

# Academic Engagement and Student Success

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The Office of Academic Engagement and Student Success is comprised of four divisions to support students in their academic matriculation to graduation.

**Division of University College and First Year Experience:** In concert with PVAMU's mission to provide high quality educational experiences, University College and the First-Year Experience serves as the foundation for student success, persistence and retention of first year freshman students. University College and the First-Year Experience facilitates first-year students' successful acclimation and smooth transition to the University by providing intrusive academic advising, a supportive living and learning community, and program initiatives specifically designed to 1) address the challenges that impact the success of freshman students; 2) assist students in developing academic and life skills essential for success in a higher learning environment and beyond; and 3) improve the persistence and retention rate of first year freshman students.

**Division of Transitional and Transfer Programs:** TTP provides academic programming and personalized services that are focused on improving the retention and persistence rates of students in transition at Prairie View A&M University. Specifically, TTP provides academic advisement for undecided undergraduates and transfer students as well as for students who are in academic recovery (academically readmitted).

**Division of Academic Advising:** The mission of the Division of Academic Advising is to assist students in developing and implementing an academic plan designed to meet his/her educational, career and life goals. To achieve this mission, the DAA has established the following goals and objectives: 1) teach students about degree requirements, university policies and procedures, academic support resources, and educational opportunities relevant to their success; 2) provide academic support and guidance to students in the decision making process related to their choice of majors and academic program; 3) promote students' self-responsibility in defining and achieving their educational goals; 4) assist students in the selection of appropriate courses, other educational/experiential and co-curricular opportunities; and 5) provide students with referrals to appropriate campus resources and student support services.

**Division of Student Academic Support Services:** The mission of the is to promote the academic success of all PVAMU students by providing a comprehensive array of academic enhancement services and activities. These programs provide students with the assistance they need based on their individual academic requirements, including basic skills development; development of study skills, learning strategies and personal growth; and academic tutoring support for college level classes. SASS consists of the following areas: The Learning Curve, Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Compliance, Developmental Education Program, The Testing Center, and Programs for Minors.

**TSI Compliance:** The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a state-legislated program that provides assistance with reading, writing and mathematics skills of students entering Texas public colleges and universities. The program consists of testing, placement and developmental education for students who do not pass one or more sections of the assessment. There are several testing options as well as exemptions and waivers outlined by the state mandate. Effective August 26, 2013 (based on House Bill 3468—Texas College-Readiness Assessment and Placement) the new TSI Assessment WILL BE THE ONLY accepted placement exam and all prior test scores for students not enrolled will no longer be valid.

All students entering PVAMU must complete the assessment test unless they meet one of the approved exemptions

**Exemption 1:** SAT (Prior to March 5, 2016) Combined score of 1070 and at least 500 on verbal (for Reading and Writing) or 500 on math (for Mathematics). SAT (After March 4, 2016) Evidence Based Reading and Writing score of 480 (for Reading and Writing or Math score of 530 (for Mathematics). ACT combined score of 23 and at least 19 on Verbal (for Reading and Writing) and 19 on Math (For Mathematics). STAAR EOC English III score of at least score of 2000 and Algebra II score of at least 4000.

SAT and ACT scores are only valid for 5 years from the date of testing and all requirements listed above must be met on the same test date. Students wishing to be exempt from the TSI Assessment must have the minimum SAT/ACT Combined/Composite scores above. You may be partially exempt if you meet the minimum Combined or Composite score AND the minimum Verbal or Math scores.

**Exemption 2:** You are exempt if you have met TSI (Texas Success Initiative) Requirements. If you have a transcript from an in-state public institution that shows you met TSI (Texas Success Initiative) requirements, you do not need to take the assessment test.

**Exemption 3:** You may be exempt based on previous college work. If you are transferring to PVAMU and have earned a grade of "C" or higher in certain college courses from an accredited college or University, you do not need to test.

**Exemption 4:** You may be exempt based on previous developmental coursework or programs. If you have completed PVAMU's developmental course sequence or a PVAMU non-course based module successfully, you are exempt from taking the assessment test.

**Exemption 5:** You are exempt if you have a college degree. If you have a college degree (associate degree or higher) you are exempt from taking the assessment test.

**Exemption 6:** You may be exempt if you are a veteran. Students who were honorably discharged, retired or released from active duty in the armed forces, the Texas National Guard or any reserve component of the armed forces, on or after August 1, 1990 may be exempt. A DD214 form showing honorable discharge status is required.

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### **In-State Transfer Student Information**

Students transferring from any Texas public institution must provide official transcripts showing their current TSI status. Transfer students meeting a TSI requirement must have their status documented on an official transcript (Transferring grades in certain classes does not guarantee that the student has met the TSI requirement). Please note that developmental courses do not transfer into PVAMU. Transfer students who have not met all of the TSI requirements will be placed in the PVAMU developmental sequence based upon test scores provided until all TSI requirements are met.

### **Out-of-State Transfer Student Information**

Students transferring from out-of-state are still liable for meeting the TSI testing requirement before enrollment can occur. Out-of-state transfer students can meet TSI requirements by transferring in a grade of "C or better" in the following courses (or institutional equivalent courses):

Reading requirement is met for the following courses:

HIST 1313 (U.S. History to 1876)

HIST 1323 (US History 1876 to present)

POSC 1113 (American Government I)

POSC 1123 (American Government II)

ENGL 2153 (Intro to Literature)

PSYC 1113 (General Psychology)

\*Engl 1123 (Freshman Composition I) starting Spring 2018

Mathematics requirement is met for the following courses:

Math 1113 (College Algebra) or higher

Writing requirement is met for the following courses:

Engl 1123 (Freshman Composition I)

Engl 1133 (Freshman Composition II)

**Developmental Education Program:** The mission of the Developmental Education Program is to promote the academic success of all Prairie View A & M University students by providing effective instruction to students with diverse levels of preparedness that foster college readiness in Reading, Mathematics, and English in a timely manner.

## **English Courses**

### **ENGL 0100 Writing Basics Lab I: 0 semester hours.**

This is a basic writing course designed to focus on the basic elements of composition writing to include the writing process, writing mechanics, sentence structure, and paragraph writing. There is a strong emphasis on identifying correct sentence structure and mechanics in written material and drafting topic sentences that introduce unified, coherent paragraphs. Classroom instruction is enhanced by required Jab-based activities.

### **ENGL 0101 Writing Lab: 1 semester hour.**

This course will focus on individual and small group conferencing for an intensive practice in the skills needed to recognize and use edited American English. Credit for this course may not be used for completing degree requirements .

### **ENGL 0113 Integrated Reading and Writing I: 3 semester hours.**

This is an intermediate level reading and writing course designed to improve students ability to develop paragraphs, essays, and short themes.

### **ENGL 0133 Integrated Reading and Writing II: 3 semester hours.**

This is an advanced reading and writing course designed to prepare students for Freshman Composition I. Topics include basic reading and advanced critical writing skills. Students will be expected to write compositions similar to those assigned in Freshman Composition I. Emphasis on use of enhanced editing skills, writing multi-paragraph essays, paraphrasing paragraphs and longer passages.

Prerequisites: (TSI DIAG Main Idea with a score of 04 and TSI DIAG Author Lang with a score of 04 and TSI DIAG Sentence Structure with a score of 05

and TSI DIAG Agree with a score of 05) or ENGL 0113 or (TSI DIAG Main Idea with a score of 04 and TSI DIAG Author Language with a score of 04) or (TSI DIAG Sentence Structure with a score of 05 and TSI DIAG Agree with a score of 05).

### **ENGL 0210 Non-course Based Option I - Integrated Reading and Writing: 0 semester hours.**

This non-course based option is designed to provide individualized integrated reading and writing instructions to students who did not successfully complete ENGL 0133-Integrated Reading and Writing II.

Prerequisites: ENGL 0133.

### **ENGL 0220 Non-course Based Option II - Integrated Reading an Writing: 0 semester hours.**

This non-course based option is designed to provide individualized integrated reading and writing instructions to students who have not successfully completed developmental reading and/or writing.

### **ENGL 0300 Comp Writing Skills: 0 semester hours.**

This course will enhance writing skills with a major focus on the essay format. It will facilitate the student's writing proficiency with an emphasis on development of paragraphs, themes, and reports.

## Mathematics Courses

### **MATH 0100 Mathematics Basics Lab: 0 semester hours.**

This course is designed to improve the student skills involving basic arithmetic computations to include integers, fractions, decimals, and percents. There will be a strong emphasis on solving and graphing linear equations as well as basic polynomial manipulations.

### **MATH 0113 Basic Mathematics I: 3 semester hours.**

This course is designed to present a careful and guided review of the basic mathematical concepts to improve and strengthen the student fundamental understanding of mathematics. The topics will include solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities, solving linear systems, determining the equation of a line and slope of lines. The course will also cover manipulation of polynomials to include factoring, ratios, solving rational equations and geometric applications.

Prerequisites: MATH 0100 or TSI Math with a score of 336.

### **MA TH 0123 Basic Math II: 3 semester hours.**

This course is an introductory course to Algebra designed to make the transition to College Algebra more successful. It provides the student with background knowledge in fundamental Algebra and skills in mathematics. It will concentrate on developing skills in solving and graphing linear equations,

simplifying and factoring polynomials, solving quadratic equations and combining and simplifying rational expressions and exponents.

### **MA TH 0133 Pre-Algebra: 3 semester hours.**

This course is designed to make the transition to College Algebra more successful. Topics include advanced algebraic operations, factoring with an emphasis on rational, radical, and quadratic equations. Students will be introduced to functions with emphasis on function evaluation, graphs, composition, and inverse.

Prerequisites: MATH 0113 (may be taken concurrently) or (TSI Math with a score of 336 and TSI DIAG ElemAlg with a score of 06).

### **MATH 0210 Mathematics Non-course Based Option I: 0 semester hours.**

This non-course based option is designed to provide individualized developmental mathematics instructions to students who did not successfully complete MATH 0133.

Prerequisites: MATH 0133.

### **MATH 0220 Mathematics Non-course Based Option II: 0 semester hours.**

This non-course based option is designed to provide individualized developmental mathematics instructions to students who have not successfully completed developmental mathematics.

### **MATH 0300 Comp Math Skills: 0 semester hours.**

This course will enhance the student's performance in College Algebra. It improves skills in solving quadratic equations, manipulating polynomials, radicals and exponential expressions. It develops a basic understanding of the mathematical functions and concepts necessary for successfully completing the College Algebra course.

Prerequisites: TSI Math with a score of 347.

## Reading Courses

### **RDNG 0100 Reading Basics Lab: 0 semester hours.**

This is a basic reading course designed to improve students' overall basic reading and critical reading skills. Emphasis is on reading comprehension, vocabulary development, study techniques, and critical thinking skills. Classroom instruction is enhanced by required lab-based activities