

## College of Applied Arts Facilities and Resources Template for Proposal Development

*This language is updated annually. If you have questions or suggested improvements, please contact the College of Applied Arts Research Coordinator at [pdm84@txstate.edu](mailto:pdm84@txstate.edu).*

### History of the College of Applied Arts

The following history was published in the report *The First Century: School of Applied Arts and Technology at SWT* by Dr. G. Sue Thompson for the Centennial Anniversary in 1999.

Texas State University was established in 1899 as a Normal School in San Marcos, which became Southwest Texas State Normal School in 1901 and the first classes were offered in 1903. In 1923, the university's name changed to Southwest Texas State Teachers College. During the 1910 - 1911 academic year, The School of Applied Arts and Technology was "born" with the hiring of 3 faculty each teaching in a different academic discipline – Domestic Science, Manual Training, and Agriculture. Reorganization of the College occurred in 1934 which resulted in the creation of seven divisions, one of which was the Division of Practical Arts (Home Economics and Industrial Arts, and Business). The School of Applied Arts was established in 1965 and consisted of Home Economics and Industrial Arts, Business, Journalism, and Agriculture.

Southwest Texas became a university in 1969 with two colleges – the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Professional Schools. The College of Professional Schools was comprised of Home Economics, Agriculture, Aerospace Studies, Law Enforcement Department (renamed Criminal Justice in 1976), and Journalism. The Department of Military Science was formed in 1982 and became an additional member of the College of Professional Schools.

Another university reorganization occurred in 1983 when the College of General Studies and seven schools were created – Applied Arts and Technology, Business, Education, Fine Arts, Health Professions, Liberal Arts, and Science. At that time, the School of Applied Arts and Technology contained the following departments: Aerospace Studies, Agriculture, Criminal Justice, Home Economics, Military Science, and Technology. In 1994, Southwest Texas University (SWT) changed Home Economics (formerly Domestic Science) to Home Economics/Family and Consumer Science establishing it as the only department to be housed continuously in Applied Arts and Technology since its inception.

### Student Enrollment Data

As of Fall 2023, there are 4,150 undergraduates and 545 graduate students enrolled.

Source: [College of Applied Arts Advising Center](#)

### Faculty Data

As of 2022, there are 198 total faculty members.

Academic Department	Number of Faculty
Office of the Dean	3
Aerospace Studies	4
Agricultural Sciences	18
Criminal Justice	37
Family and Consumer Sciences	63
Military Science	7
Organization, Workforce, and Leadership	25
Social Work	41

<https://public.tableau.com/views/GeneralEmployeeInformation/Category?:showVizHome=no>

**Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees – Major and Minors Offered**

Undergraduate Degrees				Graduate Degrees			
Department/School	Majors	Minors	Certifications	Department/School	Majors	Minors	Certifications
Department of Agricultural Sciences	7	5	1	Department of Agricultural Sciences	2		
School of Criminal Justice and Criminology	1	1		School of Criminal Justice and Criminology	4	1	1
School of Family and Consumer Sciences	11	5	3	School of Family and Consumer Sciences	8		
Department of Aerospace Studies		1		Department of Aerospace Studies			
Department of Military Science		1		Department of Military Science			
Department of Organization, Workforce, and Leadership Studies	1			Department of Organization, Workforce, and Leadership Studies	3		
School of Social Work	1	1		School of Social Work	4		

<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/undergraduate/applied-arts/>

**Agriculture Laboratories**

The Agriculture Building has a meats laboratory, animal feed laboratory, an agronomy laboratory, and a data analytics laboratory. The Animal Science laboratories are outfitted with feed analysis equipment (e.g., SEAL Autoanalyzer, Agilent ICP-OES 5900 Spectrometer, Olympic FL8E Kiln, Daisy In-vitro incubator, commercial grinder, forced air drying oven). The Agricultural Education laboratory is outfitted with teaching/demonstration stations and has audio/video recording equipment designed to record students while they teach.

*Source: Dr. Ryan Anderson – Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Sciences*

**Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) Program**

The [Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps \(AFROTC\) Program](#) develops leadership potential and attitudes vital to preparing young minds for the professional United States Air Force and Space Force officer corps. The academics portion of [Aerospace Studies](#) teaches professional knowledge and skills unique to the Air Force and Space Force, communication skills, doctrine, air and space power history, leadership and management and the dynamics of national security policy. The Leadership Laboratory portion of the program allows cadets to practice fundamental management and leadership skills and prepares cadets for Field Training. The lab is organized and administered by AFROTC Professional Officer Course Cadets (Texas State University students who have selected the Air Force as their profession upon graduation from the University) and supervised by active-duty officers and enlisted personnel. Cadets who meet the mental, physical, and moral requirements of the Aerospace Studies program qualify for a military commission and will serve in the United States Air Force or Space Force as a commissioned officer for a minimum of four years. Texas State students may enter the AFROTC under a four-year program or apply for a two-year program under certain conditions. The Air Force offers AFROTC scholarships for qualifying four-year or two-year students.

<https://www.afrotc.com/>

**Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (AROTC)**

The Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (AROTC) is a program of leadership development that prepares men and women for service as officers in the United States Army, Army Reserve, and National Guard. Students who complete their academic degree and ROTC programs are commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants in the United States Army. The Army ROTC experience contributes to a variety of job skills applicable to any profession, career, or job, while instilling in each cadet a

sense of confidence, discipline, and personal responsibility. Moreover, each cadet gains the satisfaction of being part of a select group of great Americans dedicated to American values and service to the nation.

<https://www.txst.edu/armyrotc.html>

### **Bobcat Bloom**

The Bobcat Bloom floral program is administered through the horticulture program in the Department of Agriculture at Texas State University (San Marcos, TX) and began in 2005-2006 as a means of fundraising to obtain additional resources for the horticulture program. Students grow plants in horticulture courses and are then involved in learning to market the products to actual on-campus clients. The Bobcat Bloom program also serves the campus community by offering discounted floral products to the departments and student organizations for various on-campus events.

<https://ag.txst.edu/outreach/bobcat-bloom.html>

### **Bobcat Farm**

Bobcat Farm at Texas State University, located at the Freeman Center Ranch at 2101 Freeman Ranch Road, practices sustainable agricultural methods to regenerate degraded soils and contribute to local food system development through the cultivation of annual and perennial vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers. Bobcat Farm serves as a research facility as well as an outdoor laboratory for several courses in the Department of Agricultural Sciences. Additionally, Bobcat Farm hosts the student organization, Bobcat Farm Club, that welcomes all TXST students, faculty, and staff, regardless of their areas of study or prior agricultural experiences, to volunteer and assist farm development, crop production, and delivery of produce to the TXST and local community.

### **Center for Geospatial Intelligence and Investigation (GII)**

The Texas State University Center for Geospatial Intelligence and Investigation (GII) studies how to improve our response to crime problems and homeland security threats, both foreign and domestic. Our research uses geospatial and other forms of tactical information to develop information management models. GII provides specialized training for law enforcement, intelligence, and military agencies. Operational assistance for government agencies is also available in certain situations.

Employing a cross-disciplinary and multiagency approach, GII seeks to help law enforcement and intelligence agencies build more powerful investigative and analytic tools. Computer modeling based on human behavioral theories helps extract knowledge from information and data, assisting police and intelligence agencies in connecting the dots in environments of information overload and uncertain threat. The ongoing development and implementation of geographic profiling for violent and property crime, and terrorism and insurgency problems, is one example of the Center's work.

<https://www.txst.edu/gii.html>

### **Child Development Center**

The mission of the Texas State University Child Development Center (CDC) is to provide a model for early education and childcare programs for university students, staff, faculty, and the community. The primary purpose is to provide an environment in which children can develop intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally within a play-based developmentally appropriate curriculum under the guidance of qualified teachers and staff. Furthermore, we are here to support the University's mission of research, teaching, and community service by promoting access to higher education to a diverse population.

Faculty and students from Texas State can conduct research studies about children's learning and development, about teacher education practices, and about early childhood program policies and practices at the CDC. All research studies proposed at the center are evaluated by Texas State faculty and CDC administration to ensure that the studies

employ appropriate methods, and that the CDC program is not overly disrupted by the implementation of the research. Once a proposed study is evaluated to be appropriate for the CDC, researchers must complete an application to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) to further ensure the procedures protect the rights of Human subjects in research. These visitations are screened, monitored, and supervised to ensure that they in no way interfere with classroom activities or offer uncomfortable or unsafe situations to the children. No child will be involved in a research project without parental consent.

<https://www.fcs.txst.edu/cdc.html>

### **Comparative Research Facility**

This facility is under the management of the Division of Research. Open to all TXST faculty, the Comparative Research Facility (CRF) is a 1700 ft<sup>2</sup> facility that currently houses rodents for biomedical research. Currently, the facility can house 250 rats, 2000 mice, and 400 immune-deficient mice. In addition to animal housing rooms, the facility also contains a procedure room equipped with a vaporizer and downdraft table and a behavioral room equipped to measure behaviors associated with mood and cognitive function.

<https://www.txst.edu/research/orc/comparative-research-facility.html>

### **Freeman Ranch Livestock Center**

The Freeman Center provides 3,500 acres of Hill Country habitat and on-site facilities as part of Texas State University. The three-fold mission of research, education and outreach of the Center is enabled by a framework of foundation agreements with Texas State University, a doctoral-granting, emerging research institution dedicated to excellence in serving the research and education needs of Texas and the world beyond. Providing information that enables good stewardship and sustainable use of Texas land and water resources is a core goal of the Center.

The Freeman Ranch is located off County Road 213 on Freeman Ranch Road. The Freeman Center at Texas State University houses livestock animals utilized for animal science teaching and research conducted by faculty in the Agricultural Sciences Department. The Freeman Center includes a ruminally cannulated herd of steers and cattle barn to facilitate research. Capabilities include *in situ* and *in vivo* intake and digestion trials, in addition to rumen fluid, blood, and fat tissue collection. The Freeman Center also operates a cow-calf operation of Santa Gertrudis and crossbred cows that are predominantly Black Baldy. Two 90-day breeding seasons provide fall and spring calves for teaching labs in the Animal Sciences program. The Freeman Center is also home to a Boer goat herd to be utilized for teaching and research purposes.

The Department of Agricultural Sciences received Santa Gertrudis cattle from the Buena Vida Cattle Company to give students hands-on research with animal husbandry and to research differences in genetic data compared to other breeds of cattle.

<https://www.txst.edu/freemancenter.html>

### **The Jones Research Lab**

Associate Professor Dr. Angela Jones manages a research laboratory that explores public perceptions of procedural justice concerning police courts, as well as evaluations of unreliable evidence that could lead to wrongful convictions. The lab conducts a variety of studies testing the antecedents of justice perceptions, from multiple perspectives, and in different types of interactions with police (e.g., traffic stops, interactions with persons in behavioral crisis). With funding from the National Institute of Justice, her research lab also examines how changes in interviewing skills among front-line officers may improve public perceptions of police.

The Jones Research Lab is currently evaluating the use of technology to improve the ecological validity of eyewitness stimuli and the development of lineups. They are currently testing how immersive environments affect eyewitness memory. Facial recognition is also a rapidly developing technology being employed by various police

departments across the country. Such technology can inform the construction of lineups that are later administered to eyewitnesses. One method for reducing the errors made by eyewitnesses in criminal cases involves constructing lineups that do not unduly bias witnesses towards choosing the suspect. Using actual mugshots from the Florida Offender Database, the lab is currently testing how facial recognition technology affects eyewitness lineup decisions, especially when lineups include highly similar fillers.

<https://www.cj.txst.edu/research/centers-labs/jones-lab.html>

### **Living Library**

The gardens all around the Agriculture Building constitute the Bobcat Horticulture Living Library. The Living Library gardens have been designed and maintained by students in the department. The gardens are a collection of many of the plant materials that are included in both the Woody Plants and Herbaceous Plants class. The gardens also provide a peaceful and quiet place for students, faculty, and staff to study, meet and relax between classes.

### **Nelson Agricultural Mechanic Labs**

The Nelson Wing flanks the west side of the Agriculture Bldg. Its namesake is owned to H. A. Nelson who served as the Agriculture Department Chairman from 1909-1945. Four traditional agricultural mechanics laboratories are located within the Nelson wing of the Agriculture Building that are dedicated to Construction, Electricity, Engines, and Metal Fabrication, as well as a classroom and office space. Additional laboratory space has been allocated to virtual reality technology in agricultural mechanics. The department recently added a new virtual reality welding laboratory. The virtual reality laboratory currently includes two Realityworks' guideWELD Virtual reality welding simulators, a Lincoln Electric VRTEX 360 Dual user training system, and a classroom set of 360 cameras, light stands, and VR headsets. Four 3D printers and a 3D scanner are currently housed in the VR laboratory as well. *Facilities*

The Metal Fabrication laboratory is a 6,000+ square foot facility outfitted with twenty welding booths, eighteen Oxy-Acetylene welding, heating, and cutting stations, four hand-held plasma cutting stations, a 5x10 CNC plasma cutting table, two 4x4 CNC plasma cutting tables with in-booth, and whole room ventilation. The metal fabrication laboratory has a 20-foot roll-up door and an overhead crane designed to handle bulk deliveries and fabrication space for large welding projects. The facility is equipped with 18 brand new multi-process welders along with several metal processing tools including an iron worker, cold saws, band saws, hand and pedestal grinders, plus other equipment. The facility also has six gas metal arc welders and four gas tungsten arc welders available for additional training stations. The department purchased a Lincoln Electric REALWELD training system and received a second REALWELD training system as a donation from Lincoln Electric. Other equipment is available via intra-departmental, -college, and -institutional collaborations.

*Source: Dr. Ryan Anderson – Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Sciences*

*Agricultural Mechanics concentration: <https://ag.txst.edu/undergrad/ag-mech.html>*

### **Texas Justice Court Training Center**

The mission of the Texas Justice Court Training Center (TJCTC) is to provide quality education opportunities for justices of the peace, constables, and court personnel, ensuring the credibility of, and confidence in, the justice courts enabling them to better serve the people of the State of Texas.

Every year, TJCTC provides over 500 hours of live education reaching 2200 judges, constables, and court personnel. The Training Center offers additional supplemental education through 20 webinars and another 120 hours of training through workshops. During legislative years, TJCTC provides a comprehensive overview of the legislation affecting justice courts, including a legislative resource book and eight additional training events. TJCTC provides 80 hours of required new judge training annually.

<https://www.tjctc.org/>