

**Academic Policies for
General Studies and Blinn TEAM Program
Texas A&M University
Effective Fall 2004
Updated Spring 2008**

Students are responsible for knowing their Student Rules and program requirements for General Studies (GEST) and any special program under General Academic Programs. Consult your Academic Advisor if you have questions or concerns with these policies or requirements.

Any student who provides false information to an academic advisor will be charged with providing false information to a university official as specified in Student Rules.

I. EMAIL AND MAILING ADDRESS

Texas A&M University considers NEO email to be the official form of contact between the university and students. Students must set up a NEO account and check email regularly for academic and fiscal notices. In addition, students must post their current local and permanent mailing addresses on <http://myrecord.tamu.edu> or they will be blocked from pre-registration.

II. ELIGIBILITY

Students may continue to enroll as a GEST major as long as they are academically eligible, have fewer than 60 passed hours including transferred hours, and are making sufficient degree progress.

III. 60-HOUR LIMIT

Students in GEST who do not declare an academic major after completing 60 passed hours will be blocked prior to pre-registration. Students must change to a degree granting major in order to continue at TAMU.

IV. GRADE POINT REQUIREMENTS

The Grade Point Ratio (GPR) is the total number of grade points divided by the total attempted hours at TAMU. For example, with 15 hours at TAMU, a student must have 30 grade points to have a GPR of 2.0. Every hour of "A" is worth 4 grade points, "B" is worth 3, "C" is worth 2, and "D" is worth 1.

V. SUMMER ENROLLMENT

GEST majors MUST have at least a 2.0 GPR to take summer classes at TAMU.

VI. STUDY ABROAD/COOP

GEST majors must have a 2.25 cumulative GPR to be eligible to apply for TAMU Study Abroad trips, cooperatives, and internships.

VII. CHANGE OF MAJOR INTO GEST

Any student who meets GEST academic requirements and has fewer than 60 total passed hours may change majors to GEST during the appropriate time of the semester as specified in the Student Rules. Any student attempting to change majors into GEST who is below a 2.0 GPR and blocked will be required to submit an appeal to the GEST Appeals Committee, and will be held to the same academic standards as GEST majors.

VIII. Probation

TAMU Student Rules defines any undergraduate student with a GPR < 2.0 as scholastically deficient. Please note that a grade of "I" or Incomplete will be calculated in the GPR as a grade of "F" until the Incomplete is resolved. Grades of "S" are not calculated into the GPR.

Students who are on probation can be restricted by a GEST advisor from taking certain courses, particularly those that have caused difficulty before.

IX. BLOCKS AND APPEALS

Students with a cumulative GPR < 2.0 may be blocked at the end of the semester (fall or spring). Students eligible to exercise First Year Grade Exclusion may exclude up to three grades of D, F, or U. If the student's GPR is not at or above a 2.0 after grade exclusion, the student may be required to submit an appeal to continue at TAMU. Any student who is blocked from continuing should meet with an advisor as soon as possible to determine the possibility and requirements for readmission. Students blocked in December will be blocked for spring and summer semesters. Students blocked in May will be blocked for the summer and fall semesters. Students blocked in August will be blocked for the fall semester.

Students blocked after a fall or spring semester must submit an appeal to continue to the next semester. If the appeal is denied, the student must meet with an academic advisor to determine readmission requirements.

There is a GEST appeals process after each semester. If serious extenuating circumstances cause a student to fail, the student must document these circumstances in the appeal.

If a student has chosen not to communicate with a GEST advisor about problems during the semester, grounds for the appeal will be considered weak.

X. READMISSION

Be aware that the Admissions Office has a deadline for readmission applications. Readmission into GEST is approved for fall or spring semesters only. Students will be considered for readmission on a case by case basis. Readmission requirements typically include, but are not limited to, completing no less than 12 transferable hours with a 3.0 minimum in solid academic courses in the most recent semester (Spring or Fall) at another institution. After being readmitted, students will not be able to register for courses until final grades from the previous school have been posted and transferred. Readmission applications are also evaluated on criteria that include a total cumulative GPR at TAMU, total passed hours, a realistic future major, a mature realization of the cause for previous problem(s), and a specific plan of action for academic improvement.

XI. SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY GRADES

Students in General Studies must take classes for grades except for KINE 198 and 199, CAEN 101 and 102, or any course that is taught on a mandatory satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.