Prerequisite: Texas State GPA 2.0 or better; Department approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter