YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT GUIDE
“I showed up as an undeclared freshman in the School of Undergraduate Studies. I never realized the passion I had for research until I got involved with a student organization that clued me in to all of the research opportunities here on campus.”

CHRIS STOJANIK
B.S. Biology: Genetics and Genomics
WHY CHOOSE UT AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES?

When you come to The University of Texas at Austin, you’ll get one of the best values in public education. Innovative, hands-on learning opportunities and a strong foundation in critical thinking prepare you for success in your chosen field. Texas provides a first-class education that will define you for the rest of your life, and the School of Undergraduate Studies (UGS) is an ideal place to start.

GONE TO TEXAS: WHY BE A LONGHORN?

Choosing which college or university to attend is a big decision, so it’s important to learn as much as you can about the value your future degree will have. UT Austin is committed to giving students the skills and experiences they must have to prosper in the future through an academic environment that encourages creativity, analysis, and critical thinking. And with more than 172 majors to choose from along with 81 minors and 49 interdisciplinary certificates, you’re bound to find something that inspires you.

As a Longhorn, you’ll benefit from a world-class academic experience. UT is ranked as one of the top 20 U.S. public universities according to U.S. News & World Report, with more than 15 undergraduate programs ranked in the top 10 nationally.

Attending college is also a big financial decision. That’s why UT Austin is working hard to keep higher education affordable for all students, and why we’ve recently expanded financial aid options for incoming undergraduate students from low- and middle-income families.

To get a greater return on your investment, it’s important to identify your future goals early on in your college career. While some students already know what they want to major in, each fall, hundreds of new Longhorns begin their studies without knowing for certain what they want to major in—and that’s perfectly normal. If you feel like that, you should choose The School of Undergraduate Studies (UGS) as your school during the admissions process.

From the moment you begin in UGS, you’ll have a distinct advantage: personalized academic advising paired with career counseling, along with a wide range of programs that help you integrate seamlessly into the pace and demands of college. Learn more about starting in UGS at ugs.utexas.edu/prospective-students.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A UGS STUDENT?

YOU’RE NOT ALONE—YOU’VE GOT A TEAM

The School of Undergraduate Studies (UGS) is one of the 18 colleges or schools that make up UT Austin. More than 1,400 UT students exploring majors are enrolled in UGS each year, making it the sixth largest cohort at the university. As a UGS student, you’ll be assigned an academic advisor and career counselor who’ll help you explore majors and careers so you can confidently choose a field of study. We’re the only school/college at UT that assigns both an academic advisor and a career counselor to every student.

Your academic advisor at the James W. Vick Center for Strategic Advising and Career Counseling will work with you to tailor classes and experiences to prepare you to be successful at the university. Career counselors in the Vick Center will help you explore your skills and interests and identify future career possibilities.

You’ll also be a part of a small community to help make this large university feel more personal. During summer orientation, you’ll choose a First-Year Interest Group (FIG). FIGs are groups of 18 to 25 new students who take several classes together during their first fall semester at UT. Each group attends a weekly seminar led by a peer mentor and a staff facilitator. FIGs help students develop a sense of community as they attend classes, study, and participate in various activities designed to help you learn about all the resources UT has to offer.

UGS IS WHERE YOU START—NOT WHERE YOU FINISH

All UT students have to complete a 42-hour core curriculum—a set of common courses required of all undergraduates and considered the necessary general education for students, irrespective of their choice in major. When you complete a course that’s part of the core, that requirement has been met for any major at UT.

As a UGS student, you’ll focus on these foundational courses your first couple of semesters while beginning to narrow down your choices before applying to transfer to another college or school at UT Austin. Students can remain enrolled in UGS for up to four long semesters, but most students transfer after their second semester.

Starting out in UGS does not adversely affect the time it takes you to graduate. Since you’re taking the same core courses as students from other UT majors, you’ll be in about the same place academically after your first year. In fact, by taking advantage of the personalized advising services UGS offers and by engaging in the major and career exploration process, you’ll be in a better position to make an educated decision about your major and your path after college.

While many UT students change their majors at least once, 85% of graduates who started undeclared in UGS graduated with the first major they declared and transferred into!
89% of students surveyed said their understanding of course material improved after using the Sanger Learning Center.

70% agreed they felt better connected to the UT community because of their FIG.

87% of student respondents agreed that their tutor helped them improve their learning skills.

UGS Programs and Services for You

James W. Vick Center for Strategic Advising and Career Counseling
- explore majors based on interests and strengths
- discover how you transfer to another UT college/school
- choose courses to stay on track for graduation
- explore careers based on values, skills, and personality

Sanger Learning Center
- improve your grades
- get better prepared for exams
- learn to effectively manage your time
- become a more confident public speaker

Undergraduate Research
- assist faculty conducting ground-breaking research in an array of academic disciplines
- gain real-world experience

Bridging Disciplines Programs
- earn an interdisciplinary certificate that combines coursework with research and internships
- customize your traditional degree with one of 15 certificate options

Blackstone LaunchPad
- find resources and a network to launch your own company
- attend workshops about entrepreneurship

Wayfinder
- explore majors, minors, and certificates
- read stories and watch videos from professionals who have the jobs you want

Summer Exploration Grants
- earn a grant to support exploring a career over the summer
- gain experience in a field that interests you

Find out more about starting in the School of Undergraduate Studies
WWW.UGS.UTEXAS.EDU
“Entering UT undecided and having the chance to try on different majors helped me find a good fit. Receiving the message that it was ok not to know what I wanted to do allowed me the time to figure it out.”

LIZ TRAN
B.A. Psychology, minor in Biology
Undergraduate Degrees at UT and Majors

Use this list as a starting point and consult with a Vick Center academic advisor or career counselor. All major information subject to change. For more detailed information on each major check out Wayfinder (wayfinder.utexas.edu).

1leads to a Texas teaching credential  *GPA, hour, and/or course requirements  **competitive transfer application

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE**
Architecture (B. Arch, 5 yr)
Arch./Arch. Engineering (B.S., 6 yr)
Architectural Studies (B.S., 4 yr)
Interior Design (B.S., 4 yr)

MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**
Bachelor of Business Administration
  - Accounting
  - Finance
  - International Business
  - Management
  - Management Information Systems
  - Marketing
  - Science & Technology Management
  - Supply Chain Management
  - Business Honors Program

MOODY COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION**
Bachelor of Journalism
  - Journalism
Bachelor of Science
  - Advertising
  - Communication & Leadership
  - Communication Sciences & Disorders
    • Audiology
    • Deaf Studies/Deaf Education
    • Speech/Language Pathology
  - Communication Studies
    • Corporate Communication
    • Human Relations
    • Political Communication
  - Public Relations
  - Radio-Television-Film

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Bachelor of Science
  - Applied Learning & Development (ALD)
    • All-level Special Education
    • Early Childhood—6th Grade
      Bilingual Generalist Certification
    • Early Childhood—6th Grade ES
      Generalist Certification
    • Youth & Community Studies
  - Athletic Training Education**
  - Kinesiology & Health Education
    • Applied Movement Science
    • Exercise Science
    • Health Promotion & Behavioral Science
    • Physical Culture & Sports
    • Sport Management**

COCKRELL SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING**
Bachelor of Science
  - Aerospace Engineering
  - Architectural Engineering
  - Biomedical Engineering
  - Chemical Engineering
  - Civil Engineering
  - Computational Engineering
  - Electrical & Computer Engineering
  - Environmental Engineering
  - Geosystems Engineering & Hydrogeology
  - Mechanical Engineering
  - Petroleum Engineering

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
Department of Art & Art History
  - Art History (B.A.)
  - Studio Art (B.A., B.F.A.)
  - Visual Art Studies* (B.F.A.)
Butler School of Music
  - Composition (B.M.)
  - Jazz (B.M.)
  - Music Performance (B.M.)
  - Music Studies* (B.M.)
  - Music (B.A.)
Department of Theatre & Dance
  - Acting (B.F.A.)
  - Dance (B.F.A.)
  - Dance Studies* (B.F.A.)
  - Theatre & Dance (B.A.)
  - Theatre Studies* (B.F.A.)
School of Design & Creative Technologies
  - Arts & Entertainment Technologies (B.S.)
  - Design (B.A., B.F.A.)

JACKSON SCHOOL OF GEOSCIENCES**
Bachelor of Science
  - Geological Sciences (B.A., B.S.)
    • General Geology
    • Geophysics
    • Hydrogeology
    • Teaching
    • Geosystems Engineering & Hydrology

SCHOOL OF NURSING**
Bachelor of Science, Nursing

STEVE HICKS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**
B.S.W., Social Work

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
Bachelor of Arts
  - African & African Diaspora Studies
  - American Studies
  - Anthropology
  - Asian Cultures & Languages
  - Asian Studies
  - Classical Languages
  - Classical Studies
  - Economics*
  - English
  - Ethnic Studies—Asian American Studies
  - European Studies
  - French
  - Geography
  - German
  - German, Scandinavian, & Dutch Studies
  - Government
  - Health & Society**
  - History
  - Human Dimensions of Organizations
  - Humanities**
  - Iberian & Latin American Cultures & Languages
  - International Relations & Global Studies**
  - Islamic Studies
  - Italian
  - Jewish Studies
  - Latin American Studies
  - Linguistics
  - Mexican American Studies
  - Middle Eastern Language & Cultures
  - Middle Eastern Studies
  - Philosophy
  - Psychology* (B.A., B.S.)
  - Religious Studies
  - Rhetoric & Writing
  - Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies
  - Sociology
  - Sustainability
  - Urban Studies*
  - Women’s & Gender Studies

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE**
Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science
  - Biological Sciences
  - Geographical Sciences
  - Geophysical Sciences
DEGREES/MAJORS [CONTINUED]

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES**
- Astronomy (B.A., B.S., B.S.A.)
- Biochemistry (B.S., B.S.A.)
- Biology (B.S., B.S.A.)
  - Cell & Molecular Biology (B.S.)
  - Computational Biology (B.S.)
  - Ecology, Evolution, & Behavior (B.S.)
  - Genetics & Genomics (B.S.)
  - Human Biology (B.S.)
  - Marine & Freshwater Science (B.S.)
  - Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (B.S.)
  - Plant Biology (B.S.)
  - Teaching (B.S.)
- Chemistry (B.A., B.S., B.S.A.)
  - Computational Option (B.S.)
  - Teaching (B.S.)
- Computer Science (B.A., B.S., B.S.A., B.S./M.S.: 5 years)
  - Teaching (B.S.)
- Human Development & Family Sciences (B.S., B.S.A.)
  - Early Childhood (B.S.)
  - Human Development (B.S.)
  - Families & Personal Relationships (B.S.)
  - Families & Society (B.S.)
  - Human Ecology (B.S.A.)
- Mathematics (B.A., B.S., B.S.A.)
  - Actuarial Science (B.S.)
  - Teaching (B.S.)
  - Medical Laboratory Science (B.S.)
  - Neuroscience (B.S., B.S.A.)
- Nutrition (B.S., B.S.A.)
  - Dietetics (CPD** & DPD) (B.S.)
  - International Nutrition (B.S.)
  - Nutrition & Public Health (B.S.)
  - Nutritional Sciences (B.S.)
- Physics (B.A., B.S., B.S.A.)
  - Biophysics (B.S.)
  - Computation (B.S.)
  - Radiation Physics (B.S.)
  - Space Sciences (B.S.)
  - Teaching (B.S.)
- Public Health (B.S., B.S./MPH: 5 years)
- Textiles & Apparel (B.S.)
  - Apparel, Functional & Technical Design
  - Merchandising & Consumer Sciences

UNDERGRADUATE MINORS

A minor typically consists of 15 or more credits and must be completed in conjunction with an undergraduate degree at The University of Texas at Austin. For more information, check with a Vick Center academic advisor or career counselor and visit Wayfinder (wayfinder.utexas.edu).

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
- Architectural History*
- Architectural Studies*
- Interior Design*
- Landscape Studies*

MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
- Accounting**
- Business
- Entrepreneurship*
- Finance**
- Management**
- Management Information Systems**
- Marketing**
- Supply Chain Management**

MOODY COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION
- Communication & Social Change
- Communication Studies
- Digital Media
- Global Communication
- Health Communication
- Journalism*
- Media & Entertainment Industries*
- Media Studies*
- Science Communication*
- Sports Media
- U.S. Latino/Latin American Media Studies
- Visual Media*

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
- African & African Diaspora Studies
- American Sign Language*
- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Arabic
- Archaeology
- Asian American Studies
- Asian Religions
- Chinese
- Classical Studies
- Comparative Literature
- Core Texts & Ideas
- Cultural Anthropology
- Economics
- English
- European Studies
- Evolutionary & Functional Anatomy*
- French Studies*
- Geography
- German, Scandinavian, & Dutch Studies
- Government
- Greek
- Hebrew
- History
- Iberian and Latin American Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics
- Islamic Studies
- Italian Studies
- Korean
- Language, Culture, & Communication
- Latin
- LGBTQ/Sexualities Studies*
- Medieval Studies
- Mexican American & Latina/o Studies

[COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS continued]
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Persian
- Philosophy
- Philosophy of Law
- Philosophy of Mind & Language
- Portuguese
- Primatology*
- Religious Studies
- Rhetoric & Writing
- Russian
- Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies
- Slavic & Eurasian Languages
- Sociology
- Turkish
- UTeach-Liberal Arts*

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
- Educational Psychology
- Kinesiology & Health Education*

COCKRELL SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
- Materials Science & Engineering**

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
- Art History
- Art Management & Administration
- Studio Art

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION
- Information Studies

STEVE HICKS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
- Disability Studies*
- Social Work*
CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

A certificate typically requires 18–24 credits and is an optional complement to your major. For more information, check with a Vick Center academic advisor or career counselor and visit Wayfinder (wayfinder.utexas.edu).

* requires application process  ** restricted to certain majors

SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

BRIDGING DISCIPLINES PROGRAMS*
Earn an interdisciplinary certificate through a course of study that integrates classroom, research, and internship experiences. Certificates in:

- Children & Society
- Conflict Resolution & Peace Studies
- Design Strategies
- Digital Arts & Media
- Environment & Sustainability
- Ethics & Leadership in Business
- Ethics & Leadership in Health Care
- Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics, & Government
- Ethics & Leadership in Technology & Media
- Human Rights & Social Justice
- Innovation, Creativity, & Entrepreneurship
- Museum Studies
- Public Policy
- Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits
- Social Inequality, Health, & Policy

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES

APPLIED STATISTICAL MODELING*
Equips students with tools necessary to understand how to apply statistics to their primary field of study.

ELEMENTS OF COMPUTING PROGRAM
Provide students with knowledge of computer science and computational proficiency.

EVIDENCE & INQUIRY*
Design research shaped by questions that require evidence and methodologies outside their major.

FOOD & SOCIETY
Interdisciplinary focus on health, nutrition, genetics, politics, culture, the environment, and business.

FORENSIC SCIENCE*
Interdisciplinary perspective for students interested in careers in forensic science.

MARINE SCIENCE
Explore the field of marine science.

PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS*
Assists students in preparing for post-baccalaureate, healthcare professional programs.

SCIENTIFIC COMPUTATION & DATA SCIENCES*
Use of mathematical, statistical, and computer-based techniques to investigate complex systems.

TEXTILE CONSERVATION & MUSEUM STUDIES*
Equips students with fiber science, exhibition planning, textile conservation, and museum management skills necessary to conserve textiles in various settings.

UTEACH NATURAL SCIENCES*
Earn a teaching credential to prepare you to teach in middle or high school in STEM fields.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

AFRICAN STUDIES CERTIFICATE
Engage with scholarship on African people, cultures, and history through the theoretical lens of Black Studies.

BUSINESS SPANISH
Study of the Spanish language with business applications.

CORE TEXTS & IDEAS
Introduction to the liberal arts through the study of great books.

CREATIVE WRITING*
Advanced study of creative writing, both as reader and as writer.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES
Humanities disciplines and studies in information engage digital tools, archives, artifacts, and information technologies.

GERMAN*
Study of the German language.

HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE
Gain coherent, cross-disciplinary command of methods and findings that liberal arts have contributed to our understanding of sciences.

IBERO-AMERICAN CULTURAL DIVERSITY
Explore Iberian, Latin American, and Brazilian cultures.

INDIGENOUS STUDIES
Study of Native American and Indigenous cultures.

JAPANESE*
Advanced study of the Japanese language.

LGBTQ/SEXUALITY STUDIES
Recognizes lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) scholarship.

SECURITY STUDIES**
Focused study on international and national security affairs.

SPANISH FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONS
Study of the Spanish language with healthcare applications.
EVERYONE HAS A STORY

Wayfinder—Find the Major and Career for You

EXPLORE
A one-stop-shop for information about majors, minors, and certificates offered at UT

CREATE A PROFILE
Rank your favorite majors and identify your interests, personality, skills, and values

EVERYONE HAS A STORY
Read stories and watch videos about professionals who have the jobs you want and find out how they got there

Wayfinder.utexas.edu

Certificates [CONTINUED]

College of Education
UTeach Urban Teachers**
Earn a teaching credential to prepare you to teach English or social studies in urban middle and high schools.

Steve Hicks School of Social Work
Public Safety**
Prepare for careers in public safety through coursework and service learning opportunities.

MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Business of Healthcare*
Prepare for the unique challenges and opportunities in the healthcare field, whether you’re planning on being a health professional or want to design the next big app.

Business & Public Policy*
Understand the impact of the political process on business and firms’ need to manage relationships with numerous stakeholders.

Energy Management*
Training in business, geoscience, petroleum operations and law with increased understanding of environmental issues.

Global Management*
Gain managerial skills, understand the world’s geopolitical landscape, and become a global citizen.

Real Estate*
Earn official certification through exploration of architecture, economics, engineering, geography, law, community planning, and urban studies.

Risk Management*
Prepare to successfully meet the current and existing risk challenges of the business environment.

College of Education
UTEACH URBAN TEACHERS**
Earn a teaching credential to prepare you to teach English or social studies in urban middle and high schools.

STEVE HICKS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
PUBLIC SAFETY**
Prepare for careers in public safety through coursework and service learning opportunities.

MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
BUSINESS OF HEALTHCARE*
Prepare for the unique challenges and opportunities in the healthcare field, whether you’re planning on being a health professional or want to design the next big app.

BUSINESS & PUBLIC POLICY*
Understand the impact of the political process on business and firms’ need to manage relationships with numerous stakeholders.

ENERGY MANAGEMENT*
Training in business, geoscience, petroleum operations and law with increased understanding of environmental issues.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

GLOBAL MANAGEMENT*
Gain managerial skills, understand the world’s geopolitical landscape, and become a global citizen.

REAL ESTATE*
Earn official certification through exploration of architecture, economics, engineering, geography, law, community planning, and urban studies.

RISK MANAGEMENT*
Prepare to successfully meet the current and existing risk challenges of the business environment.