GENERAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
Academic Policy
EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1999

It is the student’s responsibility to read and be familiar with the Texas A&M University Regulations and requirements in General Studies. Ignorance or incorrect addresses are not legitimate reasons for special consideration or appeal. Any student who provides false academic information will be considered in violation of departmental policies and charged with scholastic dishonesty as specified in the University Regulations.

I. ELIGIBILITY
A student may enroll as a General Studies (GEST) student prior to declaring an academic major. Students may stay in General Studies until they pass 60 hours.

II. REQUIREMENTS
The Grade Point Ratio (GPR) is equal to the total number of grade points received divided by the total ATTEMPTED hours at A&M. For example, if a student has attempted fifteen hours at A&M they must have thirty grade points to have a GPR of 2.0. Every hour of “A” is worth 4 grade points, every hour of “B” is worth 3, “C’s” are worth 2, and “D’s” are worth 1.

Texas A&M University Regulations state that an undergraduate student is scholastically deficient when his or her grade point ratio is less than 2.0. If a student has fewer grade points than 2 times the number of attempted hours (does not include S/U courses that are passed), the student is deficient the difference and is considered on probation. This means the student will be required to make that many points above the total needed for a 2.0. (For each hour of A, 2 grade points are made above a C, and for each hour of B, 1 grade point is made above a C.) Making 6 extra points above those needed for a 2.0 GPR is usually the minimum probation terms for any student in one semester even though their deficiency may be greater than 6. This is called “C+6” probation terms and is a 2.5 GPR on 12 hours. Specific probation terms are provided at mandatory probation meetings and in individualized probation contracts signed at those meetings.

III. BLOCKS
Students failing to meet their probation terms in any semester may be blocked from attendance until after the next Fall or Spring. If the student has already preregistered, those courses will be cancelled prior to the first day of the next semester. Students who withdraw and as a result have not made terms will also be blocked.

Any student whose cumulative deficiency is below 15 grade points as a result of a single semester’s deficiency will be blocked for the next full semester. If a student has a deficiency larger than 15 grade points but has met probation terms, the student will not be blocked. For situations in which the student feels that factors beyond their control caused their failure to meet probation terms, General Academic Programs has an appeal process in which extenuating circumstances will be considered.

IV. SUMMER ENROLLMENT
GEST majors must be in good standing to take summer classes at TAMU. If you are on probation you should either not take summer classes or take them at a community college.

V. CHANGE OF MAJOR INTO GEST
Any student who is within the GEST academic requirements and has fewer than 60 total passed hours may transfer into GEST during the appropriate time of the semester for changes of major as specified in the University Regulations.

Any student transferring into GEST from an academic college who is blocked may be required to submit an academic review form to be processed by the GEST Appeals Committee. Any student who has been blocked by a former major who has a deficiency greater than 18 grade points will NOT be considered for transfer into General Studies. Students who are blocked by another major and are accepted into GEST may be restricted from taking courses applicable to the previous major during the first semester in GEST

VI. READMISION
Any student interested in readmission into GEST after being blocked out for a full semester (summer is not a full semester) must apply through the Admission Office prior to each semester’s readmission deadline. To be considered for readmission to GEST, a student must complete 12 hours with a 3.0 at another college (provisional freshmen must meet transfer guidelines). If financial circumstances make this impossible, the student should meet with the GEST Director to discuss alternative arrangements. Readmissions are not considered for summer.

Readmission applications are also evaluated based on these additional criteria:
1. Total grade point deficiency at A&M. The deficiency cannot exceed 18 points.
2. Total of transfer and attempted hours.
3. Identification of realistic major.
5. A specific plan of action for academic improvement.

VII. 60 HOUR LIMIT
Students who wish to remain in GEST after completing 48 passed hours will be blocked prior to preregistration and required to meet with an advisor to ascertain appropriate courses for the next semester. Any student who does not follow recommendations will be blocked from further registration in GEST. Students are blocked from the GEST major when they complete 60 passed hours. If there are unusual circumstances, a student may apply for one additional semester with Reload status.

VIII. PASS/FAIL COURSE
Students in General Studies may not take courses pass/fail except for Kinesiology199, or any course that is taught on a mandatory pass/fail basic.

IX. ADDRESS
Students must post their current local and permanent addresses and phone numbers every semester. General Studies majors who have not posted a local address will be blocked from preregistration until they do so. This can be done by going to Heaton Hall and filling out a card or by coming to the front desk at the General Academic Programs Office.