



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

College of Arts & Sciences™

2021-2022

Ambassador Handbook

“We Build Innovators”

Dear College of Arts and Sciences Student Ambassador,

Welcome! We hope that you are excited for the new academic year. Thank you for your willingness to help support the College of Arts and Sciences by participating in the Student Ambassador Program. By volunteering as an Ambassador for the College of Arts and Sciences, you are following in the footsteps of many other top students who have performed in this role. Ambassadors make important contributions to the life of the College, and we very much appreciate your efforts and your dedication.

The Ambassador Program in the College of Arts and Sciences is a key to the success of the College. Your assistance with outreach, recruiting, and other events helps us to support current & prospective students, faculty, alumni, and our community. We appreciate the time and effort that you, as an Ambassador, commit to the program.

We, and the entire college, wish you the very best as the new academic year begins. Thank you for your commitment to the success of the College of Arts and Sciences. We look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

*Samantha Smith
College Recruiter, Ambassador Advisor*

*Dr. Stefanie Borst
Associate Dean of Recruitment and Retention*

*Donovan Satchell
President*

*Avery Garcia
Vice President*

*Aissa Castaneda
Treasurer*

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
College of Arts & Sciences™

2020-2021 *Ambassador Handbook*

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Texas Tech was founded in 1923 and is now the home to ten colleges, the largest of which is the College of Arts and Sciences. Texas Tech is a growing body of diverse scholars dedicated to making the world a better place. Therefore, we adopt and practice the following principles as fundamental to our on-going efforts to increase access and inclusion to create a community that nurtures learning and growth for all members (from <https://www.inclusive.vt.edu/Initiatives/vtpoc0.html>):

- We affirm the inherent dignity and value of every person and strive to maintain a climate for work and learning based on mutual respect and understanding.
- We affirm the right of each person to express thoughts and opinions freely. We encourage open expression within a climate of civility, sensitivity, and mutual respect.
- We affirm the value of human diversity because it enriches our lives and the university. We acknowledge and respect our differences while affirming our common humanity.
- We reject all forms of prejudice and discrimination, including those based on age, color, disability, gender, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, and veteran status. We take individual and collective responsibility for helping to eliminate bias and discrimination and for increasing our own understanding of these issues through education, training, and interaction with others.
- We pledge our collective commitment to these principles in the spirit of the College of Arts and Sciences motto of, *"We Build Innovators."*

Your Mission as a College Ambassador

As Ambassadors for the College of Arts and Sciences, your primary role is to serve as a representative for the College in an effort to promote its visibility and be role models to other students.

By interacting with prospective and current affiliates of the College, you become a valuable part of the information chain from the university to our key audiences. To those not associated with the College, you provide information about the College regarding concerns, requests, or issues raised by prospective students, current students, staff, faculty, alumni, and other constituents.

History of the College of Arts and Sciences Ambassador Program

Since 2013 the Ambassador Program has focused on enhancing the visibility of the College of Arts and Sciences and providing students with an opportunity to interact professionally with the public and peers, and to serve the College and the community.

As an Ambassador of the College of Arts and Sciences, you have been chosen to carry on this legacy of service. It involves a desire to serve, an attitude of selflessness, and a commitment to improvement. As you learn more about your role as an Ambassador, we hope that you will rise to the challenge and expectations before you, knowing that your example will inspire others in achieving their personal goals. In addition, we hope this experience will enable you to advance as future leaders in your chosen profession.

Providing Service

To help fulfill this mission, you are expected to provide 20 hours of service to the College per semester. These hours are based on the needs of the College and the schedules of each Ambassador. There will be recruiting events, outreach events, community service, required meetings and social events.

*Serve the
College, make
new friends*

*Recruiting
Outreach
Service
Social*

Examples of past events include: Open House sessions for prospective students, annual Alumni Tailgate Events, award banquets, college tours and information sessions. Your duties at these events will vary, but usually involve representing the College at recruiting events, helping with set-up and activities, interaction with attendees, and other tasks.

Ambassadors also have the opportunity to design and create your own projects! Bring any ideas you have to meetings, or email Samantha Smith and/or Cameron Studzinski.

*We want more! The
Ambassador Program
is what you make it!*

*Additional opportunities for social and
professional development*

Ambassador Requirements & Expectations

***YOU** are always a representative of the College of Arts and Sciences*

Whether you are wearing the uniform or not, remember that you represent our College as an Ambassador at all times. Consequently, we expect you to always strive to represent the College well.

In general, we expect you to serve four groups of people. First, you will assist and encourage current students in their efforts to pursue academic and professional development. Second, you will assist with the promotion of the college to potential students, whether it is through talking about the college informally or at a recruitment event. Third, you will serve the College by providing feedback and helping coordinate and carry out important tasks for events hosted by the College. Fourth, you will serve your community, by engaging in service and outreach activities.

Key audiences you will be serving:

- 1) Current Students*
- 2) Potential Students*
- 3) Event Attendees*
- 4) Community*

*Min GPA
= 3.3*

Finally, as leaders of the College, you are expected to maintain the minimum cumulative 3.3 GPA requirement of the ambassador program.

We hope you will demonstrate a high level of maturity and professionalism. You are expected to be dependable, honest, and trustworthy. Most importantly, your attitude, knowledge, and conversation should naturally communicate a lively sense of pride in the College of Arts and Sciences.

We want to showcase you – be the best version of yourself!

What does an awesome Ambassador do?

Involvement

An awesome Ambassador will be an involved and engaged participant in the program. You will get out of the program what you put into it. Take a chance and volunteer for an event or attend a social gathering.

Courtesy

An awesome Ambassador will be courteous and focused on providing the best service possible for the College. At times this may be a challenge, but remember you are a representative of the College.

Responsible

An awesome Ambassador will be responsible for their actions and commitments. When you sign up for an event or shift the College is counting on you to show up ready to contribute to the success of the project or event.

Impactful Service

An awesome Ambassador will provide impactful service—no matter the event. Whether it is a big exciting project or an everyday service, everything that you are assisting with is helping the College. Remember that you are an integral part of the College and we couldn't do what we do without your help.

Information Provider

An awesome Ambassador will be a sponge for information to then share with peers, potential students, alumni and donors. Ambassadors should be able to communicate with people well and provide useful knowledge about the College.

Responsive

An awesome Ambassador will respond to requests and emails. Important information will be shared with you through emails and/or texts.

The Ambassador Uniform

As you volunteer as a team member or in your weekly office projects, always be mindful that you represent A&S and Texas Tech.

At times Ambassadors are asked to wear the “uniform” so that you can easily be identified as a College of Arts and Sciences Ambassador. In these cases, you will need to dress in the following:

- Denim, khaki or black jeans/pants/skirt/shorts (should be fingertip length or lower)
- Ambassador shirt (provided)
- Shoes (wear appropriate, comfortable shoes based on the type of event you are working at)
- Ambassador name tag

Some events and occasions will require you to dress in business/professional or business casual attire. Ask your Officers or Advisors if you have questions!



Professionalism and Being a Student Leader

Professionalism is important to maintain throughout your college career, especially while serving as a College of Arts and Sciences Ambassador. Your position as an Ambassador makes you a liaison and representative to those outside the college and university as well as a role model for other students at Texas Tech.

Important Aspects of Professionalism include, but are not limited to:

- arriving on time
- being polite
- dressing appropriately
- maintaining a positive attitude

By acting professionally, we can foster a positive environment within our own university, college, and individual departments.

Being a Student Leader means that you are able to work closely with faculty, staff and other students within the College of Arts and Sciences. As a student leader, you should try and keep the following principles in mind:

- Be a Positive Role Model and Supportive of Others
- Respect Others
- Be Involved
- Promote Good Communication
- Search for New Opportunities

What happens if you don't know the answer to a question?

- Simply state that you may not have the answer to the question, but you would have no problem passing the question on to someone who can answer it.
- Make sure to give them our contact information (Samantha or Dr. Borst), so they can reach out to us.

Facts about the University

- Established by legislative action in 1923
- Largest comprehensive higher education institution in the western 2/3 of the state
- The only campus in Texas to house a major university, law school and medical school
- Originally named Texas Technological College, opened in 1925 with an enrollment of 914
- Home to ten colleges
- 150 undergraduate degrees, 100 master's and doctoral degrees
- Participant in Big 12
- Currently enrolls over 40,000 students

Common Questions and Statements about Texas Tech & Lubbock

- **"Why should I choose Texas Tech?"**
 - Provide your personal experience!
- **"There is nothing to do in Lubbock."**
 - Lubbock has many things to offer, and some of it happens at TTU! Concerts, bike trails, stand up paddle boarding, farmer's markets, corn maze, local restaurants, outdoor movie theater and so much more!
- **"Dirt always blows, and it is cold there."**
 - Yes, we cannot deny the occasional "haboob" dust storm and snow fall, but like the locals like to say, "If you do not like the weather in Lubbock, just wait a day." We offer 300+ days of sunshine a year!
- **"It is hard to get around in Lubbock."**
 - Lubbock has wonderful public transportation that picks up right on campus and students ride for free with their student I.D.
 - There are plenty of UBER and taxi services to choose from.
 - Most students will invest in an inexpensive bicycle to move quickly around campus.
- **"Lubbock is a "Cowtown" without culture, only tacos and tortillas."**
 - Lubbock has lots of culture!
 - First Friday Art trail is an event that happens on the first Friday of every month.
 - Live music seven nights a week.
 - Local playhouses and theaters.
 - TTU Presidential Lecture Series brings many famous performance artists and speakers to campus.
 - Art galleries, museums and Native history are worth exploring as well.

A&S DEPARTMENTS, MAJORS, AND PROGRAMS

The following are all of the A&S departments and majors students can choose within those departments. The best way to learn about them is through reviewing your handbook, reading the course catalog, and/or visiting their websites.

I. Social Sciences and Humanities

- **Classical and Modern, Languages and Literatures**
 - B.A. in Languages & Cultures – Students *must* choose a track in one of six areas:
 - Classics
 - French
 - German
 - Russian Language and Area Studies
 - Chinese
 - American Sign Language
 - B.A. in Spanish (3 tracks offered)
- **Economics**
 - B.A. or B.S. in Economics
 - B.S.I.E. in International Economics
- **English**
 - B.A. in English – Students *must* declare a concentration in one of three areas:
 - Literature and Language
 - Creative Writing
 - English Teaching
 - B.A. in Technical Communication
- **History**
 - B.A. in History
- **Philosophy**
 - B.A. in Philosophy – Students have the *option* to declare a concentration in:
 - Ethics
- **Political Science**
 - B.A. in Political Science (4 concentrations)
 - B.A. in Global Studies
- **Psychological Sciences**
 - B.A. in Psychology
- **Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work (SASW)**
 - B.A. in Sociology – Students have the *option* to declare a concentration in:
 - Criminology
 - B.A. in Anthropology - Students have the *option* to declare a concentration in:
 - Forensic Anthropology
 - B.A. in Social Work

II. *Natural Sciences*

- **Biological Sciences**
 - B.S. in Biology – Students have the *option* to declare a concentration in:
 - Ecology and Environmental Biology
 - B.S. in Cell and Molecular Biology
 - B.S. in Microbiology
 - **Chemistry and Biochemistry**
 - B.A. or B.S. in Chemistry
 - B.A. or B.S. in Biochemistry
 - **Geosciences**
 - B.A. in Geography
 - B.A. in Geosciences with a concentration in Geology
 - B.S. in Geosciences – Students *must* declare a concentration in one of three areas:
 - Geology
 - Geophysics
 - Environmental Geology
- *Students interested in Atmospheric Science should be informed that we do not offer an Atmospheric Science major, only a minor.*
- **Kinesiology & Sport Management**
 - B.S. in Kinesiology
 - B.S. in Sport Management
 - **Mathematics and Statistics**
 - B.A. or B.S. in Mathematics
 - **Physics and Astronomy**
 - B.S. in Physics – Students *must* declare a concentration in one of three areas:
 - Professional Physics
 - Astrophysics
 - Applied Physics
 - **Wind Energy**
 - B.S. in Wind Energy

III. *Environmental Toxicology is a department in Arts & Sciences; however, it does **not** grant undergraduate degrees.*

IV. *General Studies Degree*

- Bachelor's degree in General Studies
 - 3 concentrations/minors make up the B.G.S. major
 - At least 2 concentrations must be in Arts & Sciences

V. *Arts & Sciences Minors*

Social Sciences & Humanities:

- Arabic
- ASL
- Chinese
- Classics
- Comparative Literature

- French
- German
- Greek
- Italian
- Japanese
- Latin
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Economics
- English
- Technical Communication
- Literature, Social Justice, & the Environment
- Linguistics
- Film & Media Studies
- Book History & Digital Humanities
- Asian Studies
- History
- Military History
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Anthropology
- Social Work

Natural Sciences:

- Biology
- Health Professions
- Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Geology
- Geophysics
- Composite Minor (BS GEOS majors only)
- Geography
- Atmospheric Science
- Kinesiology
- Sport Management
- Athletic Coaching
- Health
- Public Health
- Mathematics
- Actuarial Science
- Physics
- Astronomy

Additional Minors:

- Environmental Studies
- European Studies
- Ethnic Studies
- Family Life Studies
- Forensic Sciences
- International Studies
- Religion Studies

VI. *Pre-Professional Health Designations*

NOTE: *These are NOT majors; they are designations for students interested in a career in healthcare. Pre-Professional Health Careers (PPHC) is a separate advising office and resource that can help these students prepare for applying to graduate health schools.*

- Pre-Nursing
- Pre-Clinical Laboratory Sciences
- Pre-Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences
- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Physicians Assistant
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Occupational Therapy
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Dental
- Pre-Optometry*

*Pre-Health Designations not offered at a Graduate level at TTU

VII. *Arts and Sciences Undecided Designations*

NOTE: *These are not majors; they too are designations, but for students who either aren't certain what they want to major in and/or are interested in pursuing law school, but don't have a major declared yet. Like PPHC, there is a separate Undecided/Pre-Law Advising Office Arts & Sciences provides these students.*

- Arts and Sciences Undecided (ASUD)
- Pre-Law (PLAW)

NOTE: Students interested in declaring themselves as Pre-Med, Pre-Law, etc. often ask "What should I major in?" The answer is: "Anything! Think about what you love or have a passion for." They will all take the required pre-requisites for whatever designation they choose, so they should choose a major they like and are good at.

SELLING POINTS

Below are some facts about the College of Arts and Sciences and its departments.
Learn some of these – they are great “talking points.”

College of Arts & Sciences

- From its first year of existence until today, the A&S has graduated more majors than any other college.
- An average of 42% of the University's students each year graduate with a degree in one of the different programs in Arts and Sciences.
- We offer 40+ undergraduate degree programs and 60+ minors.

Biology

- The largest lecture hall on campus is in the Department of Biology and seats 490 students.
- The Biological Sciences department has programs and centers such as: Forensic Entomology, the Joint Admission Medical Program, the Center for Biotechnology and Genomics, the Center for the Integration of Science Education and Research, and the Center for Environmental Radiation Studies.
- The Biological Sciences Department, along with many other departments, encourages undergraduate students to work with professors in research laboratories and projects.

Classical and Modern Languages & Literature

- Classical & Modern Languages & Literatures: The Faculty and Staff of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures (CMLL) are proficient in 36 languages.

Anthropology

- Anthropology: The Summer Field School in Archaeology in Belize and field trips in Texas and the surrounding region are highlights of the anthropology curriculum.

Social Work

- Social Work: The Bachelor of Arts degree in social work at Texas Tech is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Those who graduate with a social work degree from this program are eligible to sit for the Baccalaureate Level Social Work Licensure Exam in Texas and many other states.

Chemistry & Biochemistry

- Chemistry & Biochemistry: Offers special sections of general chemistry and organic chemistry that limit enrollment sizes and are only available to chemistry or biochemistry majors.

History

- The History Department offers many different courses that explore the histories of Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, and the United States. Faculty members from this department participate in, or coordinate study abroad programs to Spain, Germany, and Vietnam.

Economics

- Offer BA and BS in Economics, BS in international Economics and a minor in Economics.

Geography

- Graduates of this program have gone on to work in a variety of fields such as law, historic preservation, the Peace Corps, cartography, city/regional planning, biogeography, and transportation.

English

- English: TTU has the only program in Texas that offers the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in Technical Communication.

Geosciences

- All Geosciences majors have to attend “field courses/trips” as part of their degree plan, to study soil, plants, etc.

General Studies

- General Studies: Pat Green, three-time Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter graduated in 1997 with a Bachelor of General Studies.

Kinesiology

- Recent graduates from Sport Management have gone on to work for professional sports teams, including the Dallas Cowboys.

Mathematics & Statistics

- Mathematics & Statistics: The Texas Tech Department of Mathematics & Statistics has earned national and international prominence in several areas, including biomathematics, complex analysis, control theory, computational mathematics and statistics. It is the home of the Statistical Consulting Laboratory (SCL).

A&S SPECIAL PROGRAMS

A&S offers unique programs and minors that many students are not aware of.

1. Athletic Training

- This is a selective program for Kinesiology majors who wish to become athletic trainers. It is offered in conjunction with the Texas Tech Department of Intercollegiate Athletes and gives students hands on experience through non-credit internships of at least 1,800 hours over a minimum of three years. Upon completion of course requirements, students can sit for the Texas Athletic Training Licensure Examination.

2. Actuarial Science

- An interdisciplinary minor that builds a foundation for students interested in a profession that provides advice and solutions for businesses and societal problems involving economic risk.

3. Criminology Concentration

- This concentration is available to sociology majors who are interested in the scientific study of law-making, law-breaking, and social control.

4. Environmental Studies

- This interdisciplinary minor focuses on the interaction of humans and the natural environment and the consequences of that interaction. The program is designed to help prepare students for professional work in law, regional planning, or resource management; and various environmental positions in government, business, or teaching.

5. Ethnic Studies

- An interdisciplinary minor designed to increase students' understanding of the nature and development of race relations. Students have an option of specializing in African-American, Mexican-American, or Native-American studies.

6. Forensic Science

- An interdisciplinary minor, which introduces students to the scientific and methodological issues associated with crime investigation and criminal behavior. Students may choose to pursue a track in physical and biological sciences or in the social and behavioral sciences.

7. Geographic Information Science and Technology (GIST)

- This minor is offered by the department of Geosciences. Students will gain an appreciation for how these spatial technologies can be applied to address basic research questions and solve real world problems.

8. Health Professions

- An interdisciplinary minor intended for students who plan to apply to post-graduate health profession programs with very specific prerequisites.

TTU SPECIAL PROGRAMS

1. TTU-HSC Undergraduate to Medical School Initiative (USMI)
 - a. Program offered through TTU Honors College
 - b. Must be a Texas high school senior to apply
 - c. If accepted, students receive guaranteed admission to the TTU HSC School of Medicine and the MCAT requirement is waived
2. TTU Early Acceptance Program
 - a. Program offered through TTU Honors College (only available for Honors students)
 - b. Apply between Sophomore and Junior year
 - c. If accepted, students receive guaranteed admission to the TTU HSC School of Medicine and the MCAT requirement is waived
3. TTU Joint Admission Medical Program (JAMP)
 - a. Program created by Texas Legislature to support and encourage highly qualified, economically disadvantaged students pursuing medical school
 - b. Apply Sophomore Year
 - c. If accepted, students receive guaranteed admission to at least one participating medical school – MCAT required

Foreign Language Requirement

- All A&S students are required to take foreign language. However, there are several variables:
 - If you pursue a BA degree, you will take foreign language through the second year (through 2302), usually four semesters.
 - If you pursue a BS degree, you will take foreign language through the second year (through 2301), usually 3 semesters.
 - If you are proficient in a language – via high school courses or because you are a heritage learner, you can take a CLEP exam and get college credit!
<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/testing/>

Study Abroad

- 83 countries to visit
 - Study Abroad scholarships available
 - 2 TTU Institutions—Seville, Spain and Costa Rica

- Receive course credit while abroad
 - Faculty lead programs
 - Time spent abroad can range (2 weeks, one month, one semester, etc.)

Good Things to Know

- **The difference between a double major and a dual degree:**
 - Dual degree: 2 different degrees, 2 diplomas. Ex: B.S. in Kinesiology and B.A. in History; or different colleges – B.S. in Engineering and B.S. in Physics.
 - Double major: same degree, 1 diploma. Ex: B.A. in History and B.A. in Political Science.
- **FERPA:**
 - FERPA protects the privacy of student education records, including personally identifiable information derived from student conduct records. Generally, universities must have written permission from a student in order to release any information from a student's education record – even to parents and guardians!
- **What an A&S degree plan looks like:**
 - All Arts and Sciences degrees are 120 credit hours. All students must take entry-level “CORE” courses along with 36-42 hours of major courses, and 18-21 hours of minor courses.

Why a Degree in A&S?

The mission of the College of Arts and Sciences is to equip students, “with the mental agility to think beyond the next technological breakthrough; a diversity of critical-thinking and creative problem-solving skills are learned through the breadth and depth of disciplines within the College of Arts and Sciences (as.ttu.edu).” The College creates works of lasting scholarly, cultural, and aesthetic value, and empowers individuals to engage critically with the complexities of a diverse, global society. The College fosters the inquiry, innovation and growth that produce individual and social transformation, while solving real-world problems.

- There are over 11,000 Students in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Over 120 degree programs (Bachelor’s, Master’s and PhD/Doctoral).
- There are over 500 faculty.
- 16 Arts & Sciences departments.
- 1800+ students graduate annually.

***Whenever you have comments or questions
regarding Ambassadors...***

- Do you want to share a great idea for an Ambassador program or activity?
- Do you have comments, concerns or questions?

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Quick Facts

- A&S student population is 1/3 of the total University enrollment – largest College on campus by a lot
- 17 A&S buildings on campus
- 16 A&S departments
- 42 Bachelor's Degrees
- 59 minors
- Offer 3 different types of degrees – BA, BS, BGS
- 11,000+ students in A&S
- 600+ faculty (400+ tenured)
- 22:1 student to faculty ratio for all A&S majors
- A&S students graduate with a Liberal Arts education – i.e., required to take a mixture of humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences
- A&S students are required a minor, but can be outside of A&S
- A&S accepts 19 AP subjects, 26 IB subjects, and up to 72 hours of dual credit
- A&S offers departmental and Dean's Office scholarships – 2.5-million-dollar scholarship budget
 - Incoming students
 - 65% of budget with ACT/SAT criteria
 - 10% of budget as test optional
 - Current Students
 - 25% of budget with scholarships criteria
- Most Pre-Health and Pre-Law students will major in A&S
- A&S has 50 student organizations – most by department
- A&S offers undergraduate research for every major
- There is countless A&S study abroad programs
- A&S departments offer various internships and shadowing opportunities
- A&S has its own Student Success Office for students in need of academic or life counseling
- A&S is one of the four original Texas Tech Colleges
- 21 different national rankings for various A&S programs