Students develop skills in research and practice that help adults in organizations and communities improve their lives and work.
Why choose Texas State?
The degree completion rate is 60% higher than the national average. The adult education faculty is internationally recognized for scholarship and leadership. The program cultivates a supportive and diverse learning community, with faculty working together on community engagement projects, research and presentations and publishing in local, national and international venues.

Students and alumni regularly receive national and international awards for their practice and research. They teach and hold positions of leadership in government, business, higher education and community organizations.

Course Work
Students are accepted into the adult, professional and community education (APCE) Ph.D. program once a year, entering as a cohort in the fall. Classes are offered in the evenings to better serve working professionals.

The 63-hour curriculum includes 24 hours of major emphasis courses, 18 hours of research courses, nine hours of electives and a minimum of 12 hours of dissertation. Dissertation topics reflect the wide range of student practice settings and interests as well as expertise of faculty.
Department Mission

The program educates scholar-practitioners who work in the broad array of settings served by the field of adult education. Graduates of the program are educational leaders who:

» act as change agents
» foster student-centered, lifelong learning communities
» recognize and build on the diverse assets of colleagues and students
» thoughtfully use technology as a tool for communication, research, teaching and learning
» make ethical and moral decisions and articulate the values and principles that guide them
» inform theory with practice and practice with theory
» continuously learn and support the continuous learning of others
Faculty
The APCE faculty research areas include:
  » adult learning
  » adult development
  » organizational learning and development
  » adults in higher education
  » second language learning
  » research capacity building
  » gender, race, ethnicity, and social class
  » adult international education

Career Options
Graduates from the APCE program design, deliver, manage and evaluate learning in many settings, including not-for-profit organizations, government agencies, post-secondary education, healthcare organizations, business, adult basic education and ESL programs, international organizations and the military. They work as faculty, directors, scholars, administrators, executives, researchers, planners, learning specialists and organizational developers.
Important Deadlines*

Admissions
Fall: February 1  
Spring: No admission  
Summer: No admission

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
For scholarship, fellowship or assistantship information, review our web page: gradcollege.txstate.edu/funding

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at: gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/apce-phd
The Ph.D. program at Texas State provided a supportive and challenging academic atmosphere with freedom to explore what interested me most. Earning a doctorate opened invigorating career opportunities that make this one of the most exciting periods of my professional life.

– Nancy Thompson, Bexar Area Agency on Aging