The BAAS

A Unique Advantage

The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) is unique among all other degrees at SFA in that it allows students to apply credit earned in community college vocational or technical programs, in military training, or through occupational licensure or certification to the completion of a bachelor’s degree. Students who hold associate’s degrees in technical fields are particularly well positioned to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the BAAS.

Technical credits earned toward an associate’s degree, hours completed in special training in a branch of military service, and continuing education units are generally NOT accepted as college credit hours in traditional bachelor’s degree programs. However, after evaluating appropriate documentation (see Eligibility & Documentation below) from these sources, a BAAS advisor may apply as many as thirty semester credit hours (lower level) to the degree, providing a shorter route to completing a bachelor’s degree than many traditional programs.

Eligibility & Documentation

Normally, students admitted to this program will fall within one of the following categories:

1. Those students who have earned all or a substantial part of an associate’s degree that included technical credit such as courses in respiratory therapy, graphic arts, welding, etc. Transcripts from the junior or community college will provide sufficient documentation to verify eligibility.
2. Those students who have been out of school for a number of years and have developed vocational-technical competencies equivalent to a community college program. Documentation necessary to determine eligibility for BAAS credit may include, but is not limited to, a certificate of completion, a letter from a supervisor certifying training hours completed toward certification or licensure, and a description of training sessions with hours required to complete each.
3. Those students who are veterans or are currently serving in the military and have acquired specialized training as part of their service (military transcripts will need to be submitted to Admissions for evaluation.)

Is the BAAS program for you?

The BAAS is NOT designed to accommodate students seeking teacher certification while completing the bachelor’s degree. Coursework in elementary or secondary education is not normally used in the BAAS degree.

The BAAS is NOT normally intended to prepare students for graduate or professional school. Students who plan to apply to law school, medical school, or graduate programs in academic disciplines should consult with an SFA advisor before applying for the BAAS program.

Although the number of courses offered online at SFASU increases each semester, the BAAS is not...
available as an online degree at this time.

Many BAAS applicants are also eligible for SFASU’s Community College Transfer Scholarship Program. More information about this program is available here.

Degree Components (Total: 120 hours)

There are essentially three parts to the BAAS degree: the Core Curriculum, which provides academic foundations for all university students; the Area of Specialization, which is the equivalent of coursework in the major in a traditional degree program and which is where non-collegiate credit is applied; and the Professional Development Area, which takes the place of the minor in a traditional degree program and is intended to broaden the academic foundations of the student.

1. Core Curriculum Requirements (42-46 hours)
   A. Communication (12-14 hours)
      1. Six hours from: ENG 131, 132, 133, 235
      2. Six to eight hours from: BCM 247; COM 111, 170; FRE 131, 132; ILA 111, 112; SPA 131, 132; ENG 273; SPH 172, 272; LAT 131, 132; GRK 131, 132
   B. Mathematics (3-5 hours)
      1. Three to five hours from: MTH 110, 133, 138, 139, 140, 143, 144, 220, 233, 234
   C. Natural Sciences (6-8 hours) (Lab Required)
      1. Six to eight hours from: BIO 121, 123, 131, 133, 225, 238; CHE 111, 112, 133, 134; GOL 131, 132; PHY 101, 102, 110, 118, 131, 132, 241, 242; AST 105, ENV 110
   D. Humanities & Visual & Performing Arts (6 hours)
      1. Three hours from: ART 280, 281, 282; MUS 140; MHL 245; THR 161, 370; DAN 140, 341
      2. Three hours from: ENG 200 - 235, 300; PHI 153, 223; HIS 151, 152
   E. Social & Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
      1. Six hours from: HIS 133, 134
      2. Six hours from: PSC 141, 142
      3. Three hours from: ANT 231; ECO 231, 232; GEO 131, 230; PSY 133, 153; SOC 137, 139
   F. Collateral Requirements: (3 hours)
      1. Three hours from: CSC 101, 102, 121, 201

2. An area of specialization consisting of 36 to 48 hours from a specific occupational area. The Area of Specialization will be designated as one of the following:
   A. Allied Health Occupations
   B. Business Occupations
   C. Public Safety and Administration
   D. Graphic Arts
   E. Applied Technology

3. A professional development core consisting of 24 hours selected from an academic discipline, in consultation with an advisor. The professional development discipline should provide an intellectual foundation for the area of specialization.

4. Sufficient electives to total 120 semester hours.

5. A minimum of 42 semester hours of residence work at SFA.

6. A minimum of 36 semester hours of advanced courses (300-499 courses) at SFA.

7. A grade of at least C in each freshman English course; if required by the Texas Success Initiative, and unless exempted from the Texas Success Initiative, a C in MTH 099, ENG 099 and RDG 098, a C average in the area of specialization, and a C average in work completed at SFA. These required averages are based on those courses in each category that are included in the student’s official degree plan.

8. Students must complete 9 semester hours of courses designated writing enhanced at SFA.

http://www2.sfasu.edu/laa/students/BAAS.html 12/9/2009
9. Students may not earn more than 30 hours of academic credit from the College of Business.

To Apply

If you think you meet eligibility criteria for the BAAS, the following steps are recommended to be admitted to this program.

1. Apply for admission to SFA. You will be admitted as an undecided student until your eligibility for the BAAS program has been determined.

2. Upon being admitted to the university, send copies of the following to the address below: all college transcripts, documentation of non-collegiate sponsored instruction, or other materials that may be useful in determining eligibility for the program and/or the allocation of credit hours on the degree. A cover letter should be included that provides information about your intended course of study as well as educational and career goals.

3. Allow two to four weeks for your materials to be reviewed and eligibility determined. If you are accepted into the BAAS program, you will be contacted to arrange an appointment for advising and degree planning.

4. DEADLINES FOR ADMISSION INTO THE BAAS PROGRAM ARE July 31 for Fall semesters and December 1 for Spring semesters.

Contact Information

Send all BAAS materials to:

Dr. Steve Cooper, Associate Dean and BAAS Program Director
College of Liberal and Applied Arts
SFA Box 6153
Nacogdoches, TX 75962-3033
Phone: (936) 468-2205 | Fax: (936) 468-2190
Email: baas@sfasu.edu

Office of Admissions Mailing Address
P.O. Box 13051, SFA Station
Nacogdoches, TX 75962
Located in Rusk Building, Room 206

Office of Admissions Physical Address
2008 Alumni Drive
Rusk Building, Room 206
Nacogdoches, TX 75962

Phone: (936) 468-2504 | Fax: (936) 468-3849
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