Department Mission

The master of arts (M.A.) in adult education is an academically rigorous and student-focused program, designed for individuals working in or aspiring to work in adult education programs in diverse settings including community-based organizations, government agencies, business and industry and post-secondary education programs for adults. The program prepares reflective practitioners to teach, develop, and manage adult educational programs and to conduct applied research for the improvement of practice.

This is a unique program and allows us to expand our professional interests.

– Gisell Lumbreras, current M.A. student at Texas State University

The program was recently recognized for curriculum innovation by the Commission of Professors of Adult Education.

puniversity reputation

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Why choose Texas State?
This program has:
» dedicated, learner-centered faculty who are leaders in the field
» a culture of collaboration and collegiality
» a focus on reflective practice, emphasizing both theory and skills to become more effective practitioners and leaders
» course delivery formats for working professionals (night, hybrid, and online courses)

The program is diverse with local and international students. Graduates have gone on to make a difference as community educators, corporate trainers, higher education professionals, and educational leaders.

Course Work
This is a 39- to 42-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-focused specializations: adult ESL, workplace learning, and continuing and community education. Students selecting the thesis option complete a supervised research project, which provides excellent preparation for doctoral study or research-focused positions. Those electing the non-thesis option complete a written comprehensive examination and may elect six additional hours of elective course work.

Faculty
The faculty members in this program are a unique group of individuals from diverse educational and cultural backgrounds and nationally recognized for their accomplishments. Their research has been published in top-tier journals such as Adult Education Quarterly, Adult Learning, Journal of Workplace Learning, Human Resource Development International, Journal of Continuing Higher Education, Journal of Studies in International Education and Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy. They also provide national and international leadership as journal editors and reviewers.

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Priority Fall: February 15
Fall: June 15
Spring: October 15
Summer: April 15
Applications will continue to be considered on a space-available basis after the deadline.

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for 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/intl_home

Career Options
The program educates scholar-practitioners for diverse roles as teachers, staff developers, evaluators, and administrators. Graduates are found in government agencies, corporations, colleges and universities, the military, and community organizations including libraries, museums, parks, schools, workforce development foundations, NGOs, social services, religious organizations, adult literacy, adult basic education and ESL programs.

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/adult_ed