**Important Reminders**

**Degree Plan**
- Review it frequently
- Fill in completed classes
- Sign & return final degree plan
- Ask questions!

**Writing Proficiency Requirement (WPR)**
- Satisfy requirement between 60-90 hours
- Communication core completed
- Essay exam or ENGL 2113
- Graduation requirement

**Graduation Audit**
Apply for graduation audit two semesters before your projected date to avoid graduation delays and surprises.

**Concurrent Enrollment**
Required if enrolled at two different schools during the same semester.

**Drop Date**
Keep in mind that the last day to drop a class and receive a “W” for the Fall is October 28 at 4:00 PM CT.

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**Fall Writing Proficiency Exam**

Registration for the Fall Writing Proficiency Exam is currently underway. If you have 60 or more credit hours and have completed both Communications areas of your core curriculum, **now** is the time to plan for the exam. Please note the Fall 2020 WPE registration details below:

- Complete the WPE Student Survey found at the *Paying for the WPE* link on the WPE website: [https://msutexas.edu/academics/wpr/](https://msutexas.edu/academics/wpr/)
- The survey will be available through Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 4:00 PM CT. The deadline is **THIS** Thursday, so please complete the survey ASAP!
- After submitting the survey, students will receive an automatic reply email that includes a link to purchase a $25 exam ticket through Touchnet.
- After the purchase is complete, a receipt will be emailed to the student. It is important to save this receipt!
- If a student submits a survey, but **DOES NOT** qualify for the exam (has not completed 60 credit hours or both communication core courses), he or she will receive an email from the Writing Proficiency Office that includes instructions on how to re-use the exam ticket at a later date. Students who **DO** qualify for the exam will not receive any additional correspondence from the Writing Proficiency Office until the week of September 21. An email will be sent that week as a reminder about the exam, and will provide instructions for accessing the exam in D2L.
- Students may complete the WPE at any time between 8:00AM CST Tuesday, September 29 and Saturday, October 3, 11:00PM CST.
- The exam will be monitored with LockDown Browser and Respondus.
This past summer was an especially busy time for the College of Education. We began moving our offices from Ferguson Hall to our new home in J.S. Bridwell Hall in June and it was quite an undertaking! The BAAS Office is extremely grateful to everyone from Facilities Services who helped to get us moved and settled in. Because of their hard work, we were set up and ready to go for the start of the Fall 2020 semester.

The BAAS Office is now located on the first floor of Bridwell Hall. It is a wonderful new place to call home. Dr. Jackson and Ms. Roberts are located in BH 104 and Ms. Kundert and our student assistant, Ms. Ringwald, are in BH 102. Stop by to say hello sometime—just be sure to remember your mask per covid protocol. We want to make sure that everyone stays as safe as possible!

Shortly after our move, we received the biggest news of all! The College of Education was recently approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to offer the Ed.D in Educational Leadership, beginning Spring 2021. This is a historic moment for Midwestern State University and the West College of Education. It took a lot of hard work and dedication in order to make this happen. We’re so proud of our colleagues and celebrate this achievement with them!
Our 2020 BAAS Honor Graduate is Ms. Julia Lowry. Julia graduated Summa Cum Laude in May of this year with a 4.0 GPA. We want to extend a big congratulations to Julia and wish her the very best as she moves forward with her career!
Congratulations to our May and August 2020 BAAS Grads!

**May 2020**
Megan Nicole Allen
Oladipupo Ayodele
Ashleigh Rene Berkley
Xavier Gabriell Blackburn
Kadijah Tenise Cash
Joseph Lawrence Catletti II
Jennifer Anne Choate
Theresa Lopez Crawford
Christina Sandra Cuellar
Michael Napoleon Cyr
Beverly Ann Dittman
Noah Grey Garcia
Rockelle Erin Gholson
Cortney Danielle Glover
Rebecca Elizabeth Greeley
Cassidy Jordan Hall
Macey M’Lynn Hall
Anna Liese Hancock
Erica Danielle Harris
Sharif Bin Hasnat
LaWonda Jean Hicks
James Kevin Huynh
Joshua Lavon Jackman
Emily Frances Jackson
Talvin Toyell Jackson
Julia Kaitlyn Lowry
Colton Alexander Maggard

Anthony Laurence Maxie II
Julie Ann McWhorter
Amber Dawn Broomfield Murfield
Mary Cate Neeley
Andrew J. Norwood
Abigail Dianne Pagel
Grayson Marie Paul
Hannah Nicole Pryce
Andrea Michelle Prater Sanchez
Jacy Denise Shaw
Jesselee James Shores
Bryan Ray Sidebottom
Courtney Michelle Starr
Crystal LaChelle Steinbeck
Lawrence Edward Strange, Jr.
Vince Neil Struve
Alexander Lamar Torres
Jose De Jesus Torres, Jr.
Cassie Danielle Wright
August 2020

Jessica Yvette Alvarenga
Sara Rose Marie Morris Anzaldua
Kalina Marie Bransford
Stephanie LeeAnn Breeden
Dylan Patrick Burke
Leslie Anne Crosley
Amelia Boyd Ecevido
Ginger Gilmore
Clara Gonzalez
Mekenna Jae Hatfield
Jason Maxwell Hubbard
Juwan Marcques Johnson
Chadrik Daniel Ledbetter
Emily Jean Lowe
Candace Rashelle McFadden
Terrell W. McLain

Deshandria Antionette Miller
Cameron Todd Noakes
Shae Lynn Perry Price
Diana Lynn Russell
Kwabena Sapon-Amoah
Anissa Darlene Scott
Jacob Andrew Simpson
Michael Thomas Skinner
Darius Thompson
Frankie Leann Trejo
Amanda Vasquez
Kenneth Albert Waugh
Tamara Eteolia Wherry
Herbert Whitehurst, Jr.
Danny Ray Woodard
Christopher M. Zamora
Laci Leann Hohertz Zotz
Malcolm Knowles’ (2005) makes the following assumptions regarding adult learners:

- prefer self-direction in learning,
- bring a vast reservoir of experience that should be considered in planning learning experience,
- exhibit a readiness to learn that is based on a need to know something or do something,
- exhibit an orientation to learning that is task- or problem-centered rather than subject-centered, and
- exhibit a relatively high degree of internal motivation.

With Knowles’ assumptions in mind the academic advising and guidance provided to our adult learners should be enhancing and supportive of strengths they bring to the academic environment.

Adult students seek convenience and affordability when selecting a postsecondary institution. Academic advisors who are guided by adult learning theory can smooth the adult learner’s transition into postsecondary education and positively impact retention and persistence to degree completion. Although there are several different approaches to advising - intrusive, developmental, appreciative, prescriptive- (NACADA, 2014) advisors want to always ensure are advising is conducted in a manner which complements adult learners’ background, experience, and maturity. Through whichever approached is utilized how do we provide adult learners the best advising possible, and how can our adult learners support the advising process for their benefit?

Below are a few suggestions which may be appropriate and helpful for BAAS students:

- Begin the advising process early and become active in the process. Reflect on your personal, professional and academic interests. What courses offered for the semester would be enhancing for you? Review the schedule of course offerings and peruse course descriptions.

- Develop an advisee/advisor relationship with your advisor. During your advising appointment (office, zoom, telephone, or email) discuss those courses of interest with your advisor and determine the number of hours you can realistic manage for the semester. Remember work, family, social and civic interests are also a part of who you are so there are priorities you must factor into school.

- Remain connected with your professors and instructors so that you are apprised of your grades, status, quality and quantity of work, and class requirements. Between your instructors, advisors, and campus resources there should be a support system to help you through academic barriers and challenges.

- Remain committed to your goal of degree completion!


Mission of the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences Program at Midwestern State University—Texas

As an Adult Completion Degree, the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) Degree offers adult learners the opportunity to complete their undergraduate degree through an expeditious and direct pathway. The multidisciplinary approach of the BAAS degree builds on adult learners’ backgrounds and experiences and allows flexibility and personalization in selecting courses that match academic, career, and personal goals.

Many BAAS students continue on to graduate school after the completion of their bachelor’s degree. Midwestern State University has several graduate school programs for students to consider. There are some fully online options for working adult students, such as Human Resource Development, Sport Administration, Criminal Justice, and Health Services Administration. You can see more information on all of the programs available at the Dr. Billie Doris McAda Graduate School website.

Spring 2021 Registration

Though the Fall 2020 semester just got underway, registration for the upcoming Spring and winter mini semesters will be here before we know it. We anticipate that the Spring 2021 schedules will be out in late October and early registration will get underway shortly thereafter. Classes fill quickly, so it is important to contact your advisor regarding course selection and your advising hold when schedules are released so that you can register without delay. Also, if you are projected to graduate in May 2021, please apply for graduation soon so that we have plenty of time to receive your audit back from the Registrar’s Office. If you are projected to graduate in December 2020 and have not yet applied for graduation, do so today!