Texas State University offers a master of arts in adult education, a flexible, broad-based degree that provides the skills needed to meet the evolving educational challenges facing modern communities.

The mission of the adult education program is to prepare practitioners who work or will work as teachers, program developers and evaluators or administrators seeking to enhance the learning capability of adults on an individual, organizational and community level in educational programs in a variety of contexts.

These contexts encompass community-based organizations (e.g. adult literacy/ESL programs), governmental and nongovernmental agencies, corporations, professional and voluntary associations, school systems, continuing/higher education, correctional institutions, cultural institutions (e.g. libraries and museums), and the military.

In addition to a common core curriculum, we offer specialized curricular tracks for individuals working in or interested in working in adult literacy and English as a second language, continuing and community education or work and learning.

“In teaching children, it may be necessary to anticipate objective experience by uses of imagination, but adult experience is already there waiting to be appropriated. Experience is the adult learner’s living textbook.”

— Eduard Lindeman, 1926
Master of Arts in Adult Education
The master of arts in adult education is a 39-hour, thesis-optional program with a common core of courses that provides the expertise and experience to develop and lead a variety of adult education programs. In addition to the common core, which includes a supervised internship, students are encouraged to take courses appropriate to their career specializations. Students selecting the thesis option complete a supervised research project, which provides excellent preparation for future doctoral study. Those electing the non-thesis option complete a written comprehensive examination and may elect six additional hours of course work.

Graduate Minor
Students electing a graduate minor in adult education complete 12 credits of course work in adult education including ADED 5321, Adult Learning and Development.

Career-Focused Concentrations
Program graduates are typically employed as teachers, trainers, program coordinators and directors in:

Adult ESL
- programs teaching English as a second language to adults in community-based and community college settings
- literacy development programs, such as Even Start family literacy programs, adult basic education and GED certification

Continuing and Community Education
- community-based programs helping adults reach lifelong learning goals related to personal health and well-being, family, culture and faith development
- credit and noncredit programs within colleges and universities aimed at meeting the particular educational needs of adult learners (accelerated learning, degree completion, etc.)

Workplace Learning
- programs focused on organizational and workplace learning, including continuing professional education, human resource development, workforce development and workplace literacy
- settings including business and industry, nonprofit organizations, professional associations

For further information about the program, visit www.txstate.edu/clas/Adult-Education.

Admission Policy
In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Graduate College, the Department of Counseling, Leadership, Adult Education and School Psychology requires a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited university with a GPA of at least 2.75 during the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work. Submit the following to the Graduate College:
- the online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
- application fee
- one official transcript from each college or university attended
- three letters of reference from individuals with knowledge of the candidate as a student or as a professional
- writing sample: Discuss a major issue currently confronting adult education. Applicants are strongly encouraged to draw on their own experiences in education in writing this essay. Please detail the position on the subject and limit responses to 1,000 words.

Visit www.gradcollege.txstate.edu for access to an online application and additional details. Applications are due June 15 for fall semester, October 15 for spring semester and April 15 for the summer semester. Applications received after that date will be considered on a space-available basis.

Financial Assistance
The Department of Counseling, Leadership, Adult Education, and School Psychology has a limited number of graduate instructional assistantships in which students are employed to assist faculty with their instructional responsibilities. For information, visit www.txstate.edu/clas. Both scholarship and graduate assistantship programs have earlier application deadlines than those otherwise specified for graduate admission.

For information about Texas State scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College website at www.gradcollege.txstate.edu and click on Financing Your Graduate Education. Please note that program admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

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For information about the Education Ph.D. program major in Adult, Professional, and Community Education, visit our website at www.txstate.edu/edphd or contact us at edphd@txstate.edu or 512.245.2531.