UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
University College helps prepare students for academic success. It provides an academic base for freshman and transfer students with fewer than 20 semester credit hours, and is committed to creating a positive climate for learning. In addition, University College offers programs designed to enhance student success in the classroom. These programs include academic advising, supplemental instruction and tutoring. Programs which enhance the learning experience, including Freshman Convocation, College Success Seminar, Learning Communities and the University Honors Program are located in University College.

Curriculum

The developmental studies program provides precollege instruction in reading, writing and mathematics. This program is designed to prepare students for successful entry into their regular academic classes. The courses are graded and the grade is calculated in the grade point average. However, these courses do not count as part of a degree program. Fulfillment of all three parts of a Texas Success Initiative assessment are required (score of 270 for math) or completion of WRIT 0300, READ 0300 and ALGE 0301 with a grade of C or better is prerequisite for BIOL 1108, BIOL 1111, BIOL 1113, BIOL 1308, BIOL 1311, BIOL 1313 and BIOL 1409; fulfillment of the TSI requirement for college-level math (score of 270) or completion of ALGE 0301 with a grade of C or better is prerequisite for CHEM 1405-CHEM 1407, CHEM 1481 and CHEM 1483; fulfillment of the TSI reading and writing requirement or completion of WRIT 0300 and/or READ 0300 with a grade of C or better is prerequisite for ENGL 1301; HIST 1301, HIST 1302, HIST 2321 and HIST 2322; and POLS 2301, POLS 2302, POLS 2304, PSYC 2301 and SOCI 1301.

Algebra (ALGE)

0300. Developmental Algebra I. 3(3-2)
Designed to provide students with an introduction to algebra. Topics include operations using real numbers, solving linear equations, problem solving techniques, introduction to graphing linear equations, simplifying exponential expressions and polynomials and an introduction to factoring. Placement is based on analysis of student ACT/SAT, TSI assessment and/or placement test scores. Students must be concurrently enrolled in a mathematics laboratory.

0301. Developmental Algebra II. 3(3-2)
Designed to provide students with more advanced algebraic skills necessary for success in college-level mathematics. Topics include a review of linear equations and problem solving techniques, rational expressions, graphing nonlinear equations and roots and radicals. Placement is based on analysis of student ACT/SAT, TSI and/or placement test scores. Students must be concurrently enrolled in a mathematics laboratory.

Reading (READ)

0300. Developmental Reading. 3(3-2)
Improvement of reading skills through individualized development of flexible speed, comprehension, vocabulary and study skills. Required of all students deficient in reading skills. Students must be concurrently enrolled in a reading laboratory.
Writing (WRIT)

0300. Developmental Writing. 3(3-2)
Intensive review of basic grammar and usage, study of various sentence and paragraph patterns leading to theme composition, development of vocabulary and reading skills. Recommended for all students deficient in basic English skills. Students must be concurrently enrolled in a writing laboratory.

Academic Programs
Academic advisement for developmental coursework, as well as undecided (LBAR) majors, occurs in University College.

University College programs are designed to support students as they develop their academic, personal and leadership skills. The following programs develop, enhance and enrich the undergraduate experience and while doing so, positively impact student retention and persistence to graduation.

- **Academic Advisement.** A well-trained cohort of advisers with University College evaluates the academic abilities and background of incoming freshmen. These advisers work with students to define and develop realistic goals, help students recognize their abilities and interests, identify any special needs and/or match students to available resources that may be required to aid in their journey to be successful. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisers on a regular basis to monitor their progress toward their educational and career goals. Advising provides a linkage between academic preparation and the world of work. Advising provides the foundation for students to pursue their educational and career goals.

- **College Success Seminar.** College Success Seminar focuses on the development of important academic skills such as writing and critical thinking while introducing students to the requirements for degree completion. Students are also engaged in discussions and activities which enhance their social transition to campus life. Research demonstrates that students completing a college success seminar are more successful in college as many pitfalls commonly experienced by first-year students are avoided.

- **Developmental Studies.** Provide pre-college instruction in reading, writing, math and algebra. The developmental studies program is designed to prepare students for successful entry into regular academic courses in a comprehensive program providing computer-assisted instruction, Supplemental Instruction, tutoring and mentoring. Assistance is provided with particular emphasis placed on the TSI assessment competency areas of reading, writing, math and algebra.

- **Freshman Convocation.** The mission of Freshman Convocation is to welcome students and to foster a sense of community, culture, pride and tradition in Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Held each fall semester, this program promotes an understanding of the role of higher education in life-long learning, formally introduces first-year students to faculty and staff, and introduces important campus traditions to new students such as the *Javelina Pledge* and *Alma Mater*.

- **Learning Assistance Center.** The Learning Assistance Center, located in the Jernigan Library, provides tutoring to students needing assistance in their courses. Peer mentoring assist students and respond to specific questions regarding course content while assisting in the development of successful study skills and test-taking strategies in key courses.

- **Learning Communities.** Learning communities help students find their place in both academic and social settings as faculty and students work together in a collaborative learning environment. This allows students to make connections and form friendships as they achieve to the best of their ability. Research demonstrates that this integrated learning environment enhances student learning and success.

- **Project I Can.** Project I Can is a cooperative effort by Texas A&M-Kingsville and Coastal Bend College to provide students with basic academic skills that will increase their chances of success at the university level. The participants of this program are co-enrolled at both institutions, with Coastal Bend College providing the lower level developmental courses. These courses are conducted in University College classrooms, and the Coastal Bend College faculty and staff also are housed in University College. The program assures that students seeking higher education will have a starting point customized to their academic needs, thus allowing every student the opportunity for a successful academic future. Placement in these courses is based on an analysis of the student’s TSI exam and ACT/SAT scores.
• **Supplemental Instruction.** Supplemental Instruction (SI) provides a series of weekly review sessions for students taking historically difficult courses. Each SI section is guided by an undergraduate SI leader, a peer mentor who has previously taken the course and has received training in note-taking, study skills and test-taking strategies.

• **TSI Management.** Administers the tracking, evaluating and reporting requirements of the TSI Program. In addition, TSI management evaluates and validates student scores and program results relevant to retention and academic achievement.

• **University Honors Program:** The University Honors Program provides opportunities for outstanding students to participate in academic and social programs throughout the school year. Students who successfully complete the Honors Program will receive appropriate notation on their academic transcript as they are identified as honors graduates at commencement. While offering opportunities for professional growth, the Honors Program fosters a collaborative learning environment through unique classroom and co-curricular activities.