TEXAS ★ STATE ®

ORGANIZATION, WORKFORCE,
AND LEADERSHIP STUDIES

BAAS Information Session

This presentation will provide you more information about the
Bachelor of Applied Arts & Sciences (BAAS) degree at Texas State University.

This presentation contains *A LOT* of information!

Feel free to pause the video at any time to spend more time with the details.

Watch and Learn!

Bachelor of Applied Arts & Sciences (BAAS) degree

Offered by the Department of Organization, Workforce, and Leadership Studies (OWLS)

A member of the College of Applied Arts at Texas State University

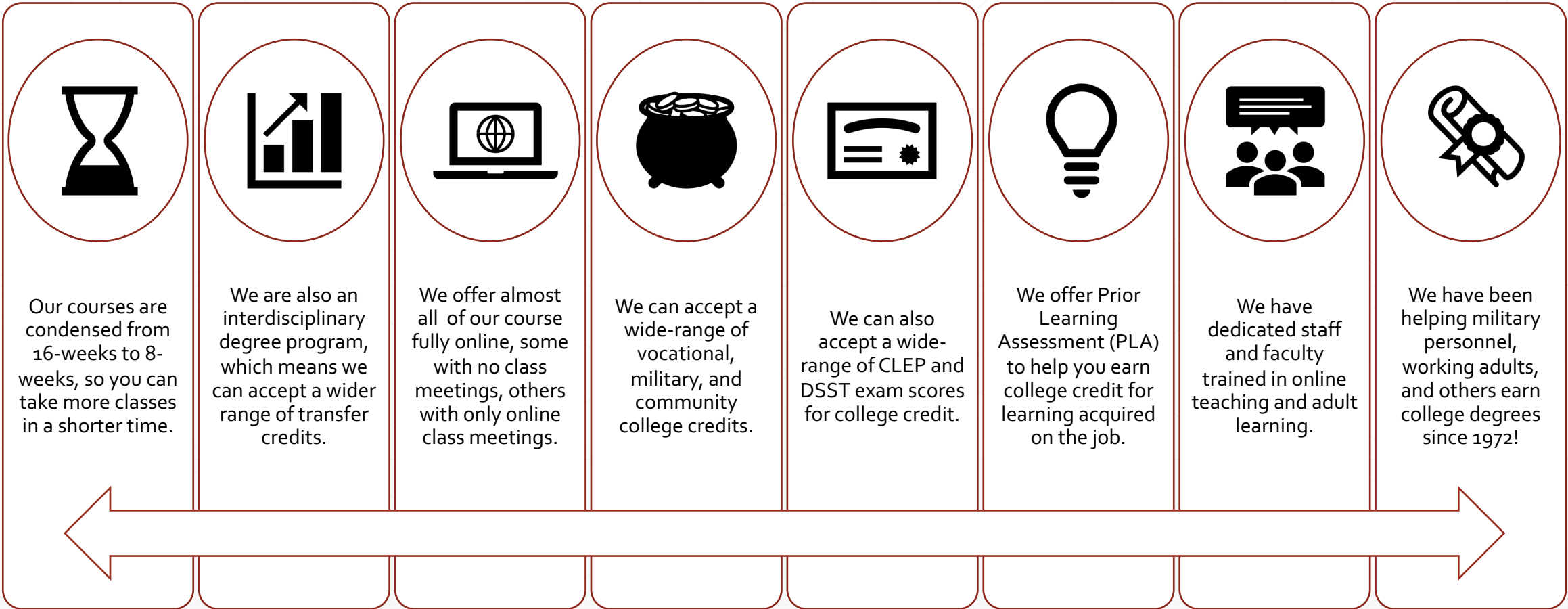Accelerated | Interdisciplinary | Individualized

The BAAS program is designed to help adult learners earn college degrees.

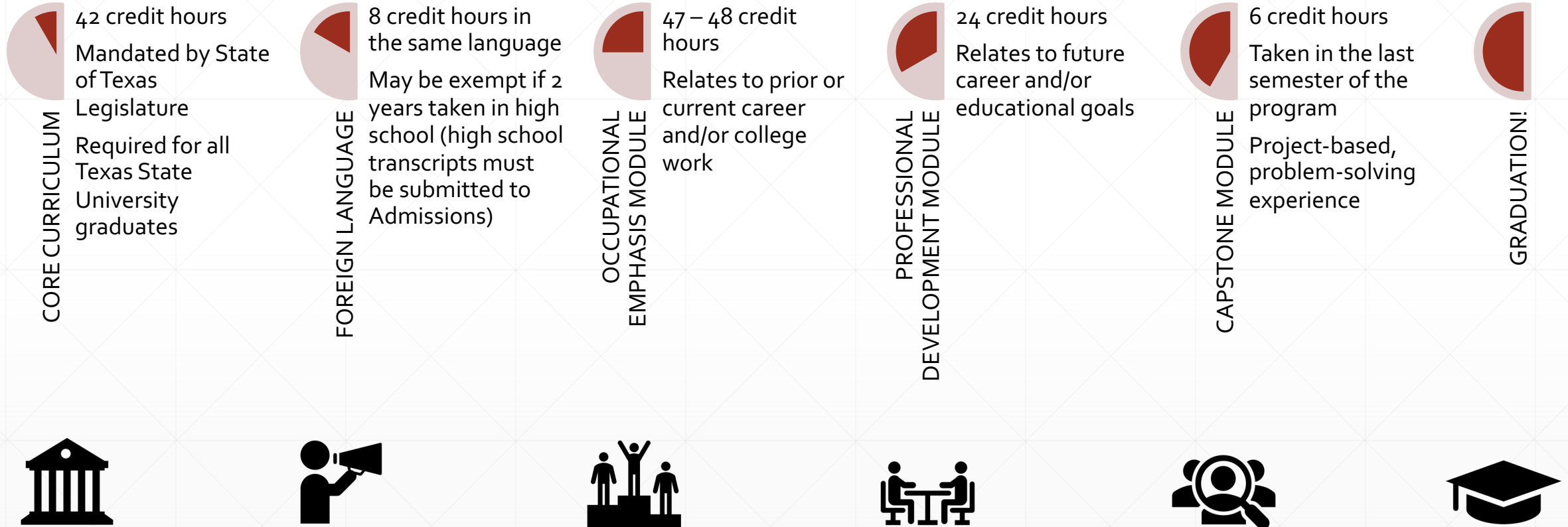We have many unique ways of helping you earn yours.

For example…

... We are an accelerated degree program!

Our courses are condensed from 16-weeks to 8-weeks, so you can take more classes in a shorter time.

We are also an interdisciplinary degree program, which means we can accept a wider range of transfer credits.

We offer almost all of our course fully online, some with no class meetings, others with only online class meetings.

We can accept a wide-range of vocational, military, and community college credits.

We can also accept a wide-range of CLEP and DSST exam scores for college credit.

We offer Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) to help you earn college credit for learning acquired on the job.

We have dedicated staff and faculty trained in online teaching and adult learning.

We have been helping military personnel, working adults, and others earn college degrees since 1972!

Now that you've seen the perks of the program,

let's look at the components of the program!

Components of the BAAS degree

CORE CURRICULUM
42 credit hours
Mandated by State of Texas Legislature
Required for all Texas State University graduates

FOREIGN LANGUAGE
8 credit hours in the same language
May be exempt if 2 years taken in high school (high school transcripts must be submitted to Admissions)

OCCUPATIONAL EMPHASIS MODULE
47 – 48 credit hours
Relates to prior or current career and/or college work

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MODULE
24 credit hours
Relates to future career and/or educational goals

CAPSTONE MODULE
6 credit hours
Taken in the last semester of the program
Project-based, problem-solving experience

GRADUATION!

Another way to think about the components of the BAAS is to think of them as 3 buckets.

Bucket 1 contains knowledge all college graduates should have. It includes core curriculum and foreign language requirements. Since Texas State is a public university, this bucket is mandated by the State of Texas and must contain exactly what is required. This is an inflexible bucket.
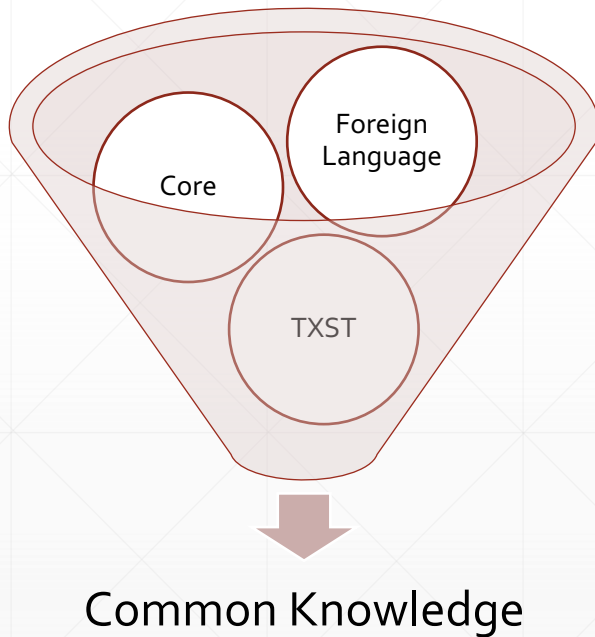
Bucket 2 contains knowledge that is specific to *you*! It contains the Occupational Emphasis module and Prior Learning Assessment. This bucket is filled with your past college credits, your PLA award, your Vocational and Military credits, and credits you earn from CLEP and DSST exams. This is a very flexible bucket!
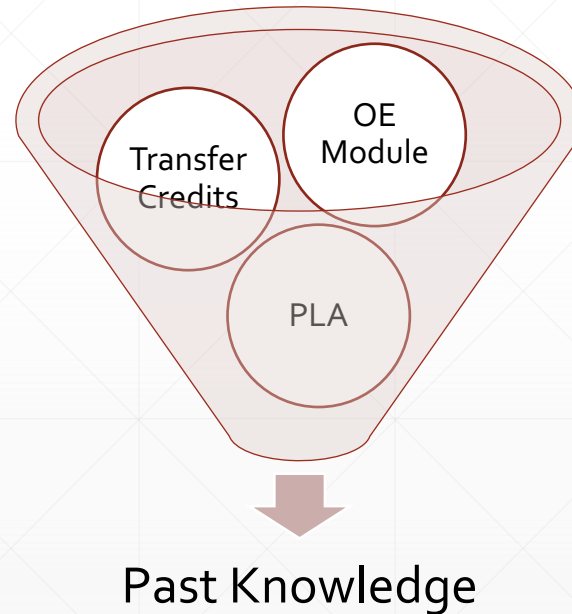
Bucket 3 contains knowledge you have identified that is necessary for you to meet your future career or educational goals. It contains your Professional Development and Capstone modules. This bucket can only hold upper-level courses (3000/4000 level) but is otherwise a flexible bucket.

Core

Foreign Language

TXST

Common Knowledge

Transfer Credits

OE Module

PLA

Past Knowledge

Capstone

PD Module

Graduation

Future Focused
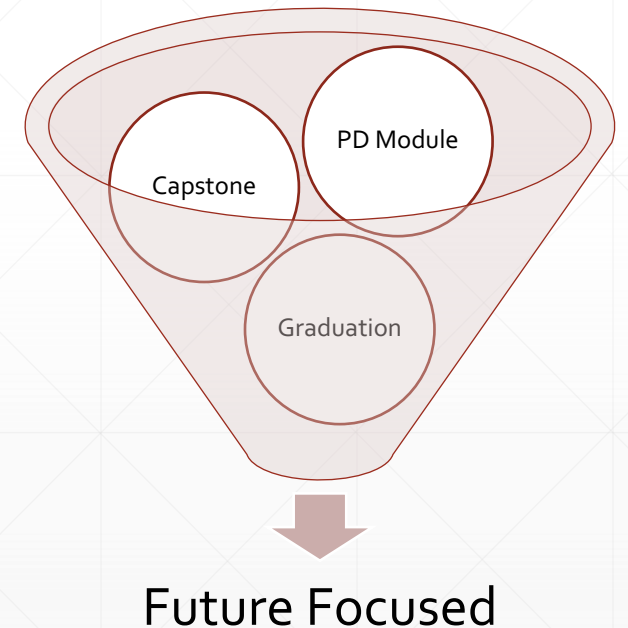
Now that you've seen the components of the program,

let's look at some ways to satisfy them!

First up, the core and foreign language requirements,

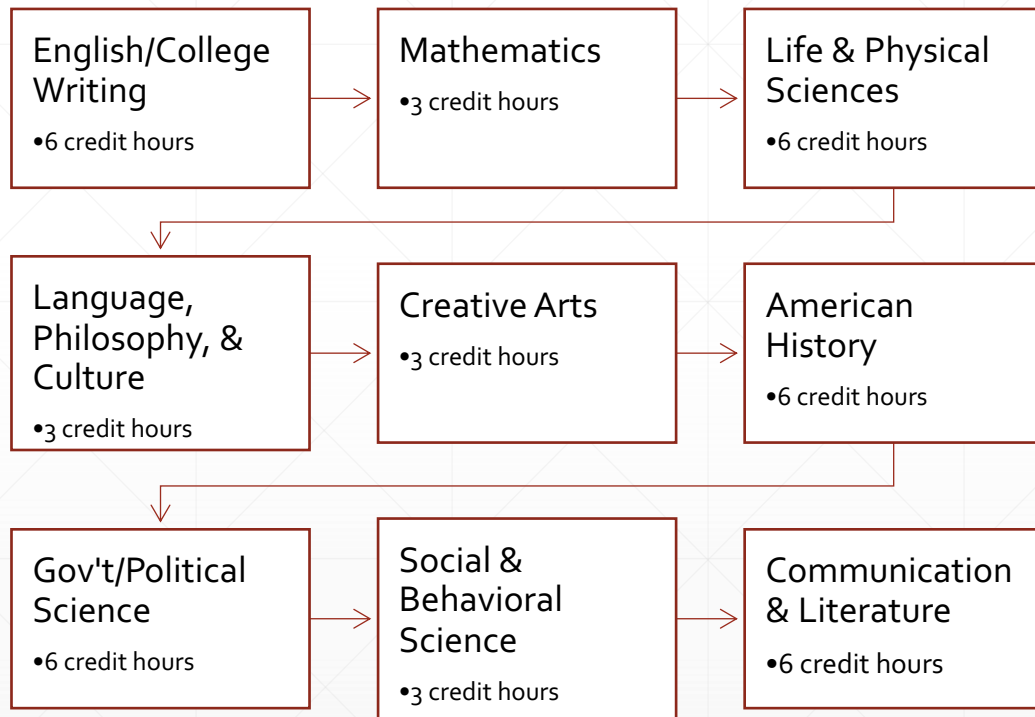**which are required by the State of Texas Legislature.**

Core Curriculum Requirements & Ways to Satisfy Them

What is required – 42 credit hours:

English/College Writing
•6 credit hours

→ Mathematics
•3 credit hours

→ Life & Physical Sciences
•6 credit hours

Language, Philosophy, & Culture
•3 credit hours

→ Creative Arts
•3 credit hours

→ American History
•6 credit hours

Gov't/Political Science
•6 credit hours

→ Social & Behavioral Science
•3 credit hours

→ Communication & Literature
•6 credit hours

How to satisfy the requirement:

Take them at a Community College

Take them via Correspondence Studies

CLEP out of them

Use the Transfer Equivalency Request (TER) Process

Take them traditionally at TXST

Foreign Language Requirement & Ways to Satisfy It

Foreign language requirement:

8 college credit hours in the same language

OR

2 years in the same language from high school

Ways to satisfy it:

Take them traditionally at TXST

Take them via Correspondence Studies

Send your high school transcripts to Admissions

Take them at a Community College

CLEP out of them

Now that we've looked at the courses the State of Texas requires,

let's look at the specific modules of the BAAS degree.

BAAS Modules

OCCUPATIONAL EMPHASIS (OE) MODULE

- Think of this module as your *PAST* – past education, past workplace learning, past trainings, etc.
- This modules is filled with transfer credits, vocational credits, PLA credits, and others
- Requires 47-48 credits total
- OCED 3350 & OCED 4350 are required courses in this module

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PD) MODULE

- Think of this module as your *FUTURE* – future career/ education/ personal goals
- This module is filled with upper-level courses you pick that are related to your future goals
- Requires 24 credits total
- Can only hold 3000- and 4000-level courses
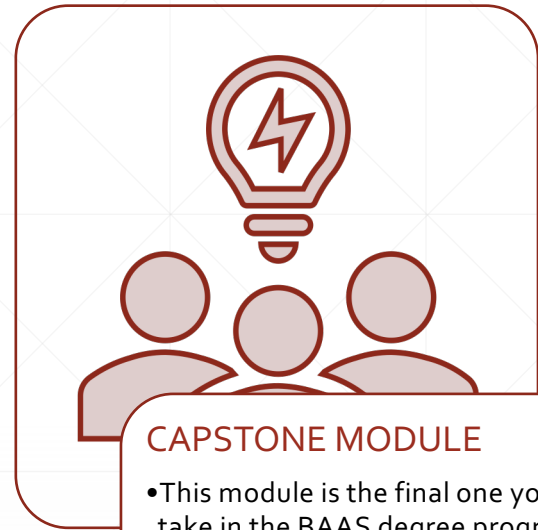
CAPSTONE MODULE

- This module is the final one you will take in the BAAS degree program
- In the capstone courses, you will investigate a common workplace problem
- You will work both individually and in a group in your capstone courses
- Requires 6 credits total
- OCED 4360 & OCED 4361 are required courses in this module

Let's look at each module in a little more detail, starting with the Occupational Emphasis (OE) module.

Occupational Emphasis (OE) module

This module is interdisciplinary.

That means we can use a wide-range of credits.

We use your past credits that relate to working.

We can also use Vocational and Military credits.

And, we can use exam scores from CLEP and DSST.

Credits earned from the PLA also go in this module.

The PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENTS (PLA) is a formal process of awarding college credit for learning acquired outside a formal school setting.

In order to earn PLA credit, you enroll in OCED 4111 and create a portfolio of competency statements. Portfolios are assessed by independent evaluators.

You can earn up to 24 work/life credits or up to 30 non-collegiate credits.

OCED 4111 is offered every semester – even in the summer!

OE Module Advice

No two BAAS students are the same, which means we have to see your transcripts in order to tell you how many credits can be used. Be sure to submit them to Admissions.

The PLA can help you save time and money, but it requires a lot of work. Be sure to put them work in so you can earn as many credits as possible.

We can only accept credits from accredited institutions. Credits allowed to be used at TXST are determined by Admissions.

The PLA is best suited for students who have a minimum of 2 years at the same job.

If you have had several jobs, you can take the PLA for each one (until you earn the max credits allowed)

Vocational credits may not show up on your degree audit right away. Ask your Academic Advisor to check for VE credits, if you think you might have some.

You will work with your Academic Advisor to satisfy your OE module.

Meet with your Academic Advisor often!

Up next, we'll look more in-depth at
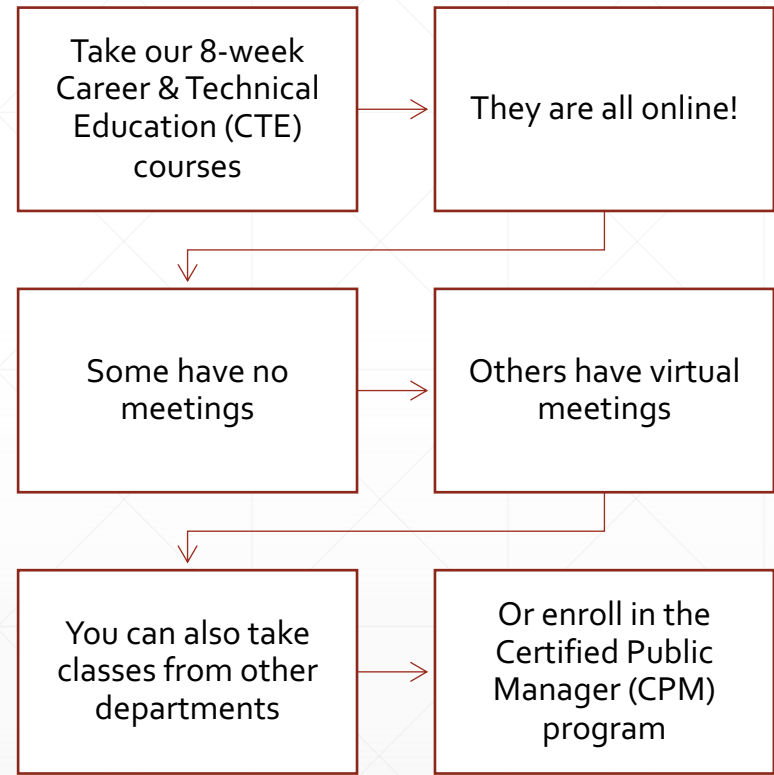
the Professional Development (PD) module.

Professional Development (PD) Module

What is required:

24 credits = eight 3-credit classes

Courses must be Junior- or Senior-level

Only 3000/4000 level classes

You choose the PD courses based on your future goals

Sample Course Sheets will help you choose courses

Ways to satisfy the module:

Take our 8-week Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses → They are all online!

Some have no meetings → Others have virtual meetings

You can also take classes from other departments → Or enroll in the Certified Public Manager (CPM) program

PD Module Advice

8-weeks courses are 16-weeks of instruction condensed to 8-weeks. Be sure to set aside enough time each week for coursework.
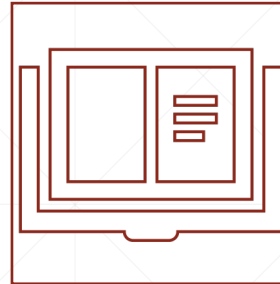
The Certified Public Manager (CPM) program is a great choice for students interested in working in local, state, or federal government and/or non-profit sectors.

A great way to organize your course schedule is to take 2 first 8-week classes and 2 second 8-week classes, or 1 course each 8-weeks and 1 full-term course.

You will choose your PD classes in your first class in the program – OCED 3350.

Always check with your Academic Advisor to ensure you are making wise choices.

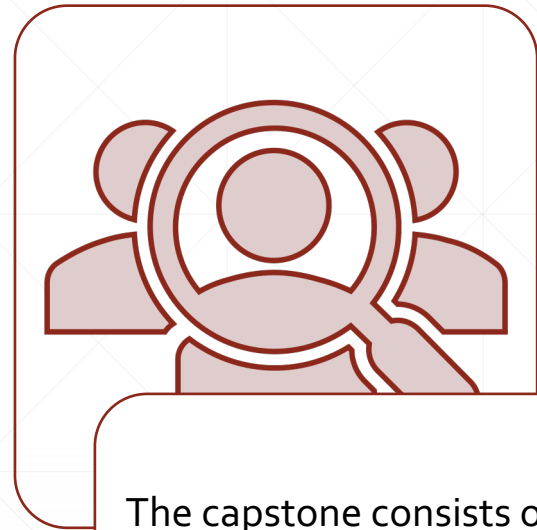If you prefer face-to-face classes, you can take those too, but most of them will be during the day, on campus.

Once your core, foreign language, OE and PD modules are complete, you will be ready for your capstone courses and graduation!

# Now let's take a look at the capstone module, your final degree requirement!

Capstone Module

The capstone consists of 2 courses: OCED 4360 in the first 8-weeks & OCED 4361 in the second 8-weeks. They should be the only classes you have left in the degree.

You will complete 2 projects in your capstone: 1 over yourself and your future, the other with a group of classmates. Both projects are required to pass the courses.
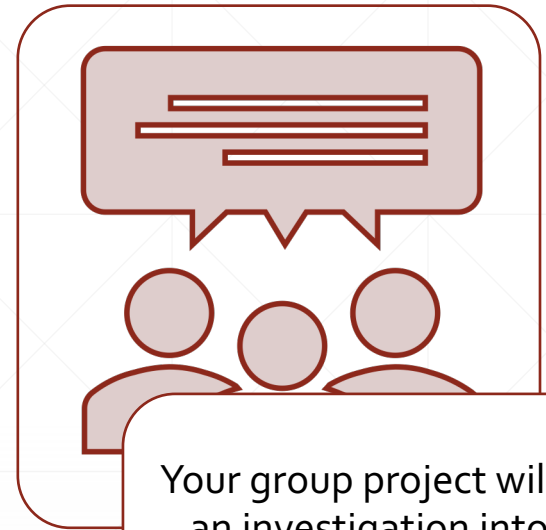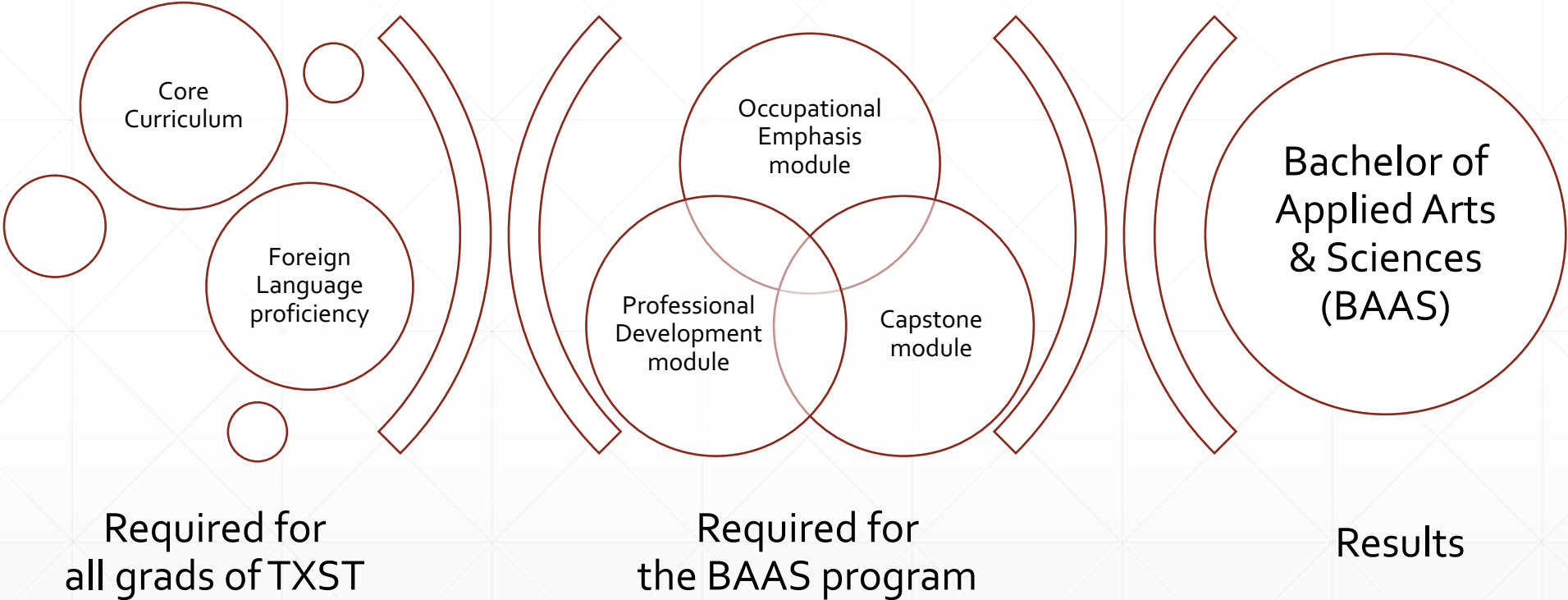
Your group project will be an investigation into a workplace problem and a presentation of possible solutions.

Expect to spend at least 15-20 hours per week working on your capstone.

Now let's do a quick review of the BAAS program.

Then, we'll wrap up by looking at graduation requirements, admissions guidelines, and some parting advice to help you be successful in the program.

Review of BAAS degree

Core
Curriculum

Foreign
Language
proficiency

Occupational
Emphasis
module

Professional
Development
module

Capstone
module

Bachelor of
Applied Arts
& Sciences
(BAAS)

Required for
all grads of TXST

Required for
the BAAS program

Results

Just a little more info to go!
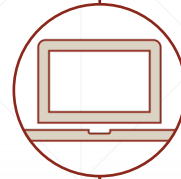
Up next, the requirements to graduate from Texas State University.

Texas State University's Graduation Requirements

To earn your degree, you need the following
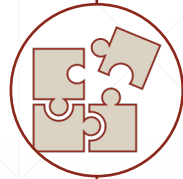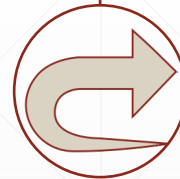
A minimum of 120 credit hours

At least 9 credit hours of writing intensive courses

All modules complete

Cumulative GPA of 2.0

PD module GPA of 2.25

At least 36 advanced credit hours

24 of the last 30 advanced credits come from TXST
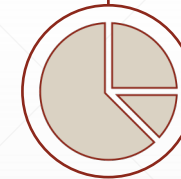
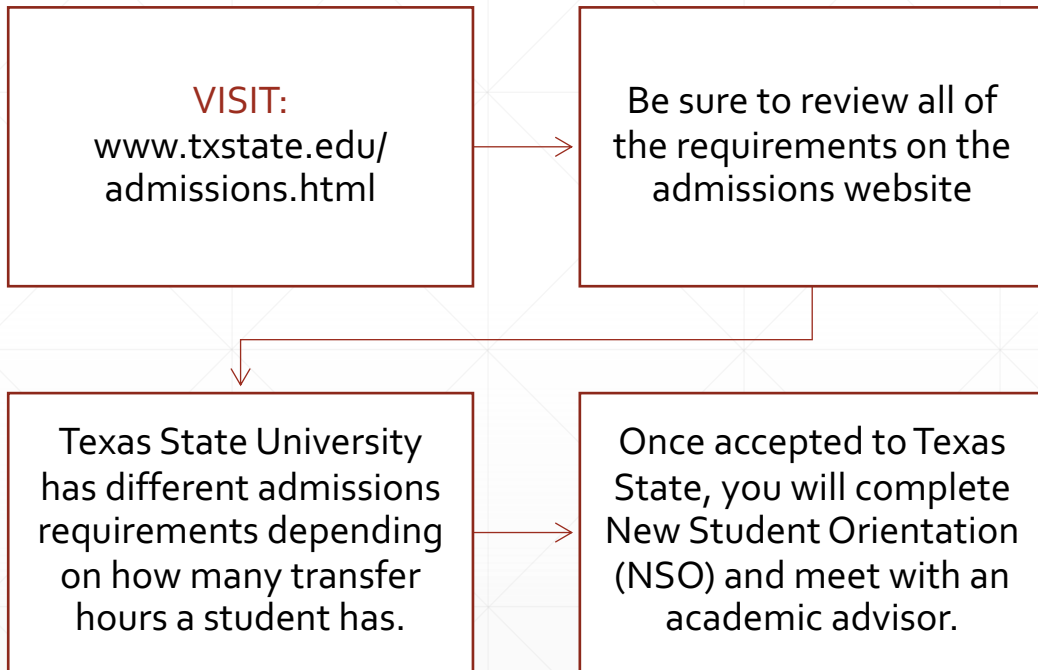At least 3 subject areas within in 36 advanced hours

Check in with your academic advisor at least once per semester to make sure you are on track to meet all of the graduation requirements.

Just a little more info to go!

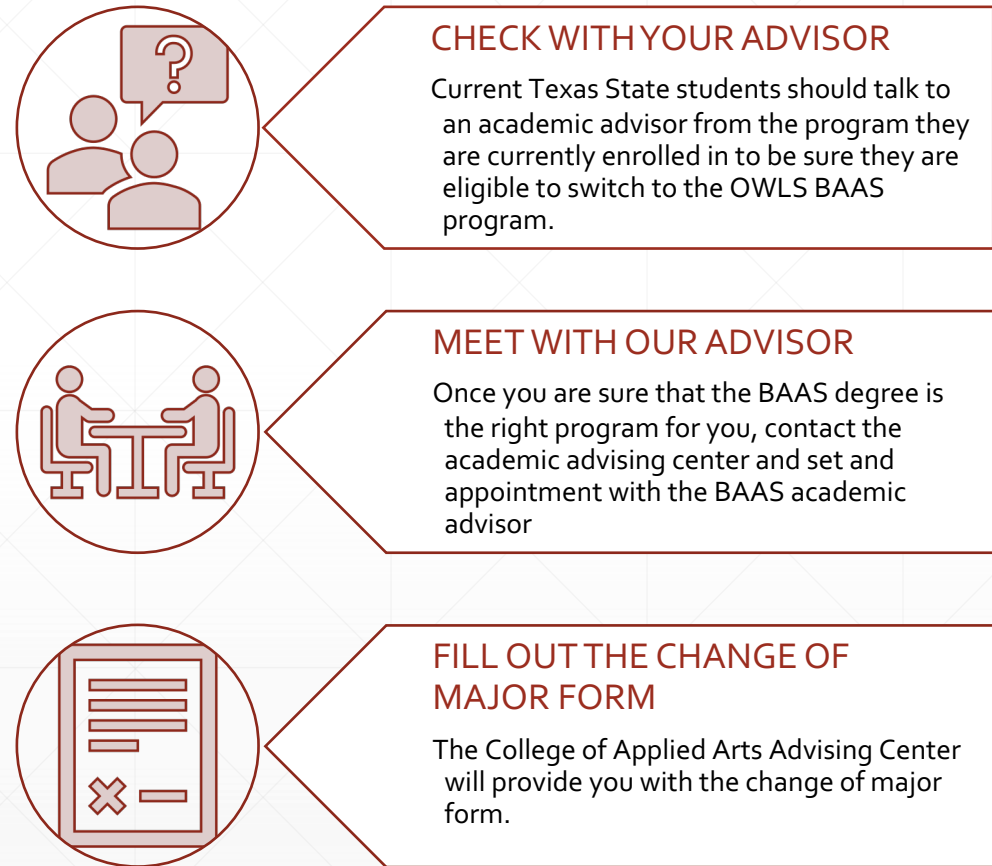# Up next, Texas State University's Admissions Requirements.

Admissions Requirements

New or returning students:

VISIT:
www.txstate.edu/
admissions.html

→

Be sure to review all of the requirements on the admissions website

Texas State University has different admissions requirements depending on how many transfer hours a student has.

→

Once accepted to Texas State, you will complete New Student Orientation (NSO) and meet with an academic advisor.

Students switching from another major:

CHECK WITH YOUR ADVISOR

Current Texas State students should talk to an academic advisor from the program they are currently enrolled in to be sure they are eligible to switch to the OWLS BAAS program.

MEET WITH OUR ADVISOR

Once you are sure that the BAAS degree is the right program for you, contact the academic advising center and set and appointment with the BAAS academic advisor

FILL OUT THE CHANGE OF MAJOR FORM

The College of Applied Arts Advising Center will provide you with the change of major form.

Round Rock Advising Center: (512) 716-4001   San Marcos Advising Center: (512) 245-1490

We are almost done!

Up next, a few words of advice to make sure you are successful in the BAAS program.
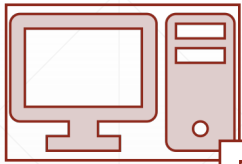
Parting Advice

The program usually takes a minimum of 3 semester to complete.

You should meet with your academic advisor at least once per semester.

Set aside *at least* 10-15 hours per week for coursework.

Make sure your technology is up to par - you can get free software from TXST.

All graduates of this program earn a Bachelor of Applied Arts & Sciences degree.

Be sure to apply for graduation, even if you don't plan to walk in the ceremony.

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ORGANIZATION, WORKFORCE, AND LEADERSHIP STUDIES

Thank you for your interest in the BAAS program.

We hope to see you very soon!

This concludes the BAAS Information Session.

For more info, please visit our website or call (512) 245-2115

www.owls.txstate.edu