

# UNIVERSITY OF AUSTIN



2025-2026  
Academic  
Catalog

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Students,

UATX has an incredible opportunity to confront a serious problem in American higher education. Our universities have become infected by a harmful lie — that all ideas are equally valid, that truth is merely a social construct, that one culture's wisdom is as good as another's superstition. This relativism gives rise to illiberalism.

Merit is out of fashion, and universities that once championed colorblind equality now practice obvious racial discrimination under the banner of diversity.

Political conformity and self-censorship are the norm. Conservative faculty comprise less than 5% of professors.

During COVID, we watched our best institutions abandon scientific reasoning in favor of political theater. After October 7th, we saw them struggle to condemn obvious evil.

Students now face harassment for their most cherished beliefs—swastikas painted on Jewish students' dorm walls, American flags stolen and defaced, "Glory to our martyrs" banners hung in libraries.

America suffers as a result. When our elite institutions fail to produce actual elites — people of character, wisdom, and competence — our entire society pays the price.

I emphasize this madness because the University of Austin was born in response to it. If universities were serving students and our nation well, we would not be here today.

UATX is a return to American principles — and a place to prepare citizens for democratic life.

It also exists to liberate minds from lazy conformity. Our students engage with the great books and the great minds to wrestle with the timeless questions every human must face: What is justice? What gives life meaning? What makes us human?

We do this not to confirm opinions but to challenge them.

We are creating an environment where Christians can examine and practice their faith without mockery, where Jews can learn without harassment, and where students and faculty are not censored.

We shape our curricula deliberately — we have strong opinions about what to include or exclude, because we are not relativists and because we believe in the possibility of wisdom.

UATX is for builders and believers. We see the pursuit of truth and innovation as natural allies in defending Western civilization against the forces of chaos, illiberalism, and nihilism.

We are training what Jefferson called a "natural aristocracy" — not of birth or wealth, but of virtue and talent. Men and women who understand both machine learning and moral philosophy, who build character, who build companies, who join institutions with a patriotic spirit.

UATX is unapologetically American. That flag in our atrium isn't just decoration. It's why we're here. We believe in the American experiment: that free people can govern themselves, that merit matters more than ancestry.

Finally, we're a startup, and that's our advantage. While others form committees to discuss ideas, we just try them and see what works.

That's why we'll succeed. We may not have the deepest pockets or the grandest halls, but we remember what universities are for: to defend civilization — and to drive it forward. We're creating not just knowledge, but wisdom. Not just graduates, but leaders.

The road ahead is hard. We're building in the shadow of institutions with centuries-old reputations. Critics call us too conservative or too radical, too ambitious or too naive.

Good. Easy was never the goal.

Ten years from now, we'll look back and see these early days as the foundation of our success.

But that's ten years from now. Today, we have work to do. Classes to teach, students to recruit, research to conduct, an institution to build.

The most exciting times aren't ahead. They're here, right now, in this room, with this team, doing this work.



Thank you,  
Carlos Carvalho  
President & Provost

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

## **Mission**

The University of Austin prepares thoughtful and ethical innovators, builders, leaders, public servants and citizens through open inquiry and civil discourse.

Our commitment to the pursuit of truth arises from our confidence that the nature of reality can be discerned, albeit incompletely, by those who seek to understand it, and from our belief that the quest to know, though unending, is an ennobling, liberating, and productive endeavor.

As an academic community, UATX values both the wisdom of the past and the transformative potential of novel ideas. The University is dedicated to the preservation and transmission of humanity's rich intellectual, scientific, artistic, and cultural inheritance. At the same time, UATX vigorously pursues the discovery, creation, and communication of new knowledge.

Each of these endeavors depends on fostering an environment of intellectual freedom and pluralism. UATX strives to build and sustain a community based on the lively clash of ideas and opinions.

## **Constitution**

The University of Austin is uniquely governed by a Constitution that clearly defines the responsibilities and authority of its administrators, faculty and staff. It combines not only this structural function, but also provides a unique mechanism whereby students, faculty and staff may be certain that their academic freedoms are not abridged by institutional action. This Constitution is one of the founding innovations of the University and can be found here: [the Constitution of the University of Austin](#).

## **Non-Discrimination Statement**

UATX is a school that admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, or any other legally protected basis in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

## **Authorization and Accreditation**

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has granted a Certificate of Authority to UATX to award the degrees listed below:

Bachelor of Art in Liberal Studies  
Master of Startup Innovation

This certificate does not constitute accreditation; the issuance of this certificate attests only that the institution has met the Board's standards established for nonexempt institutions.

Questions or complaints about this institution should be addressed to:

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
P.O. Box 12788  
Austin, Texas 78711  
512.427.6200

University of Austin is a Candidate institution and a member of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE or the Commission) [www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org). University of Austin's accreditation status is candidate for accreditation. The Commission's most recent action on the institution's accreditation status on August 28, 2025 was to grant candidate for accreditation status. MSCHE is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education to conduct accreditation and pre-accreditation (candidate status) activities for institutions of higher education including distance, correspondence education, and direct assessment programs offered at those institutions. The Commission's geographic area of accrediting activities is throughout the United States.

## **History**

In spring 2021, a series of informal discussions coalesced into a unified vision for reimagining American higher education. On May 26, 2021, Arthur Brooks, Niall Ferguson, Heather Heying, Pano Kanelos, Joe Lonsdale, and Bari Weiss convened at Lonsdale's home in Austin to pose a bold question: Could a new university be founded on open inquiry and civil discourse in today's polarized academic culture? That single day of dialogue solidified their resolve.

That evening, Joe Lonsdale invited a broader circle to dinner, where the idea took further root. Several individuals who later became founding donors were present, further fueling the initiative.

Though they didn't formally name the institution that night, the consensus was in favor of Austin—a city known for political diversity, innovation, and tolerance. The next step was clear: build a university grounded in those values.

They recognized the need for seasoned academic leadership and unanimously chose former St. John's College President Pano Kanelos. With Lonsdale providing seed funding, the effort accelerated. A founding board was formed, and on July 1, 2021, Pano became the first employee of what was then operating under the name UATX due to legal limitations around using "university." He was joined by a founding team consisting of Hillel Ofek, Loren Rotner, Chad Thevenot, and Thomas Lindsay.

Five months later, on November 8, 2021, the University of Austin publicly launched its mission: to establish a world-class institution dedicated to truth, inquiry, and freedom of thought—promising to do so within three years.

By Fall 2024, UATX made history by welcoming its first undergraduate class. This achievement was followed by a second cohort in Fall 2025, each maintaining full-tuition scholarships and a merit-first admission policy.

Then, on June 11, 2025, Carlos M. Carvalho—a renowned statistician from the McCombs School at UT-Austin—was inaugurated as UATX's second president.

## **The Campus**

The inaugural campus is located in the historic Scarbrough Building, 522 Congress Avenue, Suite 300, Austin Texas.

The Scarbrough Building is Austin's original office tower. Completed in 1909 with the Chicago style architecture, the building stands as an icon in the epicenter of Downtown Austin: Congress Avenue and 6th Street. With its charming turn-of-the-century architecture, the space combines history with modern design. As the first skyscraper in Austin, the building retains many



original features but has been modernized to offer an unparalleled location for tenants.

The University has built a modern campus on the solid foundations of this historic building, much as its curriculum scaffolds modern learning and skills on a solid classical foundation. Its location on Congress Avenue at the midpoint between the State Capitol and the Congress Street Bridge places it at the very heart of downtown Austin and at the hub of the tech and innovation region that has sprung up around it. Students will learn and live in close contact with the energy that comes from being in one of America's most vibrant entrepreneurial communities.

# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

## Fall Term 2025

### August

Saturday, August 30 — Move-in Day

Sunday, August 31 — Parent Orientation; Convocation Rehearsal and Ceremony

### September

September 1–6 — Orientation

Monday, September 8 — Term Begins (Full Term + Mini1)

Wednesday, September 10 — Last Day to Drop/Add Mini1

Monday, September 15 — Last Day for Drop/Add Full Term and for 100% Refund (complete withdrawal)

Tuesday, September 16 — Roster Verification

Monday, September 22 — Census; Last Day for 75% Refund

### October

Friday, October 10 — Last Day of Mini1

Monday, October 13 — Mini2 Session Begins

Wednesday, October 15 — Last Day to Drop/Add Mini2

Wednesday, October 22 — Last Day to Withdraw from Full Term

### November

Friday, November 7 — Last Day to Withdraw from Mini2

Friday, November 14 — Last Day of Instruction

Monday–Friday, November 17–21 — Final Exams

### December

Monday, December 1 — Term Begins

Tuesday, December 2 — Last Day to Add/Drop; Last Day for 100% Refund (complete withdrawal)

Wednesday, December 3 — Roster Verification

Friday, December 5 — Fall Term Final Grades Due

Friday, December 12 — Last Day of Session; Last Day to Withdraw

Friday, December 19 — Fall Extension (D-Term) Final Grades Due

## Winter Term 2026

### January

Monday, January 5 — Term Begins (Full Term + Mini1)

Wednesday, January 7 — Last Day to Drop/Add Mini1

Monday, January 12 — Last Day to Drop/Add Full Term; Last Day for 100% Refund (complete withdrawal)

Tuesday, January 13 — Roster Verification

Tuesday, January 20 — Census; Last Day for 75% Refund

## **February**

Friday, February 6 — Last Day of Mini1  
Monday, February 9 — Mini2 Session Begins  
Wednesday, February 11 — Last Day to Drop/Add Mini2  
Friday, February 20 — Last Day to Withdraw from Full Term

## **March**

Friday, March 6 — Last Day to Withdraw from Mini2  
Friday, March 13 — Last Day of Instruction  
Monday–Friday, March 16–20 — Final Exams  
Friday, March 27 — Winter Term Final Grades Due  
Saturday–Sunday, March 21–29 — Spring Break

## **Spring Term 2026**

### **March / April**

Monday, March 30 — Term Begins (Full Term + Mini1)  
Wednesday, April 1 — Last Day to Drop/Add Mini1  
Monday, April 6 — Last Day to Drop/Add Full Term; Last Day for 100% Refund (complete withdrawal)  
Tuesday, April 7 — Roster Verification  
Monday, April 13 — Census; Last Day for 75% Refund  
Friday, April 24 — Last Day of Mini1  
Monday, April 27 — Mini2 Session Begins  
Wednesday, April 29 — Last Day to Drop/Add Mini2

### **May**

Friday, May 8 — Last Day to Withdraw from Full Term  
Friday, May 15 — Last Day to Withdraw from Mini2

### **June**

Friday, June 5 — Last Day of Instruction  
Monday–Friday, June 8–12 — Final Exams  
Friday, June 19 — Spring Term Final Grades Due

## **Summer Term (J-Term) 2026**

### **June / July**

Monday, June 22 — Session Begins  
Tuesday, June 23 — Last Day to Add/Drop; Last Day for 100% Refund (complete withdrawal)  
Wednesday, June 24 — Roster Verification  
Friday, July 3 — Last Day of Session; Last Day to Withdraw  
Saturday, July 4 — America 250 Celebration  
Friday, July 10 — Summer Term Final Grades Due

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\*academic calendar is subject to change

# ADMISSIONS

## **Fall 2026 Admissions Outline**

Merit is the foundation of the University of Austin's admissions process. This principle reflects our core values: a commitment to intellectual rigor and recognition of measurable intellectual capacity and achievement. All admissions decisions at the University of Austin are made in accordance with its Constitution, which states that:

"But admission and graduation decisions shall be made strictly without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religious faith, or any other legally protected characteristic." Our admissions policy is intentionally structured to identify applicants who demonstrate the potential to excel in a demanding academic environment. To uphold these standards, the University offers two primary admissions tracks, followed by a rolling period based on available space:

1. **Automatic Admission** (June 26, 2025 – July 16, 2026)
2. **Regular Admission** (June 26, 2025 – July 16, 2026)

Each pathway upholds fairness, transparency, and high academic standards.

## **Application Deadlines**

- Automatic Admission: June 26, 2025 – July 16, 2026
- Regular Admission: June 26, 2025 – July 16, 2026
- All applicants will receive an admissions decision within 5 business days of verified score receipt.
- Verified scores must be received within 21 calendar days of application submission in which scores are reported.
- Enrollment deposit due by August 1, 2026 for both Merit-First and Regular Admission.

## **Full-Time / Part-Time Status**

- **Full-time applicant:** Enrolled in 12 or more credit hours per term
- **Part-time applicant:** Enrolled in fewer than 12 credit hours per term

## **Admissions Tracks**

### **Automatic Admission (Rolling Basis: June 26, 2025 – July 16, 2026)**

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Age: 17–23 at the start of the academic year
- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Not in possession of a four-year undergraduate degree (Associate degree holders eligible)
- On track to complete or have completed a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent
- Must pass an integrity check

#### **Standardized Test Requirements**

- SAT: 1460+
- ACT: 33+
- CLT: 105+

**Required Materials**

- Completed 5-minute UATX Application
- Official high school transcript
- Verified standardized test score(s)
- One letter of recommendation (for integrity verification only)

**Decision Timeline**

- Admissions decisions released within 5 business days of verified test score receipt
- Enrollment deposit due by August 1, 2026

**Regular Admission (June 26, 2025 – July 16, 2026)****Eligibility Criteria**

- Same as Automatic Admission (no test score threshold)

**Academic Profile**

- SAT: 1450 or below
- ACT: 32 or below
- CLT: 104 or below

**Review Criteria**

- Standardized test scores
- Optional: AP (4 or 5) or IB (5–7) scores

**Required Materials**

- Completed UATX Application
- Official high school transcript
- Verified standardized test score(s)
- Optional (below the automatic admissions thresholds): AP/IB scores
- One letter of recommendation (for integrity verification only)

**Decision Timeline**

- Admissions decisions released within 5 business days of verified test score receipt
- Enrollment deposit due by August 1, 2026

**How to Apply****Submit Online Application**

- No application fee. Available [here](#).

## Submit Standardized Test Scores

- SAT (Code: 9190), ACT (Code: 8137), or CLT (select “University of Austin”)
- Superscores accepted
- Applicants should self-report all scores in the application and ensure official scores from each test administration are sent
- Official test scores must be received within 14 calendar days of application submission
- Essay/writing sections are not considered
- Applicants should take the test early enough so that they are able to send a verified score before the deadlines. Please allow six weeks for delivery of official scores from the time you take a standardized test.

## Submit Official Transcripts

- High school transcript or GED certificate required
- Final transcript must be submitted before registration
- Homeschooled transcripts must include CSA, course list with semester grades, brief descriptions, and be signed by an educational administrator

## Integrity Check

- One letter of recommendation focused on the applicant’s honesty, maturity, and responsibility
- Applicants must disclose any disciplinary, criminal, or ethical violations. These do not automatically disqualify an applicant but are carefully considered
- Interviews may be requested if concerns arise during review

## Additional Information

- **False or Misleading Information:** May result in denial or revocation of admission, forfeiture of deposits and aid, dismissal, or ineligibility for academic credit
- **Deferral Policy:** One-year deferrals allowed; reapplication required for longer delays
- **International Applicants:** UATX currently admits only U.S. citizens or permanent residents
- **Prior Learning:** AP/IB scores may assist with placement but do not guarantee credit
- **Military Credit:** Evaluated based on ACE and departmental discretion
- **Transfer Credit:** Not accepted; all applicants apply as first-year applicants
- **Readmission:** Requires new application; those away more than one academic year must follow current catalog
- **Appeals:** All admissions decisions are final unless a documented factual error is confirmed
- **Applicants with Disabilities:** Reviewed under the same criteria; disclosure is optional and has no bearing on decision

For questions or assistance, contact the **Provost’s Office** at [admissions@uaustin.org](mailto:admissions@uaustin.org).

## **Why Apply Now?**

### **It only takes 5 minutes**

- No fees, no busywork.

### **Maximize your chances of securing a spot**

- Spots in the class are awarded to deposited students on a first-come, first-served basis. The earlier you apply and are admitted, the greater your likelihood of securing one. Maximize your chances of receiving additional, limited merit-based aid.

### **Unlock eligibility for invitations to VIP events**

- Admitted applicants are invited to events and seminars with UATX faculty and distinguished guests.

# ACADEMIC POLICIES

## **Academic Policies and Procedures**

There are certain academic requirements that must be met before a degree is granted. Advisors and center deans are available to help the student understand and meet these academic requirements. However, the student alone is responsible for fulfilling them. If, at the end of a student's course of study, the requirements for graduation have not been satisfied, the degree will not be granted. For this reason, it is important for students to acquaint themselves with all academic requirements throughout their university career and to be responsible for completing all requirements within prescribed deadlines and time limits. The ultimate results of program offerings depend on the individual student and other factors outside the control of the University. Therefore, the University of Austin makes no claim or representation relating to the specific outcome of its program and degree offerings with regard to employment or qualification for employment, admission to or preparation for graduate or professional degree programs, or licensing for occupations or professions.

Students are responsible for knowing what requirements apply to them and should discuss this with their advisor or the Office of the Registrar. Students must follow the requirements from the catalog for the year in which they were admitted or readmitted. Policies herein apply to all University of Austin students, on the ground, online, and at any location, unless otherwise specified.

Students are expected to learn the University requirements and regulations which are applicable to them and are individually responsible for meeting all such requirements and regulations. Before the close of each term, the student is expected to discharge all financial obligations to the University. A student may not register for a new term nor receive a degree, certificate, or transcript until all University bills are paid.

## **Academic Advising**

The advisor's role is to assist the student in planning a suitable academic program and to maintain a record of progress during the student's college career. The advisor also provides information and guidance regarding UATX's academic policies and procedures. However, the final responsibility for meeting all academic program requirements lies with the student.

## **Academic Honors**

### **Term Honors: Dean's List and President's List**

At the end of each academic year, UATX awards term-based academic honors to full-time students who demonstrate exceptional academic performance relative to their peers across both the fall and spring terms.

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Enrollment in at least 12 credit hours per term during both the fall and spring terms of the academic year;
- No Incomplete (I) grades on record for either term;
- Must be in good disciplinary standing.

#### **Award Criteria (Percentile-Based)**

Term honors are awarded based on a student's **combined fall and spring term CSA** compared to the full-time undergraduate population for that academic year:

Honor	CSA Percentile Rank Within Class
-------	----------------------------------

President's List	Top 5% of full-time students
Dean's List	Next 10% of full-time students

- CSA rankings are calculated by the Provost's Office following the conclusion of the spring term.
- Term honors are based solely on coursework completed at UATX.
- Honors are recorded on the student's official academic record and may be announced publicly.

## **Academic Integrity Policy**

The University of Austin is committed to fostering a community of trust, intellectual honesty, and personal responsibility. Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of truth and the preservation of scholarly rigor. Any attempt to gain academic advantage through dishonest or unethical means undermines the values of our institution and will not be tolerated.

Institutional Rule 2 defines and governs what constitutes academic as well as behavioral misconduct by students. If the University finds that a student engages in misconduct as proscribed by Rule 2, the student is subject to disciplinary action.

The following forms of academic misconduct are strictly prohibited:

- **Cheating:** Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or assistance in academic exercises (e.g., copying from another student, unauthorized notes, or obtaining advance access to exams).
- **Plagiarism:** Presenting another person's words, ideas, or work as one's own without proper attribution.
- **Fabrication:** Falsifying or inventing information, data, or citations.
- **Unauthorized Use of Artificial Intelligence:** Using AI tools to complete assignments beyond what the instructor has authorized.

Institutional Rule 2 is included in the student handbook as well as listed on the university website.

## **Grading System**

### **Performance Bands (Qualitative Judgments)**

<b>Score Range</b>	<b>Letter Grade Range</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>
90–100	A, A+, A–	Excellent
80–89	B+, B, B–	Above Average, with some room to improve
79-73	C+, C	Satisfactory, with significant room to improve

72–60            C-, D+, D, D–            Poor, fails to meet basic standards

0–59            F            Unsatisfactory / Failing

### **Graded Work**

Individual units of assigned student work are graded on a 0–100 point scale. Within these point bands, higher or lower point values correspond to proximity to the next closest band.

### **Course Score Calculation**

A student's final course score is a weighted average of all graded assignments, on a 100-point scale. At least 75% of the total weight must come from work completed under in-class (or equivalent) conditions, unless an exception is approved by the Center Dean responsible for the course.

### **Grade Scale & Crosswalk**

<b>Weighted Course Average</b>	<b>Final Course %</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Former GPA Equivalent</b>
100	100	A+	4.0
99	99	A+	4.0
98	98	A+	4.0
97	97	A+	4.0
96	96	A	4.0
95	95	A	4.0
94	94	A	4.0

93	93	A	4.0
92	92	A-	3.7
91	91	A-	3.7
90	90	A-	3.7
89	89	B+	3.3
88	88	B+	3.3
87	87	B+	3.3
86	86	B	3.0
85	85	B	3.0
84	84	B	3.0
83	83	B	3.0
82	82	B-	2.7
81	81	B-	2.7
80	80	B-	2.7

79	79	C+	2.3
78	78	C+	2.3
77	77	C+	2.3
76	76	C	2.0
75	75	C	2.0
74	74	C	2.0
73	73	C	2.0
72	72	C-	1.7
71	71	C-	1.7
70	70	C-	1.7
69	69	D+	1.3
68	68	D+	1.3
67	67	D+	1.3
66	66	D	1.0

65	65	D	1.0
64	64	D	1.0
63	63	D	1.0
62	62	D–	0.7
61	61	D–	0.7
60	60	D–	0.7
59–0	59–0	F	0

### Special Grade Notations

Grade	Meaning
P / NP	Pass/No Pass (does not affect CSA)
I	Incomplete: Work not completed due to documented emergency or hardship. Must be approved by the Provost's Office and resolved before the end of the following term.
W	Withdrawn: Student dropped course after add/drop deadline (no CSA impact).
AU	Audit: Student participated but did not earn credit or a grade.

### Transcript Summaries

Course Score Average (CSA): Weighted average of all course scores, based on credit hours. Recorded to one decimal place.

Percentile: CSA percentile relative to university cohort.

### Retake Policy and Prerequisites

Students may retake any course in which they received a grade of D+, D, D–, or F.

If a course is retaken, only the most recent grade is used when calculating the CSA. However, credit is awarded only once, unless the course is specifically designated as repeatable for credit.

If a student fails a required course (grade of F), the student must retake it to satisfy degree requirements.

To fulfill a prerequisite for another course, students must earn a grade of C– or higher.

## **Grading Policy**

### **Target Grade Distribution**

Each course section is expected to have a target average of 85.

### **Acceptable Grade Range Without Review**

Instructors may assign grades that result in a section average between 82 and 88 without further review.

### **Deviation Procedure**

If the section average falls outside the 82–88 range:

- The instructor must justify the deviation to the Dean.
- If approved, the Dean will report the deviation and rationale to the Academic Standards Council.
- If not approved, the instructor must revise the grades to bring the average within the acceptable range.

## **Academic Standing and Probation Policy**

### **Satisfactory Academic Progress and Good Academic Standing**

To remain in good academic standing, undergraduate students must demonstrate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward degree completion. This includes:

- Maintaining a minimum cumulative CSA of 73 or higher
- Making consistent progress toward timely graduation (i.e., no more than 2 withdrawals)

SAP is evaluated at the end of each academic term—Fall, Winter, Spring, D-term, and J-term. Grades earned during the D-term and J-term terms are included in cumulative CSA calculations.

Academic standing reviews occur five times per year, based solely on coursework completed at the University of Austin. A change in academic standing takes effect the next full term in which the student enrolls.

Students who participate in extracurricular activities—such as intercollegiate athletics, music ensembles, or other public-facing programs—must remain in good academic standing. These students must meet all SAP standards and may be required to maintain full-time enrollment and active progress toward a degree to remain eligible for participation.

### **Disenrollment Policy**

The University of Austin maintains high academic standards. Students who fail to meet those standards will be disenrolled without a probationary period.

A student will be automatically disenrolled at the end of any academic term (Fall, D-term, Winter, Spring, or J-term) if either of the following conditions is met:

- Their cumulative CSA falls below 73
- Their term CSA falls below 60

For the avoidance of doubt, to remain enrolled, students must earn a minimum CSA of 73 in their first academic term. If their cumulative CSA falls below 73 at the end of that term, they will be disenrolled, regardless of term performance (i.e., the cumulative requirement trumps the term requirement). This policy applies to all academic terms. Students will have 5 business days after being notified of their disenrollment to appeal it in writing to the Provost's Office. A decision will be given within 3 business days of receiving the appeal.

### **Reapplication After Disenrollment**

Disenrolled students must sit out one full academic term (Fall, Winter, or Spring) before applying for readmission. To be considered for readmission, a student must:

- Reapply through the standard admissions process and meet the prevailing admissions standards in effect at the time of reapplication. Students are invited to re-take tests to increase their chances of being admitted.
- Submit a written petition that:
  - Explains the factors that led to prior academic underperformance
  - Demonstrates readiness to succeed in the university's academic environment
  - Includes evidence of steps taken during the term off to prepare for return
  - Be available for an optional interview, if requested by university leadership or the Provost's Office.

Readmission is not automatic and is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

### **Class Attendance**

Students are expected to attend and actively participate in all classes and assignments. Participation requirements are outlined in the Student Handbook and may vary depending on the specific program of study. The professor may establish policies and consequences for each course and publish those policies in the course syllabus.

Missing more than 25% of the classes in a course (without medical excuse), including any allowed "free" absences, will result in failing the course. The failing grade will be assigned using 60% of the student's earned points in that course when final grades are calculated at the end of the term.

### **Classifications**

Freshmen	0-44 total credit hours earned (including transfer hours)
Sophomore	45-89 total credit hours earned (including transfer hours)
Junior	90-134 total credit hours earned (including transfer hours)
Senior	135-180 total credit hours earned (including transfer hours)

### **Credit Hour and Student Engagement**

The University of Austin uses the quarter hour as its standard credit hour. Consistent with the Carnegie Unit expectation and university best practices, a one-credit class requires one hour of class contact time per week over a 10-week term. Student engagement is defined as the actual time in the classroom plus time spent on activities related to the course, including but not limited to reading, conducting research, writing, and studying. It is expected that students will spend at least 2 hours outside of class on academic work for each hour of class contact time. This broad definition applies to all UATX courses, regardless of the length of the course, location of instruction, or instructional format.

Students must complete 180 quarter credits (45 quarter credits per academic year) to graduate, normally distributed over three 10-week terms per year with a normal course load averaging 15 quarter credits per term. For comparison purposes, 180 quarter credits is equivalent to 120 semester credits.

## **Student Educational Records and Privacy**

As a private institution authorized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), the University of Austin follows state standards regarding the maintenance, access, and disclosure of student educational records. These policies uphold student privacy while ensuring proper academic and administrative operations.

### **Student Rights**

All enrolled students have the following rights with respect to their education records:

- Right to inspect and review their own academic and educational records, with reasonable notice and in accordance with institutional procedures.
- Right to request corrections or amendments to records believed to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise inappropriate. If a request is denied, students may submit a written statement of explanation or disagreement for inclusion in the record.
- Right to control disclosure of personally identifiable information, except in circumstances authorized by state law, university policy, or relevant accrediting and regulatory agencies.

### **Institutional Use and Disclosure of Records**

Student records may be accessed by university officials with a legitimate educational or administrative interest, including faculty, advisors, and staff acting within the scope of their official duties. The University may also disclose education records without student consent to:

- Other institutions to which a student is transferring or has applied
- Accrediting bodies and state-approved auditors or evaluators
- Financial aid providers or agencies managing aid eligibility and disbursement
- Appropriate officials in cases of emergencies affecting the health or safety of individuals
- Law enforcement or legal authorities pursuant to a lawful subpoena, judicial order, or state statute

### **Directory Information**

In accordance with THECB guidelines, the University of Austin designates the following as directory information, which may be disclosed without prior consent unless the student has opted out:

- Full name
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Enrollment status (e.g., full-time or part-time)
- Degrees, awards, honors, and scholarships received
- County of residence for recipients of awards or honors

The following are classified as limited use directory information, which may be disclosed only under specific, controlled conditions:

- Student images (e.g., photographs, video, or likeness)
- University-issued student email addresses

Limited use directory information may be used or disclosed only for:

- Official university publications, websites, or social media channels
- Internal university communications among authorized officials with a legitimate need to know
- External partners or vendors contractually affiliated with the University and acting under agreements that safeguard student privacy

## **How to Withhold Directory Information**

Students who wish to withhold their directory or limited use directory information must notify the Office of the Provost in writing.

## **Solomon Amendment**

The Solomon Amendment became effective on October 23, 1998. Under the Solomon Amendment institutions are required to fulfill military requests for student recruiting information. Failure to comply may result in the loss of various forms of federal funding and Federal Student Aid. Student recruiting information includes, but is not limited to, student name, address, electronic mail address, telephone number, date of birth, place of birth, class, major, degree(s) received, and educational institutions attended. Under FERPA, students may request that directory information be withheld. This protection will be honored under the Solomon Amendment. Any student who wishes to have directory information withheld should request a “no release” as described above.

## **Grade Changes and Appeals**

Once a grade has been submitted to the Office of the Registrar, only the instructor can change the grade, except in the case of a grade appeal. If a student believes that a final course grade has been improperly awarded, the student may appeal the grade by following these steps:

- The student must contact the instructor in writing to seek a solution no later than four weeks after the end of the term in which the course resides. The instructor must notify the student of the decision within one week of being contacted by the student. If the instructor decides that a grade change is warranted, the instructor must submit a change of grade form approved by the Dean of the academic center to the Office of the Registrar.
- If the decision of the instructor is not acceptable to the student, or the instructor does not respond in the established timeframe, an appeal may be made in writing to the Dean of the academic center within one week after notification by the instructor. The written appeal must specify both the complaint, and the action requested. The Dean must notify the student of the decision within two weeks.
- If the decision of the Dean is not acceptable to the student, or the Dean does not respond in the established timeframe, a written appeal may be made to the Office of the Provost within one week after notification by the Dean. The Office of the Provost will seek a solution within five days or may refer the matter to the Academic Standards Committee, which will then decide the case within five days. The decision of the Office of the Provost is final unless the Provost refers the appeal to the Academic Standards Committee, in which case the decision of that committee becomes final.

## **Incomplete Grades**

The grade of “I” (Incomplete) may be assigned only in extraordinary circumstances when a student is unable to complete the final requirements of a course due to a serious and documented disruption, such as severe illness, accident, or emergency. Incompletes are not to be used to allow a student to do additional work to improve a grade, catch up on missed assignments, or compensate for poor performance.

All incompletes must be approved in advance of the end of the term by the Office of the Provost and resolved before the end of the following term.

## **Approval Process**

An incomplete may be granted only with the formal approval of:

- The instructor of record
- The Center Dean

- The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

It is the student's responsibility to initiate the request as soon as possible and provide appropriate documentation. In most cases, the student must have completed the majority of the coursework at a passing level prior to requesting an incomplete.

### **Completion Timeline and Consequences**

- All incomplete work must be completed and submitted within one full academic term (Fall, Winter, or Spring) following the term in which the "I" was assigned.
- If the required work is not completed and a final grade is not submitted by the deadline, the "I" will automatically convert to a grade of "F".
- An "I" grade does not count toward credit hours earned, does not fulfill prerequisite requirements, and is excluded from CSA calculations until resolved.

## **Leave of Absence (LOA) Policy**

The University of Austin permits students to request a **Leave of Absence (LOA)** for medical or non-medical reasons in extraordinary circumstances that interrupt their ability to pursue academic work. This policy provides a structured pathway for students to temporarily disengage from the University with support and transparency, while maintaining the integrity of the academic program.

### **Eligibility and General Conditions**

To be eligible for a Leave of Absence, a student must:

- Be in good academic standing (i.e., not subject to disenrollment under the Academic Standing Policy)
- Be in good financial standing with the University
- Have no unresolved disciplinary or sexual misconduct policy matters pending at the time of request

**Important:** LOA requests will not be approved retroactively or in place of academic review procedures. Students whose academic performance qualifies for disenrollment under the University's Academic Standing Policy are not eligible to request or be granted a leave in order to circumvent disenrollment.

### **Types of Leave**

#### **Medical Leave**

Students may request a medical LOA for reasons of significant physical or mental health concerns.

Requests must include:

- A completed LOA Request Form
- A letter from a licensed healthcare provider indicating the nature of the condition, the necessity of the leave, and anticipated duration

Medical leaves typically last one academic term to one full year, and may be extended upon submission of updated medical documentation. A fitness-to-return statement from a licensed provider is required for re-enrollment.

#### **Non-Medical Leave**

Students may request a non-medical LOA for personal, financial, family, or professional obligations.

Supporting documentation may include:

- Verification of family emergency
- Financial hardship documentation
- Military deployment notice or similar extraordinary obligations

Non-medical leave is normally limited to one academic term, and may be extended for up to a maximum of one calendar year with approval. Requests for extension must be submitted prior to expiration of the original leave.

## Approval Process

LOA requests must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of the requested term of leave (except in emergencies), and include required documentation.

All leave requests are reviewed by:

- The course instructor(s), if applicable
- The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs (final approval authority)

Students will be notified in writing of the approval status and any conditions tied to the leave.

## Status During Leave

While on an approved leave:

- Students may not attend classes, submit coursework, sit for exams, or receive grades
- Students may not participate in academic advising, student leadership, research, or performance-based programs
- Students must vacate university housing, unless otherwise authorized under special circumstances
- University-issued email accounts and library access may be suspended

## Impact on Academic Progress and Financial Aid

- Time away may delay graduation, affect eligibility for certain courses or programs, and change course sequencing
- Students receiving financial aid must consult the Office of Financial Aid before submitting an LOA request, as aid may be suspended or require reapplication upon return
- Scholarships are not guaranteed upon return; renewal is subject to reapplication and available funding

## Re-enrollment

To return from leave, students must follow these procedures:

- **Medical Leave:** Submit documentation from a licensed healthcare provider stating that the student is fit to return and resume academic activity
- **Non-Medical Leave:** Notify the Office of the Provost in writing at least one term prior to the desired return date

In both cases, students may be required to meet with an academic advisor or participate in a reentry planning process.

Failure to re-enroll by the end of the approved LOA period will result in automatic withdrawal from the University. Students withdrawn in this manner must reapply for admission under prevailing standards.

## Safeguards Against Misuse

- A student who ends a term with a CSA below the thresholds set in the Academic Standing Policy (e.g., cumulative CSA below 73 or term CSA below 60) is ineligible for LOA approval for that term or any subsequent term unless reinstated through the formal reapplication process
- Retroactive LOAs will not be granted under any circumstances

- Requests for LOA submitted after grades are posted will be automatically reviewed against academic standing and subject to denial if used to avoid disenrollment

## **Confidentiality and Support**

All documentation submitted in connection with an LOA, especially medical materials, will be handled with the highest level of confidentiality and stored in compliance with applicable privacy laws and institutional policy. Students may also be referred to campus resources for additional support during their leave and transition back to campus life.

## **University Withdrawal**

Students may request to withdraw from the University of Austin when personal, medical, or other extraordinary circumstances prevent continued enrollment. The withdrawal process is designed to maintain the integrity of academic standards while allowing for flexibility in exceptional situations.

A withdrawal is not official unless the student submits a University Withdrawal Request Form and receives approval from the Office of the Provost. The effective date of withdrawal is the date the University receives and approves the completed request.

## **Voluntary Withdrawal and Academic Standing**

Students may voluntarily withdraw up to the last day to withdraw with a grade of W, as published in the academic calendar. If approved:

- All in-progress courses will receive a grade of W (Withdrawn)
- The student must immediately cease participation in classes and academic activities
- University housing must be vacated according to applicable housing policies

**Academic Standing Safeguard:** Students who would be subject to disenrollment under the Academic Standing Policy (e.g., term CSA below 1.00 or cumulative CSA below 2.00) are not eligible to withdraw in order to avoid that sanction. Academic standing is verified before any withdrawal is finalized, and disenrollment will take precedence over a pending or retroactive withdrawal.

## **Time Limits on Withdrawal Status**

Students may not remain in withdrawn or inactive status indefinitely. Specifically:

- A student may remain withdrawn for no more than one full academic term, followed by one additional term of non-enrollment (e.g., a personal leave or gap term)
- If the student does not re-enroll by the start of the second term following their withdrawal, they will be automatically disenrolled from the University
- To return after this period, the student must formally reapply through the Office of Admissions and meet all current academic and admissions standards
- Additional documentation (such as a statement of readiness or academic plan) may be required depending on the circumstances of the prior withdrawal

## **Emergency and Late Withdrawals**

Requests made after the withdrawal deadline will only be considered in cases of extraordinary hardship (e.g., sudden illness, injury, or family crisis). These require:

- Documentation supporting the emergency or condition
- Approval by the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs
- The University's discretion in determining whether W grades or earned grades are posted

**Note:** The University does not permit retroactive withdrawals as a means of avoiding failing grades or academic sanctions.

## **Administrative Withdrawal**

The University may initiate an administrative withdrawal for students who:

- Are absent or disengaged from coursework for an extended period without communication
- Are no longer eligible to remain enrolled due to academic standing violations
- Present medical, psychological, or behavioral risks to themselves or the community
- Have unresolved disciplinary or compliance matters

In such cases, students may receive W grades or final earned grades depending on the timing and circumstances of the withdrawal.

## **Military Withdrawal Provisions**

Students who are called to active military duty or face other qualifying military-related obligations may request withdrawal from the University without academic penalty. These cases will be evaluated individually and with flexibility, taking into account documentation such as:

- Active duty or deployment orders
- Reserve or National Guard mobilization
- Other verified service obligations

If approved:

- W grades will be assigned for all in-progress courses
- The student's academic record will reflect a Military Withdrawal designation, with no negative academic impact
- Re-enrollment is permitted without reapplication, provided the student returns within one academic year and follows the University's reentry procedures

The University will assist in facilitating a smooth return, including advising and reintegration into the student's degree program.

## **Return After Withdrawal**

To return after any withdrawal, the student must:

- Re-enroll the next academic term, or within the allowed two-term window
- If more than two terms have passed, reapply through the Office of Admissions
- Satisfy prevailing admissions standards and submit any required materials (e.g., statement of readiness, advising plan)

Readmission is not guaranteed and will be evaluated holistically.

## **Registering for Courses**

Students are responsible for registering in a timely and accurate manner and for understanding the academic consequences of their enrollment decisions.

## **Adding and Dropping Courses**

Students may add or drop courses up to the deadlines listed in the official academic calendar. The following rules apply:

- After the last published day to add courses, a student must receive approval from the Center Dean or the Office of the Provost to add a course.
- A student will not receive credit for any course they did not officially register for through the University's registration system.
- Students who wish to enroll in more than 18 credit hours in a single term must obtain approval from the Center Dean, Student Accounts, and the Office of the Provost.

## **Submitting Course Changes**

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that any add/drop forms or enrollment changes are submitted and processed before the stated deadlines. The University does not accept retroactive requests to add or drop courses unless:

- The student provides clear documentation of extenuating circumstances (e.g., administrative error, documented medical emergency)
- The petition is approved by both the Center Dean and the Office of the Provost

## **Course Withdrawals**

### **Dropping Without Record**

- From the first day of classes through the published deadline to drop with no grade, a student may withdraw from a course without receiving a grade or transcript notation.
- A written request must be submitted to the Office of the Provost by the deadline.

### **Withdrawals with a W Grade**

- After the no-grade deadline and until the last day to withdraw from a course, students may withdraw with a grade of "W", which does not affect CSA but is recorded on the transcript.
- Students who cease attending a course without submitting a formal withdrawal will automatically receive a grade of "F."
- No course withdrawal requests will be accepted after the final withdrawal deadline, except in cases of documented emergency, and only with approval from the Office of the Provost.

## **Limitations on W Grades**

To encourage academic accountability and discourage habitual withdrawal from coursework, the following limitations apply:

- Students may receive no more than two (2) W grades per academic year
- Students may receive no more than eight (8) W grades total throughout their entire undergraduate career at the University of Austin

### **Automatic Disenrollment**

A student who exceeds either of these limits—more than two W grades in one academic year, or more than eight W grades total—will be automatically disenrolled from the University at the end of the term in which the limit is exceeded. The student will be required to sit out one full academic term and must reapply for admission under the prevailing academic and admissions standards in effect at the time of reapplication. Readmission is not guaranteed.

### **Special Circumstances**

Students facing exceptional hardships may petition for an exemption from the W-grade limit only once during their undergraduate career. Such petitions must:

- Be submitted in writing to the Office of the Provost
- Include clear, compelling documentation of the circumstances
- Be approved by the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

## **Repetition of Work**

Most undergraduate courses at UATX are standard and not repeatable for credit, unless specifically noted as repeatable in the academic catalog. Students who receive a grade of F in a course may repeat that course one time in an attempt to earn a higher grade. The following guidelines apply:

- Only courses in which a grade of F was earned may be repeated.
- Courses can be repeated only once and must be repeated at UATX.
- Only the higher of the two grades will be used in calculating the cumulative CSA.
- All grades, including the initial F, will appear on the academic transcript and be included in term CSA calculations.
- Grade replacement is available only for UATX courses repeated at UATX. Grades

other than F (e.g., D or C) may not be repeated for grade replacement purposes.

## **Requirements for Graduation**

Each student is responsible for the proper completion of their academic program, for understanding and following all policies in the UATX Academic Catalog, and for meeting all graduation requirements. While academic advisors are available for support, students bear final responsibility for their academic progress and degree completion.

To graduate from UATX, a student must:

- Achieve a minimum cumulative CSA of 2.00 on all coursework attempted at UATX;
- Earn at least 180 credit hours, with a minimum of 90 credit hours completed in residency at UATX;
- Successfully complete the following required curricular components:
  - Intellectual Foundations
  - Center Foundations
  - Center Core
  - Polaris
- Satisfy all requirements from one academic catalog—either the catalog in effect at the time of first enrollment or re-enrollment. Students may not mix requirements across multiple catalogs;
- Settle all financial obligations to the university;
- Be in good disciplinary standing;
- Receive the approval of the faculty and the Board of Trustees.

## **Catalog Year Clarification**

Students who re-enter UATX after an absence of two or more academic years must fulfill the degree requirements of the catalog in effect at the time of re-enrollment, unless an exception is granted by the Office of the Registrar.

## **Residency Requirement Clarification**

The 90-credit residency requirement must be met through coursework completed at UATX. Credits earned through UATX-sponsored study abroad or officially approved off-campus programs may count toward residency if pre-approved by the Registrar. Transfer credit is not accepted and therefore does not count toward residency.

## **Graduation Process**

To be eligible for spring graduation, students must complete the following steps:

- Submit an Application for Graduation through the Registrar's portal by December 1 of the preceding year;
- Pay the non-refundable graduation fee;
- Complete all academic and financial obligations before the end of the spring term;

- Participate in Commencement, which is held following the spring term.

**Note:** Students who do not meet graduation requirements must reapply and repay the graduation fee for the following year.

## **Graduation With Honors**

Students completing at least three-quarters of their degree credit at UATX (i.e., a minimum of 135 out of 180 credits) and who graduate in good academic and disciplinary standing may be eligible for graduation honors. These honors are based on a student's final cumulative CSA calculated from UATX coursework only and are awarded according to graduating class CSA percentiles, determined annually by the Office of the Registrar.

<b>Latin Honor</b>	<b>CSA Percentile Cutoff</b>
Summa Cum Laude	Top 5% of graduates
Magna Cum Laude	Next 10% of graduates
Cum Laude	Next 15% of graduates

### **Honor Designation Guidelines**

- Honors are calculated after all final grades are submitted for the graduating class.
- Percentile thresholds are re-evaluated each academic year.
- A student must not be under any disciplinary sanction at the time of graduation.
- Honors distinctions are recorded on official transcripts and diplomas.

**Note:** Transfer credit is not used in CSA calculations for honors. Only coursework completed at UATX is factored into determining eligibility.

## **Student Information Updates**

### **Name Change**

UATX maintains student records under the student's legal name as of their most recent enrollment. This is defined as the name on the student's Social Security card or international visa. All official documents (transcripts, diplomas, verifications) will be issued under this legal name.

Legal name changes must be processed through the Office of the Registrar, accompanied by the appropriate documentation:

- **Option 1:** Two forms of *Primary Identification*, or
- **Option 2:** One form of Primary Identification and one form of Secondary Identification.

#### **Primary Identification:**

- Driver's License
- State-Issued ID Card
- Passport
- Military ID
- US Citizenship Certificate
- Certificate of Naturalization
- Temporary Driver's License

#### **Secondary Identification:**

- Birth Certificate

- Court Order
- Marriage License
- Social Security Card
- Concealed Handgun License

### **Preferred Name Policy**

Students may request a preferred name to be used in internal systems such as class rosters, advising platforms, and campus communications. Preferred names are not used on diplomas, transcripts, financial documents, or legal correspondence.

### **Contact Information Changes**

Students are responsible for keeping their mailing address and phone number up to date with the university. Updates can be submitted through the Office of the Registrar, and will be reflected in the student's official record and online portal.

### **Transfer of Credits**

The University of Austin is currently in the process of seeking accreditation.

- UATX does not currently accept transfer credits from other institutions.
- The transferability of credits earned at UATX to other institutions is at the sole discretion of the receiving institution.
- Students considering future transfer are advised to consult directly with the admissions or registrar's office of their prospective institution to understand transfer policies.

# STUDENT FINANCES

## Expenses

It is the policy of the administration and trustees to keep the cost of a college education as low as possible. Registration for any term may not be completed until all special or extra fees, fines, payments for lost or damaged articles, etc., incurred in the previous term, have been paid; no transcript nor record will be issued until all fees/fines owed have been paid.

## Fees

All fees are due and payable in full before the first day of classes or by billing due date for those students that have pre-registered for each term.

The University of Austin reserves the right to change tuition, fees, and any institutional policy at the beginning of any term if the university judges such changes to be necessary. Changes may occur without prior notification.

Registration for term may not be completed until all special or extra fees, fines, payments for lost or damaged articles, etc., incurred in the previous term, have been paid; no transcript nor record will be issued until all fees/fines owed have been paid.

## Undergraduate Tuition (Free)

Tuition Per Year	\$0
Tuition Per Credit Hour	\$0

## Fees

Enrollment Deposit Fee	non-refundable	\$2,000
Late Payment Fee	non-refundable	\$50
Late Registration Fee	non-refundable	\$75
Return Check Fee	non-refundable/per return	\$75
Student Health Clinic Fee	non-refundable/per academic year	\$150
Student Health Insurance Fee	non-refundable/per academic year	\$3,476.13
Student Housing Fee	non-refundable/per academic term	\$14,750
Student Housing damages fee	Refundable	\$200
Student Life Fee	non-refundable/per academic year	\$450

## **Estimated Cost of Attendance**

An estimated cost of attendance (COA) is designed to assist students with their education expenses for the academic year (Fall, Winter, and Spring). An estimated COA includes direct and indirect costs. Direct costs include charges a student pays directly to the University, for example tuition and fees. Indirect costs include expenses the student will likely incur but will not pay directly to the University. Transportation is an example of an indirect cost.

<b>Full-time Enrollment</b>	<b>Estimated Costs per Academic Year</b>	
Tuition	\$0	\$0 per term
Fees	\$1,050	Student fees
Housing/Utilities	\$14,750	Based on a single occupancy room in a shared apartment. Including utilities. Actual costs may vary.
Books/Supplies	\$1,200	The average cost of books and supplies per term. Actual costs may vary by student
Transportation	\$1,000	Transportation to and around Austin. Actual costs may vary.
Personal Expenses/Miscellaneous	\$6,500	Based on the amount allowed for personal expenses-from clothing and laundry to going to a movie or buying a pizza. Actual expenses may vary.
Estimated cost of attendance	\$24,500	

## **Cancellation and Refund Policy**

The Cancellation and Refund Policy outlines the conditions under which students are eligible for a partial or full refund of required fees, housing, and food services following a change in enrollment status (e.g., withdrawal, reduction in credit hours, or housing changes). Refunds are calculated term-by-term, based on the effective date of withdrawal and in accordance with the published academic calendar.

Refunds apply to mandatory fees and room and board (if applicable). Students should refer to the academic calendar each term for exact deadlines.

### **Refund Schedule**

Timeframe (relative to drop/add deadline)	Refund Amount
Before the first day of class through the last day to drop/add*	100%
Within 7 business days after drop/add deadline	75%
Within 14 business days after drop/add deadline	50%
After 14 business days from drop/add deadline	0%

\* Refer to the official academic calendar for exact dates each term.

Refunds will be processed to the student's account and issued in accordance with University disbursement practices.

## Fee Appeals

Students who believe they have extenuating circumstances justifying a refund outside the standard schedule may submit a written appeal to the Provost's Office. Appeals must be accompanied by supporting documentation (e.g., medical records, military orders, death of a family member). Appeals may be submitted in person or via email.

All appeal records are maintained for audit purposes by the Office of the Registrar or its designee, including documentation of the decision.

### Appeals Will Not Be Granted For:

- Voluntary withdrawal without extenuating circumstances (e.g., change of mind, job opportunity);
- Poor academic performance or academic dismissal;
- Disciplinary withdrawal;
- Loss of anticipated financial aid or failure to secure funds;
- Failure to comply with published deadlines, policies, or procedures.

### Additional Limitations:

- Students who withdraw after the 50% refund period has passed are not eligible for a refund, regardless of reason.
- Appeals submitted more than one year after the end of the applicable term will not be reviewed.
- In cases where the Provost grants a retroactive withdrawal, fees will be adjusted in accordance with this published refund policy.

## Financial Aid, Scholarships, Awards, Grants

### Overview

The University of Austin and its students are fortunate to benefit from the generosity of individuals and organizations whose gifts make a UATX education possible. All UATX financial aid is entirely grant-based—**no repayment is ever required, but we do encourage students to donate in gratitude to the great gift of free tuition and aid**—and awarded on a **first-come, first-served basis** once a student deposits and meets all eligibility requirements.

**UATX is a free-tuition university.** Additional scholarships and grants are available to assist with housing, meals, books, travel, and fees based on academic merit and demonstrated financial need.

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### Lonsdale Magaro Build Scholarship

The **Lonsdale Magaro Build Scholarship** is UATX's most prestigious merit award. It recognizes future builders and innovators who exemplify American exceptionalism and intellectual courage.

- **Award:** \$98,000 total over four years (\$24,500 per year)
- **Eligibility:** Students with top test scores (SAT  $\geq$  1500, ACT  $\geq$  34, CLT  $\geq$  105)
- **Profile:** Ideal candidates demonstrate entrepreneurial drive, intellectual independence, and a commitment to liberty and innovation
- **Mentorship:** Recipients receive personal guidance from leading entrepreneurs and investors, including Joe Lonsdale and Alex Magaro
- **Application:** Separate essay required at the time of admission

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## Additional Aid

Need-based grants are available to assist with **housing, meals, books, travel, and fees**.

- **Eligibility:** Students who meet both merit and need criteria
  - **Funding:** Limited and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis
  - **Aid Range:** Adjusted based on household AGI and family circumstances
  - **Securing Aid:** Aid is finalized only after deposit and verification
- 

## Eligibility

### Merit Criteria

- Incoming students: SAT  $\geq$  1430, ACT  $\geq$  32, or CLT  $\geq$  103
- Continuing students: Must remain in good academic standing

### Need Criteria

- Family AGI < \$125,000
- Independent students (age 24+, married, veteran, supporting dependents, orphan/ward, or under guardianship) may apply without parent financials

### Adjustments

- High-cost metros: 10% AGI reduction
- Dependents: 10–50% AGI reduction depending on family size

### Renewal

Aid is awarded annually. Students must reapply each year with an updated IRS Form 1040, maintain satisfactory progress, and complete up to 20 monthly work-study hours through the **Student Employment Opportunity** program.

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## Application Process

1. **Admission** – Be admitted to UATX
2. **Aid Application** – Complete the UATX financial aid form
3. **Documentation** – Submit the latest IRS Form 1040 (student + parents unless independent), qualifying test scores (incoming), and asset disclosure

4. **Deadlines**

- New students: April 31, 2026
- Continuing students: May 1, 2026
- Final: June 15, 2026 (or until funds are exhausted)

5. **Award Confirmation** – Aid offers are finalized only after the admission deposit and verification

# STUDENT SERVICES

## **Accessibility & Disability Resources**

Qualified students may request reasonable accommodations or academic modifications to mitigate the effects of a disability on their academic performance. Students must initiate this process by contacting the Provost's Office at accommodations@uaustin.org and disclosing their disability. Disclosure is voluntary, but no accommodations will be considered or implemented without formal disclosure.

Requests will be evaluated in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The Provost's Office may request supporting documentation to determine appropriate academic adjustments.

For full procedures, see the University of Austin Student Handbook.

## **Campus Communications**

The University of Austin communicates official notices through:

- UATX email accounts
- Mailing addresses provided by the student
- The University Portal
- The UATX website

Students are expected to check their University email and portal regularly. Failure to access or monitor these platforms does not excuse missed deadlines or obligations.

## **Criminal Charges, Dispositions, and Disclosures**

Students must notify the Provost's Office within two business days if any of the following occur during or after acceptance to the University:

- An arrest (on or off campus)
- A criminal charge (on or off campus)
- The disposition of a criminal charge (conviction, dismissal, etc.)
- Disciplinary action at another institution
- A military discharge other than honorable

This includes events during breaks or off-campus periods. Students are not required to report traffic-related misdemeanors unless they involve alcohol or drugs (e.g., DUI/DWI).

Failure to report required disclosures may result in action under Institutional Rule 2.

## **Drug & Alcohol Policy**

In compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act (1989, Part 86), the University of Austin prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of drugs and alcohol by students and employees.

A student violates Institutional Rule 2 if they use, possess, distribute, or consume alcohol on university property without authorization; possess or consume alcohol while under the legal drinking age (21) or provide alcohol to someone underage (21); engage in alcohol- or drug-related misconduct, including public intoxication, driving under the influence, or driving while intoxicated; use, possess, or distribute illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia; sell or distribute any drug without authorization. Texas law controls what constitutes an illegal drug under this provision.

Educational materials and referrals to health or counseling services are available through the Student Affairs Office.

## **Medical and Counseling Services**

### **Emergency Medical Attention**

In life-threatening situations, students should immediately call 911 or go to:

Dell Seton Medical Center  
1500 Red River St, Austin, TX 78701  
(512) 324-7000

### **Non-Emergency Medical Services**

Students may use:

One Medical – Downtown Austin  
319 Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701  
(888) 663-6331

*(Students are responsible for all associated costs.)*

### **Mental Health and Counseling Referrals**

UATX does not currently operate an in-house counseling center. Students may contact:

- 2-1-1 Texas/United Way Navigation Center: Available 24/7 statewide Toll-Free: (877) 541-7905  
2000 E. MLK Jr. Blvd., Austin, TX 78702
- National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: Dial 988

Students may also seek referral assistance through the Student Affairs Office.

## **Student Conduct**

Institutional Rule 2 defines and governs what constitutes misconduct by students and outlines the procedures for addressing such misconduct. This rule is not a general civility code to overregulate student life. The free exchange of ideas and the pursuit of truth can sometimes be challenging and uncomfortable, and it is not the role of the University of Austin to police petty slights or hurt feelings. Students are adults and are expected to engage responsibly, recognizing that disagreement and difficult conversations are an integral part of the UATX experience.

Instead, this policy aims to correct and, when appropriate, sanction misconduct that is harmful to campus life. Such violations can undermine our academic mission and negatively impact the physical safety and well-being of others.

Mistakes are an inevitable part of growth. For most minor or first-time violations, informal resolution methods, such as coaching, expectation-setting, or written warnings, are the appropriate interventions. And when formal sanctions are necessary, they must be educational, proportional, and consistent with our values of growth and accountability. Suspension or expulsion should be reserved for the most serious or repeated cases.

While Rule 2 governs student conduct matters generally, Institutional Rules 3 and 4 provide the procedures for alleged acts of sexual misconduct and discrimination. These rules along with Rule 2 are attached to this catalog and may also be found in the Student Handbook and policy library on the website.

## **Student Grievances**

You should contact University officials if you have a concern. If you're unsure about the right contact, please reach out to the Office of Students and Community or Ben Crocker, University Dean, for assistance.

## **Academic Grievance**

For academic issues, schedule time directly with individual instructors to discuss any concerns or grievances about classes, grades, and instruction. Extensions of time, change in scope or modality granted for a student relating to a grievance shall be considered for all within the course. If unsatisfied, any student may submit a written grievance to the Dean of the Center responsible for the course in question.

## **General Misconduct by a Fellow Student**

If you have a serious grievance with a fellow student, please report it to Ben Crocker, University Dean.

## **Reporting Sexual Misconduct**

UATX encourages anyone who has experienced, witnessed, or knows of prohibited sexual misconduct to report it. Reports may be submitted via email ([compliance@uaustin.org](mailto:compliance@uaustin.org)), to the Sexual Misconduct Coordinator ([kespino@uaustin.org](mailto:kespino@uaustin.org)) or Deputy Coordinator ([jstone@uaustin.org](mailto:jstone@uaustin.org)) in person or via email ([kespino@uaustin.org](mailto:kespino@uaustin.org)), or through the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website.

Reporting allows the University to connect individuals with support services, assess safety risks, and determine appropriate next steps. Anyone—regardless of whether they are directly involved in the incident—may submit a report. Anonymous reports are accepted, using the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website, though anonymity may limit the University’s ability to take further action.

An enrolled student is not required to report an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking. A student who reports such an incident to UATX, a health care provider, a law enforcement agency, or another third party is entitled to accommodations as necessary. Please contact the SMRC to learn more about accommodations.

UATX has designated Becca Schwinger ([bschwinger@uaustin.org](mailto:bschwinger@uaustin.org)) as the person to whom students may speak confidentially concerning sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking. Absent the student’s consent, Ms. Schwinger will only report the type of incident disclosed and will not include information that would violate the student’s expectation of privacy.

## **Filing a Grievance Outside of UATX**

These agencies should be contacted only after the student has registered a complaint with the University and has not received a response to the request for resolution. Students with grievances or complaints against the university based on the Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended (ADAAA) also have the right to file a complaint with a designated federal agency.

### [Office for Civil Rights](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
1301 Young Street, Suite 1169, Dallas, TX 75202  
Phone: 800-368-1019  
FAX: 214-767-0432  
TDD: 800-537-7697  
<https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/complaints/index.html>

### [U.S. Department of Education](#)

1100 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Room 316  
P.O. Box 14620, Washington, D.C. 20046-4620  
Phone: 202-208-2545  
<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
1801 Congress Avenue, Suite 12.200  
Austin, Texas 78701  
Phone: 512-427-6101  
[studentcomplaints@highered.texas.gov](mailto:studentcomplaints@highered.texas.gov)

## **Student Discipline Records**

The University maintains a record for each student who has received disciplinary sanctions. These records include:

- The nature of the violation
- The sanction issued
- Any supporting documentation

### **Confidentiality**

- Discipline records are kept confidential in accordance with applicable laws.
- Current academic status, including expulsions, are noted on the transcript.
- Records may only be disclosed:
  - With written student consent
  - In response to a valid subpoena
- Records are retained for seven years after the student's final term of enrollment.

## **Preferred Name and Gender Identity**

The University of Austin does not require faculty, staff, or students to refer to others by preferred names or gender identities. All students are recorded under their legal name as submitted at enrollment. Official University documents—including transcripts, diplomas, and correspondence—will reflect the student's legal name.

The University respects the dignity of every student but does not mandate institutional or personal speech related to gender identity or preferred naming.

# UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The UATX undergraduate curriculum is designed to immerse students in a community of teaching and learning that emphasizes academic rigor, civil discourse, and intellectual risk-taking. While the curriculum is more structured than many, students will have opportunities to pursue their particular interests from the very beginning of their education at UATX.

Students must complete 180 credit hours (45 per academic year) to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies, normally distributed over three terms per year with a course load of fifteen hours per term. Within these 180 hours, they must complete the following:

Intellectual Foundations	54 credit hours
Center Foundations, Core, Concentration, Electives	105 credit hours
Polaris	21 credit hours
Total for degree	180 credit hours

## Years 1 and 2

Polaris Retreat (0 credits)  
Intellectual Foundations (54 credits)  
Polaris Project (9 credits)  
Center Foundations (18 credits)  
Electives (12 credits)

## Years 3 and 4

Center Core (36 credits)  
Polaris Project (12 credits)  
Area of Concentration (24 to 27 credits--optional)  
Electives (12 credits)

Students *must* complete the Center Core in any one Academic Center in order to graduate. Students who wish not to complete a concentration will need to complete 51 elective credits.

## **Intellectual Foundations**

Thoughtful and ethical innovators, builders, leaders, and citizens must be literate, numerate, conversant with the varieties of knowledge, and adept at sorting signal from noise across multiple domains of human experience. Informed by a deep understanding of the conditions of human flourishing, they must appreciate the advantages and problems of modernity and the promise and challenge of the American experiment.

Intellectual Foundations consists of 15 courses that introduce students to the various languages of understanding and teach them to see things whole, make connections, and sort signal from noise across multiple domains of experience.

The intended goals and outcomes of the Intellectual Foundations Programs are as follows:

- Display proficiency in the English language through interpretation of texts, persuasive writing, and effective speaking;
- Model and solve problems using quantitative reasoning tools, and understand how to quantify uncertainty as it applies to decision-making and risk;
- Achieve a critical understanding of the varieties of knowledge, their interrelationship, and the difference between knowledge and wisdom;
- Identify the necessary conditions of flourishing human lives and communities;
- Achieve a critical understanding of modern society and Western culture;
- Understand and appreciate the unique vibrancy of the American form of government and way of life.

Intellectual Foundations courses include:

### **Humanities and Fine Arts**

INF 1100	Chaos and Civilization (4.5 credits)
INF 1200	The Beginning of Politics (4.5 credits)
INF 1210	Writing and the English Language (3 credits)
INF 1300	Christianity and Islam, Europe and the East (4.5 credits)
INF 2210	Mortality and Meaning in Art and Music (3 credits)

### **Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Technology**

INF 1110	Knowing, Doing, Making, Wisdom (4.5 credits)
INF 1130	Quantitative Reasoning I (3 credits)
INF 1220	Quantitative Reasoning II (3 credits)
INF 1330	Foundations of Science I (3 credits)
INF 2100	The Uses and Abuses of Technology (3 credits)
INF 2110	Foundations of Science II (3 credits)

### **Social and Behavioral Sciences**

INF 1320	Intellectual Foundations of Economics (3 credits)
INF 2120	Modernity and the West (4.5 credits)
INF 2200	The American Experiment (4.5 credits)
INF 2300	Ideological Experiments of the 20th Century (3 credits)

## **Center For Arts and Letters**

The mission of the Center for Arts and Letters (CAL) is to develop the skills and historical awareness necessary to make informed, lasting, and important contributions to our shared culture by studying and participating in debates about systems of belief and by analyzing and creating works of art.

Degree: Bachelor of Arts  
Concentrations: Literature and Creative Writing, Ethics and Politics

### **Program Overview and Objectives**

The intended learning outcomes for the Center for Arts and Letters are:

- Understand and articulate the history of Western culture from antiquity to the present day in its broad outlines, with reference to religion and philosophy as well as the arts.
- Acquire some exposure to the history and culture of at least one non-European, non-Anglophone civilization.
- Discern and articulate the relation between form, content, and historical context in works of art and debates about systems of belief.

### **Program Layout**

Intellectual Foundations	54 credit hours
Center Foundations	18 credit hours
Center Core	36 credit hours
Concentration	27 credit hours
Electives	24 credit hours
Polaris	21 credit hours
Total for degree	180 credit hours

### **Area of Concentration: Literature and Creative Writing**

#### **Center Foundations**

- ALT 1010 The Rise and Fall of Ancient Rome (3 credits)
- ALT 1020 Crown, Cathedral, and Crusade (3 credits)
- ALT 1030 The Renaissance and the Reformation (3 credits)
- ALT 1040 Reason and Revolution (3 credits)
- ALT 1050 Romanticism and Realism (3 credits)
- ALT 1160 The Sublime and the Beautiful I: Classical, Medieval, and Early Modern (1.5 credits)
- ALT 1180 The Sublime and the Beautiful II: Modern and Contemporary (1.5 credits)

#### **Center Core**

- ALT 1060 Decadence, Modernism, and the Great War (3 credits)
- ALT 1200 The Theory Wars (1.5 credits)
- ALT 1220 Postmodernism and the End of History (1.5 credits)
- ALT 1240 Colonialism, Decolonization, and Postcolonialism (1.5 credits)

ALT 1260 Critical Theory (1.5 credits)

Assessment for all other Center Core courses in Literature and Creative Writing (listed below) includes the option of a 'creative critical' project in the style of and/or in response to the primary sources under study in addition to more abstract research essays grounded in historical context as well as formal analysis and engaged in argument with other secondary sources.

ALT 1300 Tragedy (3 credits)

ALT 1400 Comedy (3 credits)

ALT 1500 Medieval Literature (3 credits)

ALT 1600 Early Modern Literature (3 credits)

ALT 1800 Romantic and Victorian Literature (3 credits)

ALT 1900 Modern and Contemporary Literature (3 credits)

ALT 1950 American Literature (3 credits)

ALT 3300 Shakespeare: Tragedies and Romances (3 credits)

ALT 3330 Shakespeare: Comedies and Problem Plays (3 credits)

### Concentration

Students concentrating in Literature and Creative Writing must take at least 6 credits of *Writing Studio*. This course is available to juniors and seniors in increments of 3 credits per term and may be repeated for credit. Students can take-up to 18 credits of *Writing Studio*, of which up to 12 may count towards completing their required concentration requirements; any credits of *Writing Studio* above 12 will count instead as electives.

Students in other Centers of Inquiry can enroll in *Writing Studio* if they have completed at least 6 credits of Center Foundations and/or Center Core in Literature and Creative Writing and are simultaneously enrolled in at least 3 additional credits of Center Foundations or Center Core in Literature and Creative Writing.

In addition to the 6-12 credits that they earn from *Writing Studio*, students concentrating in Literature and Creative Writing must take their choice of 15-21 credits from the following list, for a total of 27. At least 6 of these credits must be selected from courses focused on material written pre-1800: *Socrates and Montaigne*; *Dante, The Divine Comedy*; *Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales*; *Shakespeare: The Roman Plays*; *Shakespeare: The History Plays*; *Milton, Paradise Lost*, or a qualifying *Special Topic* or *Independent Study in Literature*.

ALT 4000 Writing Studio (minimum 6 credits; maximum 18 credits)

Choose remaining 15-21 credits from below (6 credits must be from pre-1800):

#### Pre 1800

ALT 3160 Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales* (1.5 credits)

ALT 3200 Socrates and Montaigne (3 credits)

- ALT 3310 Dante, *Inferno* (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3315 Dante, *Purgatorio* (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3320 Dante, *Paradiso* (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3340 Shakespeare: The Roman Plays (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3360 Shakespeare: The History Plays (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3400 Milton, *Paradise Lost* (1.5 credits)
- ALT 4100 Special Topics in Literature Pre 1800 (1.5 credits)
- ALT 4110 Special Topics in Literature Pre 1800 (3 credits)
- ALT 4300 Independent Study Pre 1800 (1.5 credits)
- ALT 4310 Independent Study Pre 1800 (3 credits)

**Post 1800**

- ALT 3500 Austen (3 credits)
- ALT 3720 Kierkegaard (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3740 Melville, *Moby Dick* (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3760 Dostoyevsky (3 credits)
- ALT 3780 Nietzsche (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3900 Joyce (3 credits)
- ALT 4200 Special Topics in Literature Post 1800 (1.5 credits)
- ALT 4210 Special Topics in Literature Post 1800 (3 credits)
- ALT 4400 Independent Study Post 1800 (1.5 credits)
- ALT 4410 Independent Study Post 1800 (3 credits)

**Electives**

To be discussed with your academic advisor

**Area of Concentration: Ethics and Politics**

**Center Foundations**

- ALT 1010 The Rise and Fall of Ancient Rome (3 credits)
- ALT 1020 Crown, Cathedral, and Crusade (3 credits)
- ALT 1100 Faith, Reason, and Science I: Medieval, Contemporary, & Early Modern (1.5 credits)
- ALT 1120 Faith, Reason, and Science II: Modern and Contemporary (1.5 credits)
- ALT 3000 Plato, Republic (1.5 credits)
- EPH 1610 Introduction to World Economics and Political History (4.5 credits)
- EPH 1500 History, Historiography, and the Philosophy of History (3 credits)

**Center Core**

- ALT 1030 The Renaissance and the Reformation (3 credits)
- ALT 1040 Romanticism and Realism (3 credits)
- ALT 1050 Reason and Revolution (3 credits)

- ALT 1060 Decadence, Modernism, and the Great War (3 credits)  
 ALT 2000 Classical Ethics I: Plato, Aristotle, and Hellenistic Philosophers (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 2020 Classical Ethics II: Cicero, Seneca, and Plutarch (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 2100 Classical Political Philosophy (3 credits)  
 ALT 2200 Medieval and Early Modern Ethics (3 credits)  
 ALT 2300 Medieval and Early Modern Political Philosophy (3 credits)  
 ALT 2600 Methodological Approaches to Political Philosophy (3 credits)  
 ALT 2700 Introduction to the History and Culture of China (4.5 credits)  
 ALT 3220 Machiavelli, *Discourses on Livy* (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 3340 Shakespeare: The Roman Plays (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 3360 Shakespeare: The History Plays (1.5 credits)

**Concentration**

- ALT 1220 Postmodernism and the End of History (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 1260 Critical Theory (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 2400 Modern and Contemporary Political Philosophy (3 credits)  
 ALT 2500 Self and Other: The Ethics and Politics of Recognition (3 credits)  
 ALT 3200 Socrates and Montaigne (3 credits)  
 ALT 3600 Montesquieu, *The Spirit of Law* (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 3620 Tocqueville, *Democracy in America* (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 3700 Kant and Hegel (3 credits)  
 ALT 3720 Kierkegaard (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 3760 Dostoyevsky (3 credits)  
 ALT 3780 Nietzsche (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 3800 Arendt and Strauss (1.5 credits)  
 ALT 3850 MacIntyre (1.5 credits)

**Electives**

To be discussed with your academic advisor

**Center For Economics, Politics, and History**

The mission of the Center for Politics, Economics and History (CEPH) is to produce an integrative and historically informed understanding of politics and economics (what is sometimes referred to as the single discipline of “political economy”). We study history with the intent to apply it to understand practical problems that arise in economics and politics. Technical ability and analytical knowledge are also integrated in the curriculum.

**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts

**Concentration:** Economics, Politics, and History

**Program Overview and Objectives**

The CEPH at UATX will equip students to understand how governments and businesses deal with core challenges and empower them to deal with the challenges they will face, as students, employees, and

citizens. That is why the curriculum must be integrated across three disciplines--economics, history, and political science. The challenges are not separable; hence, the tools to address them are not separable.

In our curriculum, some courses are specifically designed to ensure familiarity with US history and the challenges the US faces today, but most courses are global in their reach and draw from the diverse histories and challenges that have faced all countries around the world. The program will provide students access to top-tier faculty committed to excellence, and a curriculum that thoroughly grounds students in all three areas.

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Develop an understanding of the basic facts of the evolution of economies, governments, and businesses throughout human history;
- Develop skills consistent with the disciplinary tools needed to analyze systematically questions related to politics and economics;
- Use those disciplinary tools to analyze a broad range of economic and political problems that have arisen in human history;
- Demonstrate understanding of how governments and businesses deal with three core challenges: producing sufficient economic surplus to maintain the population, adjudicating disputes within groups, and adjudicating disputes across groups;
- Consider the implications of those four learning outcomes for public policy;

### Program Layout

Intellectual Foundations	54 credit hours
Center Foundations	16.5 credit hours
Center Core	37.5 credit hours
Concentration	27 credit hours
Electives	24 credit hours
Polaris	21 credit hours
Total for degree	180 credit hours

### Area of Concentration: Economics, Politics, and History

#### Center Foundations

- EPH 1100 Analytical Tools for Economics and Political Science (3 credits)  
 EPH 3040 Introduction to World Economics and Political History (4.5 credits)  
 Choose three out of five classes as Foundations (9 credits):  
 EPH 1300 Foundations of Microeconomics I (3 credits)  
 EPH 1400 Foundations of Macroeconomics I (3 credits)  
 EPH 2000 Introduction to Applied Econometrics (3 credits)  
 EPH 2200 Foundations of Political Science I (3 credits)  
 EPH 3010 Foundations of Microeconomics II (3 credits)

#### Center Core

- EPH 1300 Foundations of Microeconomics I<sup>^</sup> (3 credits)  
 EPH 1400 Foundations of Macroeconomics I<sup>^</sup> (3 credits)  
 EPH 1500 History, Historiography, and the Philosophy of History (3 credits)  
 EPH 2000 Introduction to Applied Econometrics<sup>^</sup> (3 credits)  
 EPH 2010 Data Science for Social Scientists (3 credits)

- EPH 2200 Foundations of Political Science I<sup>^</sup> (3 credits)
- EPH 2300 Foundations of Political Science II (3 credits)
- EPH 2400 Philosophers of Political Economy (3 credits)
- EPH 3010 Foundations of Microeconomics II<sup>^</sup> (3 credits)
- EPH 3020 Foundations of Macroeconomics II (3 credits)
- EPH 3030 Corporate Finance, Accounting, and Business Planning (3 credits)
- EPH 3050 Public Choice (3 credits)
- EPH 3060 Advanced Topics in Panel Data Analysis (3 credits)
- EPH 3110 Advanced Topics in American Economic History (3 credits)
- EPH 3230 Finance and Economic Development (4.5 credits)  
<sup>^</sup>if not taken in foundations, must be taken in core

### Concentration

Choose one class (3 credits) from below:

- EPH 3070 Advanced Topics in Time Series Analysis (3 credits)
- EPH 3080 Advanced Topics in Data Science for Social Sciences (3 credits)

Choose eight classes (24 credits) from below:

- EPH 2600 The Changing Structure of Civilization... (3 credits)
- EPH 3090 Advanced Microeconomics (3 credits)
- EPH 3100 Advanced Macroeconomics, Public Finance and Growth Theory (3 credits)
- EPH 3110 Advanced Topics in American Political History (3 credits)
- EPH 3120 Voting, Political Parties and Electoral Politics (3 credits)
- EPH 3130 Business Structures and Governance (3 credits)
- EPH 3140 Capitalism, Its Critics, and the History of Growth, Poverty, and Inequality (3 credits)
- EPH 3150 How Political Revolutions Happen... (3 credits)
- EPH 3170 Advanced Topics in World Economic History (3 credits)
- EPH 3180 Property Rights and their Economic and Political Consequences (3 credits)
- EPH 3190 International Trade (3 credits)
- EPH 3200 Rationality and its Limits: From Becker to Thaler and Beyond (3 credits)
- EPH 3210 International Finance (3 credits)
- EPH 3220 Money, Banking, and the Financial System (3 credits)
- EPH 3240 International Relations (3 credits)
- EPH 3250 Entrepreneurship and Entrepreneurial Finance (3 credits)

### Electives

To be discussed with your academic advisor

## **Center For Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics**

The mission of the Center of Inquiry for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics is to teach students to think and reason quantitatively, exercise creativity, formulate and solve complex problems, and communicate technical solutions clearly in order to inform good decision-making and foster innovation.

**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts

**Concentration:** Computing and Data Science

## Program Overview and Objectives

The Center of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (C-STEM) at UATX will be a community of exceptional scholars and purpose-driven students, deeply engaged with each other and with cooperating partners to cultivate technically-informed thinking and doing. The program curriculum combines best-in-practice academic content with applications and lessons learned from influential thinkers and doers in the private and public sectors. C-STEM Polaris Projects will offer a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to do sustained work on a single through-line problem in their area of technical interest.

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Speak, read, and write in mathematical language.
- Formulate and solve quantitative problems using appropriate technical language, models, and techniques;
- Collect and analyze data using appropriate technology tools;
- Communicate technical solutions clearly through writing, speaking, and visualization.

## Program Layout

Intellectual Foundations	54 credit hours
Center Foundations	18 credit hours
Center Core	36 credit hours
Concentration	27 credit hours
Electives	24 credit hours
Polaris	21 credit hours
Total for degree	180 credit hours

## Area of Concentration: Computing and Data Science

### Center Foundations

- STM 1001 Calculus I (4.5 credits)
- STM 1002 Calculus II (4.5 credits)
- STM 1004 Differential Equations (4.5 credits)
- STM 1005 Discrete Math (4.5 credits)

### Center Core

- STM 2101 Probability (4.5 credits)
- STM 2102 Statistics (4.5 credits)
- STM 2103 Linear Algebra (4.5 credits)
- STM 2104 Linear Optimization (4.5 credits)
- STM 2300 Data Wrangling and Visualization (4.5 credits)
- STM 2301 Programming I (4.5 credits)
- STM 2501 Physics I (4.5 credits)
- STM 2502 Physics II (4.5 credits)

### Concentration

- STM 2302 Programming II (4.5 credits)
- STM 3301 Data Structures and Scalability (4.5 credits)
- STM 3302 Data Storage (4.5 credits)
- STM 3303 Machine Learning (4.5 credits)

**Electives**

STM 3304 Computer Architecture and Organization (4.5 credits)  
STM 4101 Nonparametric Statistics (4.5 credits)  
STM 4102 Statistical Learning (4.5 credits)  
STM 4301 Human Data Interaction (4.5 credits)  
STM 4302 Big Data Computing (4.5 credits)

## **Polaris Project**

When students enter their junior year after completing the Intellectual Foundations curriculum, they will be prepared to explore new subjects from multiple perspectives. That will be crucial as they enter one of our academic Centers and begin to concentrate on their Polaris Projects. These projects involve doing, making, building, or discovering something that meets a human need. Like Polaris, the North Star by which seafarers have navigated for millennia, they are meant to orient a student's education and give it a directed trajectory. Polaris Projects can be creative, scholarly, technical, artistic, philanthropic, entrepreneurial—this list is not exhaustive. But they will all involve connecting with people and employing resources outside of the university. They will all involve acquiring digital literacy.

The process of seeing a human need, drafting plans, researching, and experimenting, and formulating and reformulating goals and means will prepare our students to be thoughtful innovators and builders. It will prepare them for life.

### **Project Overview and Objectives**

- Work productively and cooperatively on a project to do, make, build, or discover something of general benefit.
- Plan, execute, assess, publicly present, and effectively field questions about one's project.

### **The Polaris Curriculum**

All Polaris Program courses (21 credit hours) are required in conjunction with the Polaris Project. The sequence of courses is as follows:

#### **Polaris Retreat - year 1**

Outcome: Students are fully prepared to begin their undergraduate studies and understand their responsibilities as a member of the UATX community.

Objectives: Students will be:

- Oriented to the UATX campus, the curriculum, and academic opportunities.
- Introduced to University's principles, practices, and culture of open inquiry and civil discourse.
- Inspired by UATX faculty and Talent Network partners to begin their studies and explore possible Polaris Project ideas.
- Connected to one another, University leadership, and faculty.

#### **POL 1110 Polaris Ideas - year 1**

Outcome: Achieve a broad understanding of the origin of ideas and the social conditions of innovation.

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Understand the role of cognitive processes and creative thinking in the generation of ideas.
- Identify and analyze the historical, cultural, political, and economic influences that shape ideas and innovation.
- Collaborate with peers to foster idea exchange and collective creativity.

#### **POL 2100 Polaris Inspirations - year 2**

Outcome: Develop ideas and acquire skills necessary to plan and undertake a Polaris Project.

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Critically evaluate Polaris-like projects across a range of different areas and subjects, with attention to projects' importance, feasibility, planning, and execution.
- Reflect critically on their own learning process.

#### **POL 2110 Polaris Frame - year 2**

Outcomes: Develop and focus preliminary Polaris proposals.

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Conduct and publicly present precedent studies.
- Produce and present a viable preliminary proposal.
- Produce podcasts, blogs, and design a functional website.
- Interview and be interviewed.
- Provide constructive and positive criticism of other students' proposals.

### **POL 3100 Polaris Pitch – year 3**

Outcome: Produce a Polaris Project proposal that merits final approval.

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Produce, present, and defend a viable final proposal, including a schedule of deliverables.
- Develop skills in speaking, problem-solving, answering questions, and effectively employing media (e.g., visual aids) necessary for an advanced proposal.

### **POL 3150\*\* Polaris Build – years 3 & 4**

Outcome: Progressively undertake or implement the Polaris project.

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Progressively execute, critically assess, and (where necessary) reformulate key elements of the Polaris project.

\*\*Repeatable for credit

### **POL 4150 Polaris Launch – year 4**

Outcome: Launch Polaris projects and present and defend them on a public platform, e.g., blog, lecture, video, podcast, etc.

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Execute, assess, publicly present, and effectively field questions about their projects.
- Effectively employ chosen publication platform (e.g., podcast, video production, etc.)
- Provide an overview of their intellectual journeys, critically reflecting on successes, failures, lessons learned, and (where applicable) future plans related to their projects.



century, including the German Counter-Enlightenment, philosophical idealism, the rise and fall of Napoleon Bonaparte, the populist Revolutions of 1848, and new experiments in literary and artistic naturalism. Why did German and English authors turn against the influence of the French Enlightenment? How did German philosophers move beyond the early modern tension between empiricism and rationalism? What is a 'superfluous man'? Did the reforms instituted by Napoleon fulfill the aims of the French Revolution? What did Tocqueville and Marx think of the so-called 'Springtime of Nations'? What was the Paris Commune? Through independent reading, guided reading, lectures, and in-class discussion, you will acquire a substantial introductory knowledge of the cultural, intellectual, and political history of nineteenth-century England, Europe, and Russia.

**ALT 1060      Decadence, Modernism, and Postmodernism      3 credit hours**  
This course is a general introduction to the cultural, intellectual, and political landscape of England, Europe, and Russia at the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, as fin-de-siècle decadence gave way to the 'Great War' we now know as World War I, as well as the Russian Revolution and the Spanish Civil War. What led to this period of violent upheaval? How do political movements such as anarchism, fascism, and Marxism both resemble each other and differ? What prompted experiments in art and architecture such as Dada, Surrealism, Cubism, Art Nouveau, and Art Deco? How did the film industry begin? Through independent reading, guided reading, lectures, and in-class discussion, you will acquire a substantial introductory knowledge of the cultural, intellectual, and political history of late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century England, Europe, and Russia.

**ALT 1100      Faith, Reason, and Science I: Medieval, Contemporary, and Early Modern      1.5 credit hours**  
This course examines the distinctiveness, interrelation, relative limitations, and relative scope of three sometimes-rivalrous epistemologies: faith, reason, and science. Are traditional religions such as Judaism, Christianity, and Islam compatible with the exercise of logic, as well as the evidence of our senses? Can belief in the existence of an omnipotent and benevolent God be reconciled to the existence of human pain and suffering? Is belief in evolution compatible with belief that the world was created by God? What is the scientific method? Can we operate on the assumption that the world is entirely material, or is speculation about metaphysics and the supernatural an inevitable given of the human condition? Through guided reading and in-class discussion, students will acquire an in-depth knowledge of many of the most important and influential debates about the relation between faith, reason, and science from antiquity to the Enlightenment.

**ALT 1120      Faith, Reason, and Science II: Modern and Contemporary      1.5 credit hours**  
This course examines the distinctiveness, interrelation, relative limitations, and relative scope of three sometimes-rivalrous epistemologies: faith, reason, and science. Are traditional religions such as Judaism, Christianity, and Islam compatible with the exercise of logic, as well as the evidence of our senses? Can belief in the existence of an omnipotent and benevolent God be reconciled to the existence of human pain and suffering? Is belief in evolution compatible with belief that the world was created by God? What is the scientific method? Can we operate on the assumption that the world is entirely material, or is speculation about metaphysics and the supernatural an inevitable given of the human condition? Through guided reading and in-class discussion, students will acquire an in-depth knowledge of many of the most important and influential debates about the relation between faith, reason, and science from the Enlightenment to the present day.  
Prerequisite: ALT 1100

**ALT 1140      Work, Leisure, and the Good Life      1.5 credit hours**



*King's Horseman*, as well as selections from secondary sources such as Steiner, *The Death of Tragedy*, and Nuttall, *Why Does Tragedy Give Pleasure?* Students may also read short stories and watch films.

- ALT 1400 Comedy 3 credit hours**  
What is comedy? How does it work? How has it changed over time? This course traces the history of comedy from antiquity to the present day. Students read plays by authors such as Aristophanes, Plautus, Molière, Gay, Wilde, and Stoppard, as well as selections from secondary sources such as Hutcheson, *Thoughts on Laughter*, and Freud, *Jokes and Their Relation to the Unconscious*. Students may also read short stories and watch films.
- ALT 1500 Medieval Literature 3 credit hours**  
This course introduces students to acclaimed and influential works of literature written in the Middle Ages.
- ALT 1600 Early Modern Literature 3 credit hours**  
This course introduces students to acclaimed and influential works of literature written in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries.
- ALT 1800 Romantic and Victorian Literature 3 credit hours**  
This course introduces students to acclaimed and influential works of literature written in the nineteenth century.
- ALT 1900 Modern and Contemporary Literature 3 credit hours**  
This course introduces students to acclaimed and influential works of literature written in the twentieth- and twenty-first centuries.
- ALT 1950 American Literature 3 credit hours**  
This course introduces students to acclaimed and influential works of literature written in North America, ranging from the Revolutionary Period to the present day.
- ALT 2000 Classical Ethics I: Plato, Aristotle, and the Hellenistic Philosophers 1.5 credit hours**  
  
This course compares and contrast rival claims about ethics in ancient Greece and Rome, starting with Plato and Aristotle and encompassing later Hellenistic schools of thought such as Stoicism, Skepticism, Epicureanism, Cynicism, and Neo-Platonism. Students may consider the appropriation of classical ethics by theologians committed to Abrahamic religions such as Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in later antiquity, as well as the revival of classical schools of thought such as Stoicism in the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, and the present day. Students may also consider non-Western analogues.
- ALT 2020 Classical Ethics II: Cicero, Seneca, and Plutarch 1.5 credit hours**  
This course compares and contrast rival claims about ethics in ancient Greece and Rome, focusing on the reception of Plato and Aristotle, as well as later Hellenistic schools of thought such as Stoicism, Skepticism, Epicureanism, Cynicism, and Neo-Platonism, in the work of Cicero, Seneca, and Plutarch.  
Prerequisite: ALT 2000
- ALT 2100 Classical Political Philosophy 3 credit hours**  
This course compares and contrasts rival claims about politics in ancient Greece and Rome, beginning with Plato and Aristotle and encompassing later authors such as Polybius, Cicero, Plutarch, and St. Augustine. Students may also consider non-Western analogues.

- ALT 2200 Medieval and Early Modern Ethics 3 credit hours**  
This course explores rival claims about morality and the moral implications of human psychology written in the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment, including works and excerpts of works by authors such as St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Erasmus, Luther, Calvin, Montaigne, de la Rochefoucauld, de la Bruyère, Mandeville, the British Moralists, and French *philosophes*.
- ALT 2300 Medieval and Early Modern Political Philosophy 3 credit hours**  
This course explores works on the structure of human societies and the political implications of human nature written in the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment, including works by conservative as well as progressive thinkers and critics as well as proponents of liberalism.
- ALT 2400 Modern and Contemporary Political Philosophy 3 credit hours**  
This course explores works on the structure of human societies and the political implications of human nature written in the nineteenth-, twentieth-, and twenty-first centuries, including works by conservative as well as progressive thinkers and critics as well as proponents of liberalism.
- ALT 2500 Self and Other: The Ethics and Politics of Recognition 3 credit hours**  
This course explores the ethical and political implications of “recognition” (German, *Anerkennung*), including its connection to the Greek concept of *thumos*, as well as its relation to the social importance of “honor.” Students will focus on the role of recognition in Hegel’s thought, as well as its reception and transformation in the work of later philosophers. Students will read and discuss works and excerpts of works by authors such as Hegel, Kojève, Sartre, Buber, Lévinas, Ricoeur, Fukuyama, and Honneth.  
Prerequisite: ALT 3700
- ALT 2600 Methodological Approaches to Political Philosophy 3 credit hours**  
How and why should we study political philosophy? This course will explore ongoing debates about method within political philosophy, as well as the relation of political philosophy to other disciplines such as sociology and political science.
- ALT 2700 Introduction to the History and Culture of China 4.5 credit hours**  
This course will introduce students to the intellectual and cultural history of China, ranging from antiquity to the present day, and including art, architecture, music, literature, theater, and film, as well as treatises and excerpts of works on ethics, politics, and aesthetics.
- ALT 3000 Plato, *Republic* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Plato’s *Republic*. They may also read and discuss some selections from Plato’s *Laws*.
- ALT 3160 Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students will read and discuss Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*.
- ALT 3200 Socrates and Montaigne 3 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Montaigne’s *Essays*, as well as a variety of sources on Socrates, including not only works and excerpts of works by contemporaries such as Plato, Xenophon, and Aristophanes but also excerpts of works by later authors such as Hegel and Kierkegaard.  
Prerequisite: ALT 2000 Pre/Co-requisite ALT 2020
- ALT 3220 Machiavelli, *Discourses on Livy* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Machiavelli’s *Discourses on Livy*, as well as some selections from Livy’s *Ab urbe condita* (“From the Founding of the City”).

Prerequisite: ALT 1010

- ALT 3310 Dante, *Inferno* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Dante's *Inferno*.
- ALT 3315 Dante, *Purgatorio* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Dante's *Purgatorio*.
- ALT 3320 Dante, *Paradiso* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Dante's *Paradiso*.
- ALT 3300 Shakespeare: Tragedies and Romances 3 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Shakespeare's most important tragedies and romances, including in particular *Macbeth*, *Othello*, and *King Lear*, as well as *Pericles*, *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Tempest*.
- ALT 3330 Shakespeare: Comedies and Problem Plays 3 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Shakespeare's most important comedies and problem plays, including in particular *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Much Ado about Nothing*, as well as *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Measure for Measure*, and *The Merchant of Venice*.
- ALT 3340 Shakespeare: The Roman Plays 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss a selection of Shakespeare's plays about ancient Rome, including in particular *Julius Caesar*, *Coriolanus*, and *Antony and Cleopatra*, as well as his epyllion, *The Rape of Lucrece*. Students may also read *Titus Andronicus*.  
Prerequisite: ALT 1010
- ALT 3360 Shakespeare: The History Plays 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss a selection of Shakespeare's plays about the English Wars of the Roses, including in particular *Richard II*, *1-2 Henry IV*, and *Henry V*.
- ALT 3400 Milton, *Paradise Lost* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Milton's *Paradise Lost*, *Paradise Regained*, and *Samson Agonistes*.
- ALT 3500 Austen 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss a selection of Jane Austen's most celebrated novels.
- ALT 3600 Montesquieu, *The Spirit of the Laws* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Montesquieu's *Spirit of the Laws*.  
Prerequisite: ALT 2100
- ALT 3620 Tocqueville, *Democracy in America* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*.  
Prerequisite: ALT 3600
- ALT 3700 Kant and Hegel 3 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss works and excerpts of works by Kant and Hegel.
- ALT 3720 Kierkegaard 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss works and excerpts of works by Kierkegaard.  
Prerequisite: ALT 3700
- ALT 3740 Melville, *Moby Dick* 1.5 credit hours**  
Students read and discuss Melville's novel *Moby Dick*, as well as his novella, *Billy Budd*.

<b>ALT 3760</b>	<b>Dostoyevsky</b> Students read and discuss several of Dostoyevsky's most acclaimed novels, including in particular <i>Crime and Punishment</i> and <i>The Brothers Karamazov</i> .	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 3780</b>	<b>Nietzsche</b> Students read and discuss works and excerpts of works by Nietzsche. Prerequisite: ALT 3760	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 3800</b>	<b>Arendt and Strauss</b> Students read and discuss works and excerpts of works by Arendt and Strauss. Prerequisite: ALT 3760	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 3850</b>	<b>MacIntyre</b> Students read and discuss works and excerpts of works by MacIntyre, including in particular <i>After Virtue</i> ; <i>Whose Justice? Which Rationality?</i> ; <i>Three Rival Versions of Moral Inquiry</i> ; and <i>Dependent Rational Animals</i> . Prerequisite: ALT 2000, ALT 2020, ALT 2200	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 3900</b>	<b>Joyce</b> Students read and discuss Joyce, <i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i> and Joyce, <i>Ulysses</i> . Students may also read selections from Joyce, <i>Dubliners</i> .	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4000</b>	<b>Writing Studio</b> Students will undertake individual projects in creative writing under the guidance of an experienced mentor.	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4100</b>	<b>Special Topics in Literature Pre 1800</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4110</b>	<b>Special Topics in Literature Pre 1800</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4200</b>	<b>Special Topics in Literature Post 1800</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4210</b>	<b>Special Topics in Literature Post 1800</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4300</b>	<b>Independent Study Pre 1800</b> Independent Study in Literature	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4310</b>	<b>Independent Study Pre 1800</b> Independent Study in Literature	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4400</b>	<b>Independent Study Post 1800</b> Independent Study in Literature	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4410</b>	<b>Independent Study Post 1800</b> Independent Study in Literature	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4500</b>	<b>Special Topics in Ethics and Politics</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4510</b>	<b>Special Topics in Ethics and Politics</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>

<b>ALT 4600</b>	<b>Independent Study in Ethics and Politics</b> Independent Study in Ethics and Politics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4610</b>	<b>Independent Study in Ethics and Politics</b> Independent Study in Ethics and Politics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4700</b>	<b>Special Topics in Film</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>ALT 4710</b>	<b>Special Topics in Film</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EDU 2900</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>EDU 2910</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EDU 2920</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>EDU 4900</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>EDU 4910</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EDU 4920</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 1100</b>	<b>Analytical Tools for Economics and Political Science</b> This course introduces students to the most useful mathematical tools that will be applied in the remaining courses in economics and political science offered by the Center for Economics, Politics and History. Students learn each mathematical tool and then how to apply it to an economic or political problem. Students will become familiar with the meaning and use of the following key concepts: functions, utility maximization under certainty and uncertainty, solving a system of equations, using derivatives in optimization problem solving, probability and the main families of probability distribution functions, conditional and unconditional probability, the law of large numbers, the central limit theorem, variance, covariance, correlation, projection, regression, stochastic processes, cooperative and noncooperative games, and Nash Equilibrium. Students will also learn the basics of programming in R.	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 1200</b>	<b>Introduction to American Politics</b> This course examines the central concepts and controversies in American government. More importantly, it focuses on identifying your own political beliefs and how they relate to the conflicts in our contemporary politics. We will focus on two main aspects of American politics: Beliefs and Rights. The course addresses two central questions: What are the major ideological disputes that characterize American politics? How do we solve the conflict between majority rule and individual rights?	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 1300</b>	<b>Foundations of Microeconomics I</b> This course in the foundations of microeconomics will develop students' understanding about a broad range of problems related to the operation of markets, social policy, and	<b>3 credit hours</b>

business. The course covers the following topics: opportunity cost, marginal value, marginal cost, the production possibility frontier, indifference curves, the determination of market supply and demand, how market prices convey information about costs and benefits of goods and services procured in the market, elasticity of demand, income and substitution effects, the efficiency of competitive equilibrium, consumer and producer surplus, externalities, public goods, the Coase Theorem, imperfect and asymmetric information, expected utility, risk aversion, and signaling.

- EPH 1400 Foundations of Macroeconomics I 3 credit hours**  
This course sequence will build an analytical macroeconomic framework and then use it to explain changing conditions in the world economy and the challenges these present for modern policy makers and business leaders. Students will become familiar with basic terminology regarding the phases of the business cycle, central banks' behavior in managing monetary policy (including recent tools, such as quantitative easing, and others), economic growth, inflation, interest rates, exchange rates, global competitiveness, unemployment, fiscal policy, debt sustainability and the external sector (international reserves and the like). At the end of the sequence, it is expected that students will be able to critically assess how possible developments in the world economy – such as the change in the monetary policy stance by central banks – will affect economic conditions, social conditions, and the business environment. The first course defines basic concepts, including short- and long-run aggregate supply, aggregate demand, inflation, exchange rates, central banks, monetary policy, and Keynesian and Monetarist schools of thought.
- EPH 1500 History, Historiography, and the Philosophy of History 3 credit hours**  
This course introduces students to the discipline of history by offering a combination of the history of Western historiography and key readings in the philosophy and methodology of history. Topics include contemporary controversies over the politicization of history, the origins of the Western historical tradition, and recent debates on historical causation and counterfactuals. A key objective is to familiarize students with some of the pioneers of historical scholarship and writing, from Thucydides to Isaiah Berlin.
- EPH 1600 American Legal System 3 credit hours**  
This course introduces the major aspects and controversies of the American legal system, including the adversarial system; the role of multiple players such as lawyers, trial judges, juries, and appellate judges; civil and criminal trials; constitutional law and the rights of defendants; standards of proof; and current controversies such as false convictions and the death penalty. The course will discuss the several “trials of the century” (the Scopes Monkey Trial, Alger Hiss, Bernie Goetz, Patty Hearst, OJ Simpson, George Zimmerman, the Central Park Five, Brett Kavanaugh, and others) to illustrate these concepts and the central role of American law in American politics.
- EPH 2000 Introduction To Applied Econometrics 3 credit hours**  
This course familiarizes students with the essential toolkit social scientists use to make inferences and decisions using data. A wide range of topics in probability, statistics and regression analysis are explored, as well as methods for causal inference, model building and evaluation, experiment design, machine learning, neural nets, and cross-validation.  
Prerequisites: EPH 1100
- EPH 2010 Data Science for Social Scientists 3 credit hours**  
This course introduces students to many of the most important tools of data science used by social scientists, including tools used in natural language processing and machine learning.  
Prerequisites: EPH 1100

<b>EPH 2100</b>	<b>Political Theories of Democracy</b> What is democracy? Is it a perennial political ideal, or do its manifestations depend on historical circumstance—for example, on the ideology of a dominant social class? What (if anything) unites the Greek <i>polis</i> , the Roman <i>res publica</i> , the Medieval and Renaissance <i>commune</i> , and the liberal nation-state as it emerged from the French and American revolutions? We will explore these questions by reading landmark texts in political philosophy, from Plato, Machiavelli, and Locke to Hegel, Schmitt, and Rawls. Special attention will be paid to the <i>rational</i> and <i>arational</i> bases of democracy—does it arise from a “social contract,” or from the less tangible “civic virtue” of a people? We will also discuss the fact that democracy tends to be theorized in times of crisis, when it is either imperiled or posed as a utopian alternative to the existing order.	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 2200</b>	<b>Foundations of Political Science I</b> This is the first of two introductory courses in political science. The two courses introduce students to the way modern political scientists think, including the fundamental theoretical tools of the discipline, and then applies those theories to key problems in political science. The sequence explores all five major subfields of political science. These are political methodology, political theory (which divides into normative and positive), comparative politics, and international relations. The first course will cover political theory and political methodology.	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 2300</b>	<b>Foundations of Political Science II</b> This is the second of two courses introducing students to political science. It covers a broad overview of research, and contains specific discussions of American political history, international comparative politics, and international relations, exposing students to the different topic areas within these fields and different research methods. Prerequisite: EPH 1410	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 2400</b>	<b>Philosophers of Political Economy</b> This course reviews the history of the development of economic and political ideas, with special emphasis on contributions from 1700 to 1950.	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 2600</b>	<b>The Changing Structure of Civilization: Tribes, City States, Empires, &amp; Nations</b>  This course analyses structural changes in civilization that have coincided with and shaped global history.	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 2900</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 2910</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 2920</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 3010</b>	<b>Foundations of Microeconomics II</b> This advanced course in microeconomics covers the following topics: cost functions and their relation to market supply, the effects of entry and exit by producers on long-run market equilibrium, the constant returns to scale production function, the Solow Growth model, the decomposition of output growth into the weighted growth of the factors of production and the growth rate of productivity, the marginal product theory of income distribution, the meaning and importance of expected inflation and the real interest rate, time preference, durable asset returns and their relationship to interest rates and present values, the life cycle-permanent income hypothesis of consumer behavior, and finally,	<b>3 credit hours</b>

deviations from perfect competition, the inefficiencies they can create, and the regulatory policies that have been developed to mitigate or prevent these deviations.  
Prerequisite: EPH 1300

- EPH 3020 Foundations of Macroeconomics II 3 credit hours**  
This is an advanced course in macroeconomics. This course presents balance of payments accounting, defines international competitiveness and the real exchange rate, the examines key relationships between interest rates and exchange rates, various facts and approaches related to monetary and fiscal policy, sovereign default, fiscal dominance, and exchange rate sustainability.  
Prerequisite: EPH 1400
- EPH 3030 Corporate Finance, Accounting, and Business Planning 3 credit hours**  
This course teaches students how to construct business plans and use them to formulate cash flow analysis from income and expense statements and balance sheets, and then use the cash flow analysis as a basis for financial planning, valuation of the business, and creating a strategy to fund the idea.
- EPH 3040 Introduction to World Economic and Political History 4.5 credit hours**  
This course introduces students to the basic political and economic facts of human history, seeking both to describe and explain the variation in observed economic and political outcomes across time and space, which also requires a discussion of how to approach identifying causality when studying historical change. Variation that will be studied occurs over several dimensions: material well-being, which activities people are engaged in, the scale of economic and political organizations, the degree of centralization of political power, population density, the extent of individual freedom, the geographic range of economic transactions, and the extent to which political systems are democratic.
- EHP 3050 Public Choice 3 credit hours**  
This course integrates economic and political theory to analyze how choices about public policy are made by voters, candidates, legislators, bureaucrats, and the institutions in which they operate.
- EPH 3060 Advanced Topics in Panel Data Analysis 3 credit hours**  
This course applies advanced econometric analyses to economic and political problems that arise in a panel context, combining variation over time with cross-sectional variation at a moment in time.  
Prerequisite: EPH 2000, EPH 2010
- EPH 3070 Advanced Topics in Time Series Analysis 3 credit hours**  
This course applies time series techniques to study variation among variables over time.  
Prerequisite: EPH 2000, EPH 2010
- EPH 3080 Advanced Topics in Data Science for Social Sciences 3 credit hours**  
This course presents advanced topics and tools in data science that are especially relevant to social science.  
Prerequisite: EPH 2000, EPH 2010
- EPH 3090 Advanced Microeconomics 3 credit hours**  
This course presents advanced topics and tools in applied microeconomics.  
Prerequisites: EPH 2000, EPH 2300, EPH 3010, EPH 3020, EPH 3030

- EPH 3100 Advanced Macroeconomics, Public Finance and Growth Theory** **3 credit hours**
- This course presents advanced topics and tools in applied macroeconomics, public finance, and growth theory.  
Prerequisites: EPH 2000, EPH 2300, EPH 3010, EOH 3020, EPH 3040
- EPH 3110 Advanced Topics in American Political History** **3 credit hours**
- This course studies political changes (changes resulting from elections, party politics, and public choice) from roughly 1700 to the present.
- EPH 3120 Voting, Political Parties and Electoral Politics** **3 credit hours**
- This course studies, in theory and in practice, how voting rules affect election outcomes, and how political parties are formed.
- EPH 3130 Business Structures and Governance** **3 credit hours**
- This course introduces students to analysis of how businesses are structured and governed.  
Prerequisites: EPH 1110, EPH 1120, EPH 1210, EPH 1220, EPH 1310, EPH 1320, EPH 1410, EPH 1420, EPH 1510
- EPH 3140 Capitalism, Its Critics, and the History of Growth, Poverty, and Inequality** **3 credit hours**
- This course considers socialist and other criticisms of economies in which markets outcomes and private ownership determine the allocation of resources. It considers those criticisms in the light of evidence about the growth and distribution consequences over time of capitalist development.
- EPH 3150 How Political Revolutions Happen** **3 credit hours**
- This course studies the history of revolutions to understand their causes. Cases include the Glorious Revolution, the American Revolution, the French Revolution, Latin American Revolutions, the Greek Revolution, the Russian Revolution, the Chinese Revolution, and others. Britain (1688), US (1776), France (1789), Greece (1821), Mexico (1910), Russia (1917), China (1949), Eastern Europe (1989), Brazil (1990s), Chile (2020s) Prerequisites: EPH 1610, EPH 1710, EPH 1810
- EPH 3160 Advanced Topics in American Economic History** **3 credit hours**
- This course studies the evolution of the American economy and its consequences from roughly 1600 to 1970.  
Prerequisites: EPH 1500
- EPH 3170 Advanced Topics in World Economic History** **3 credit hours**
- This course studies the evolution of economies other than the United States from roughly 1200 to 1970.  
Prerequisites: EPH 1500
- EPH 3180 Property Rights and Their Economic and Political Consequences** **3 credit hours**
- This course examines the role of establishing and enforcing property rights for private and public governance outcomes, in theory and in practice.
- EPH 3190 International Trade** **3 credit hours**

This course studies why countries trade and considers the consequences for welfare of trade from theoretical and empirical perspectives, both in the past and the present.

<b>EPH 3200</b>	<b>Rationality and its Limits: “From Becker to Thaler and Beyond”</b>	<b>3 credit hours</b>
	Does rational choice really guide economic decisions? This course juxtaposes rationalist and anti-rationalist behavioral perspectives about how economic actors behave.	
<b>EPH 3210</b>	<b>International Finance</b>	<b>3 credit hours</b>
	This course analyses the role of international finance in allocating global resources through various financial instruments, including international capital flows associated with investments in debt, equity, and foreign-direct investment.	
<b>EPH 3220</b>	<b>Money, Banking, and the Financial System</b>	<b>3 credit hours</b>
	This course studies the operations and interactions among monetary systems, banking systems, and financial systems, and their relevance for the economy.	
<b>EPH 3230</b>	<b>Finance and Economic Development</b>	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
	This course studies the linkages between financial development and economic development throughout the world, combining historical understanding with an understanding of current events.	
<b>EPH 3240</b>	<b>International Relations</b>	<b>3 credit hours</b>
	This course studies how countries interact in their political decisions and how the various kinds of interactions (trade, migration, international investments, diplomacy, and war) influence one another’s decisions and outcomes.	
<b>EPH 3250</b>	<b>Entrepreneurship and Entrepreneurial Finance</b>	<b>3 credit hours</b>
	This course analyzes how entrepreneurs originate and fund business ideas, with special emphasis on understanding the role of venture capital in business formation and growth.	
<b>EPH 3900</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 4000</b>	<b>Independent Study</b>	<b>3 credit hours</b>
	An independent study course involves an individual contract between the student and a faculty member, specifying what requirements the student will meet.	
<b>EPH 4900</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 4910</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>EPH 4920</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>INF 1100</b>	<b>Chaos and Civilization</b>	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
	This seminar asks what foundational texts of the Western tradition can teach us about the origins of civilization. What is the character of the beginning of human life, and why does it matter? What roles do the heroes of Homer, Plato, the Greek tragedies, and the Bible play in the beginning of civilization? Are they agents of order or disorder?	
<b>INF 1110</b>	<b>Knowing, Doing, Making, Wisdom</b>	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
	This seminar examines the nature and limits of knowledge and the relationship between knowledge and wisdom. Guiding questions include: What is knowledge? What are its sources, modes, objects, and methods? How is knowledge manifested in doing and making? How is it acquired, preserved, and transmitted? What are the limits of our knowledge? Is some knowledge ineffable? How does knowledge differ from wisdom?	

- INF 1130 Quantitative Reasoning I 3 credit hours**  
The first of a two-course sequence in quantitative reasoning. Topics include interpretation of graphical information, and quantitative modeling. Throughout the course examples will be drawn from a variety of fields including physics, biology, and economics; there will be particular emphasis on the laws of nature and analogies among them.
- INF 1200 The Beginning of Politics 4.5 credit hours**  
An introduction to the nature, meaning, and purposes of political life. What is politics? Are human beings political animals? Does a city differ from a pack of wolves, a herd of sheep, or a band of robbers? What is law? Can we say that some laws are better than others? What do Greek and biblical understandings of politics and leadership have in common?
- INF 1210 Writing and the English Language 3 credit hours**  
This seminar aims to increase our appreciation for the English language and to make us better writers and more perceptive readers. What can great poems, plays, speeches, letters, autobiographies, short stories, and essays teach us about the depth and range of the English language and the uses of language as such? How can good reading promote good writing—and vice versa?
- INF 1220 Quantitative Reasoning II 3 credit hours**  
The second of a two-course sequence in quantitative reasoning. Topics include quantifying uncertainty, estimation techniques and applications. Throughout the course examples will be drawn from a variety of fields including physics, biology, and economics; there will be particular emphasis on the laws of nature and analogies among them.
- INF 1300 Christianity and Islam, Europe and the East 4.5 credit hours**  
An introduction Christianity and Islam that explores their place in Western civilization. What is Christianity? What is Islam? How do both interpret their biblical predecessors and incorporate classical thought? Can Christianity find common ground with Islam? How do these religions relate to the European identity? What is revealed about Christians, Muslims, and Asiatic peoples through their encounters?
- INF 1320 Intellectual Foundations of Economics 3 credit hours**  
This course examines the extension of moral philosophy into the origins of a core social science (Economics). We will discuss in sequence the Greek and Christian legacies, the challenge of Hobbes, Adam Smith and the Classical Economists, Mercantilism, Utilitarianism, Neoclassicism, the German historical school, the Austrian school of von Mises and Hayek, American institutionalism, the heresy of Veblen, and Schumpeterian innovation. At each stage, students will examine how the core questions asked and frameworks applied shaped disagreements with earlier thinkers and the emergence of new ideas. Students will depart with a sense of the competing intellectual traditions which shape contemporary social science.
- INF 1330 Foundations of Science I 3 credit hours**  
This course is the first part of a two-course sequence designed to explore and understand some of the most important ideas in science. This first course introduces students to a framework for scientific thinking and investigates key ideas in physical and earth sciences. Emphasis will be placed on applications and interdisciplinary connections across areas of study in the course sequence.
- INF 2100 The Uses and Abuses of Technology 3 credit hours**  
This seminar examines the advantages and disadvantages of technology from a broadly human perspective. What is technology? How has it shaped human life? What are its intellectual presuppositions, social conditions, benefits, and dangers?

- INF 2110 Foundations of Science II 3 credit hours**  
This course is the second part of a two-course sequence designed to explore and understand some of the most important ideas in science. This second course will build on principles from the first course and investigate key ideas in the chemical and life sciences. Emphasis will be placed on applications and interdisciplinary connections across areas of study in the course sequence.
- INF 2120 Modernity and the West 4.5 credit hours**  
This seminar is an introduction to modernity and the West. What does it mean to say that we are modern, that we have progressed beyond a pre-modern or medieval world? How do conceptions of the natural world, human being, science, and the aims of knowledge change with the advent of modernity? What is distinctive about modern Western ways of thinking, feeling, and acting? What discontents are endemic to the modern world?
- INF 2210 Mortality and Meaning in Art and Music 3 credit hours**  
Does death negate the meaning of a human life? Or can mortality and death give life meaning? This seminar explores the relationship between mortality and meaning through the study of works of art from different historical periods and cultures and in various genres and media, including painting, sculpture, and music.
- INF 2200 The American Experiment 4.5 credit hours**  
What is the American regime—the form of government and way of life—and what, if anything, makes it distinctive? Why has America been a land of hope? What great failings have Americans struggled to overcome? Can Americans be said to have a distinctive character? We shall explore these questions through the study of a variety of writings, including political documents and speeches, autobiographies, novels, and essays.
- INF 2300 Ideological Experiments of the 20th Century 3 credit hours**  
An examination of the philosophical roots and practical consequences of ideological tyranny in the 20th century, particularly Nazism and Soviet Communism. What are the presuppositions of ideological experimentation? What does ideological tyranny do to the bodies and characters of individual human beings? What are its effects on thought, art, politics, religion, and the economy?
- POL 1110 Polaris Ideas 3 credit hours**  
Where do ideas come from? Is the process similar for practical inventions, like the light bulb, and intellectual and artistic ones, like scientific discoveries, novels, paintings, and music? What are the social and economic preconditions for successful innovations? This seminar will explore these questions by engaging with a wide variety of readings.
- POL 2100 Polaris Inspirations 3 credit hours**  
This course uses case studies and lectures to introduce students to a broad variety of possible Polaris projects and to the basic methods employed in the UATX Academic Centers. Invited speakers will lecture about their own Polaris-style projects (e.g., starting a business, founding a newspaper) and students will read case studies associated with these lectures. Student deliverables include lecture/case study reviews and journals.
- POL 2110 Polaris Frame 3 credit hours**  
This course provides a forum for students to workshop their Polaris projects. Students will present their project proposals to their peers and to professors from different academic Centers and receive critical feedback. The course will also include units on digital literacy, including blogs, podcasts, and websites. Deliverables include a preliminary project proposal, a ranked list of six potential mentors, and three detailed precedent studies.

- POL 3100 Polaris Pitch 3 credit hours**  
 Students will enroll in a Polaris Pitch course offered by the academic Center in which they will be undertaking their projects. In this course, they will work intensively on producing and pitching a polished proposal. Students will present plans to peers and faculty and collectively refine their projects. At the conclusion of the course, they will present their projects for final approval to a committee of UATX faculty and outside experts. Deliverables include a detailed project proposal and public engagement plan, as well as a roadmap of the process for realizing the project over the next five terms, i.e., by the end of the following academic year.
- POL 3110 Polaris Build 1.5 credit hours**  
 In these independent study courses, students build their projects. They contact potential external mentors and generate a correspondence portfolio, including rejections. Having contracted with a mentor, they work with him or her as well as a UATX faculty member, receiving 1.5 credits of course relief each term in acknowledgement of the time that they are spending on their projects. Students report on their progress at the end of each term, and the Polaris Director and/or UATX faculty mentor establishes that the student is hitting his or her target dates of deliverables. Note: Course is repeatable
- POL 4150 Polaris Launch 3 credit hours**  
 Students launch their projects beyond UATX. The deliverable at the end of this term is the project itself. These projects are demonstrated through an internal fair/expo (all projects) and an external showcase (select projects, chosen by competition).
- STM 1001 Calculus I 4.5 credit hours**  
 This course is the first in a two-course sequence and exposes the student to mathematical modeling, differentiation, and the basics of vectors and operations on vectors.
- STM 1002 Calculus II 4.5 credit hours**  
 This course is the second in a two-course sequence and exposes the student to mathematical ideas of accumulation, integration, and basic dynamics.  
 Prerequisite: STM 1001
- STM 1004 Differential Equations 4.5 credit hours**  
 Linear and simultaneous ordinary differential equations; exact solutions, solution by Laplace transform, and solution by numerical methods.  
 Prerequisite: STM 1002
- STM 1005 Discrete Mathematics 4.5 credit hours**  
 This course introduces students to fundamental concepts and techniques in discrete mathematics. Topics covered include sets, logic, proofs, functions, relations, combinatorics, graph theory, and counting principles.
- STM 2101 Probability 4.5 credit hours**  
 A first course in probability. Topics include basic probability axioms and counting techniques, random variables, conditional probability and Bayes' Rule, discrete and continuous probability distributions, joint distributions and correlation, Law of Large Numbers, and Central Limit Theorem.
- STM 2102 Statistics 4.5 credit hours**  
 An introduction to statistics emphasizing multivariate modeling. Topics include descriptive statistics, experiment and study design, hypothesis testing, linear regression, analysis of variance, logistic regression.  
 Prerequisite: STM 2101

- STM 2103 Linear Algebra** **4.5 credit hours**  
A first course in linear algebra. Topics include systems of equations, matrix arithmetic and factorizations, the rank-nullity theorem, eigenvectors and eigenvalues, the singular value decomposition, projections, regression, and other applications. Computer programming language will be used throughout the course.
- STM 2104 Linear Optimization** **4.5 credit hours**  
An introduction to linear programming. Topics include formulating mathematical optimization models, the Simplex solution method, sensitivity analysis, and basic linear programming theory.  
Prerequisite: STM 2103
- STM 2300 Data Wrangling and Visualization** **4.5 credit hours**  
Students will use Python to wrangle large, messy data sets into forms suitable for modeling and analysis, and create visualizations that provide useful insights for decision-making.
- STM 2301 Programming I** **4.5 credit hours**  
Introduction to computer programming for the purpose of implementing solutions relating to data acquisition, storage, processing, analysis, and visualization. The concepts provide foundational knowledge and experience upon which later data science courses will build.
- STM 2302 Programming II** **4.5 credit hours**  
Builds on the programming skills developed in the prerequisite course and moves the focus towards a wider software ecosystem in order to solve more complex data science tasks. Students will learn and apply foundational principles of program organization including classes and objects, interfaces, inheritance, abstraction, and decoupling. In addition, important command-line skills will be developed for data gathering and cleaning, as well as library and software acquisition and use. These principles will be utilized through high-level programming in Python to analyze and manipulate real-world data sets.  
Prerequisite: STM 2301
- STM 2501 Physics I** **4.5 credit hours**  
The first of a two-course sequence emphasizing the fundamental principles of classical physics, introducing a variety of applications. Topics include kinematics, linear and rotational motion, forces, energy, collisions, gravitation, wave motion, and simple fluids.  
Prerequisite: STM 1002
- STM 2502 Physics II** **4.5 credit hours**  
The second of a two-course sequence emphasizing the fundamental principles of classical physics, introducing a variety of applications. Topics include electricity, circuits, magnetism, and optics.  
Prerequisite: STM 1002, STM 2501
- STM 3301 Data Structures and Scalability** **4.5 credit hours**  
Students will become familiar with the use and performance characteristics of common data structures including stacks, queues, lists, trees, heaps, and hash tables. The techniques of asymptotic analysis using big-O notation will be introduced as a formal tool to understand how computer programs scale in resource use for increasingly large inputs. A strong emphasis will be placed on developing the ability to choose the most appropriate data structures for a given computational task, and to roughly estimate the asymptotic complexity of programs with loops and nested function calls.  
Prerequisite: STM 2301

<b>STM 3302</b>	<b>Data Storage</b> Provides an introduction to data storage methods and systems. Topics include hardware and software used to efficiently store large datasets, relational databases and data models, SQL, and applications that interact with databases. Prerequisite: STM 3301	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 3303</b>	<b>Machine Learning</b> Provides an introduction to computational machine learning techniques. Topics include learning theory, unsupervised learning, recommendation systems, reinforcement learning, and neural networks. Prerequisite: STM 3301	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 3304</b>	<b>Computer Architecture and Organization</b> Provides an introduction to low-level aspects of computer design. Topics include performance metrics, instruction set architectures, assembly language, logic design, memory hierarchies, and pipelining. Prerequisite: STM 2301	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 3900</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>1.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 3910</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>3 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 3915</b>	<b>Special Topics</b> Special Topics	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 4101</b>	<b>Nonparametric Statistics</b> Provides an introduction to nonparametric methods in statistics and their applications. Topics include the sign test, the rank-sum test, the Kruskal-Wallis test, Kolmogorov-Smirnov type tests, and others. Examines methods from both theoretical and application points of view. Prerequisite: STM 2101	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 4102</b>	<b>Statistical Learning</b> Covers a variety of statistical learning topics, including: function estimation with data, bias-variance tradeoff, classification, linear regression, resampling methods, linear model selection and regularization, non-linear modeling, and tree-based methods, support vector machines, and unsupervised learning. Prerequisite: STM 2102	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 4301</b>	<b>Human Data Interaction</b> Studies the intersection of people and data. This course covers technical concepts relating to how humans interact with data interfaces and visualizations, as well as ethical questions of how humans interpret, present, and ultimately deploy data science tools. Prerequisite: STM 3301	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 4302</b>	<b>Big Data Computing</b> Focuses on processing large datasets in a distributed environment, including cloud systems and High-Performance Computing Centers. Topics include NoSQL systems, cloud architecture, and distributed frameworks. Prerequisite: STM 3302	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>
<b>STM 4303</b>	<b>Computer Algorithms</b>	<b>4.5 credit hours</b>

Presents techniques for designing, analyzing, and implementing computer algorithms. Students will gain a solid understanding of algorithmic problem-solving and be exposed to a variety of classical algorithms used in numerous applications.  
Prerequisite: STM 3301

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## **Board Role**

The Board of Trustees exists to govern UATX by exercising control over and management of the affairs and funds of the entity. Through the Constitution of the University of Austin, the Board of Trustees delegates the day-to-day management of UATX to its Officers and other senior management of UATX and provides guidance for their work.

## **Board Leadership**

The Board is led by the Chairman of the Board, who is responsible for convening and chairing meetings of the Board; organizing the Board's agenda with input from management and helping to identify the Board's information needs; leading Board discussions of management performance and compensation; and encouraging frank but collegial discussions both between Board members and the Board and management.

Board:

- Joseph Lonsdale, Chairman of the Board
- Teri Andresen
- Brent Bellm
- Sir Niall Ferguson
- Carlos Carvalho (Ex-Officio)
- Alex Magaro
- Scott Malkin
- Andrew Trousdale
- Bari Weiss

## SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

**Adam Biggs**

**General Counsel**

J.D., Law, Creighton University School of Law  
B.A., History, University of Kentucky

**Carlos Carvalho**

**President & Provost**

Ph.D., Statistics, Duke University  
M.S., Statistics, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro  
B.S., Economics, IBMEC Business School

**Clint Carton**

**Director of Student Life**

B.S. Computer Science, Loras College  
B.A. International Studies, Religious Studies, Loras College

**Benjamin Crocker**

**University Dean**

M.A., Liberal Arts, St. John's College  
Bachelor of Music, Queensland Conservatorium of Music

**Kristi Espino**

**Financial Controller**

B.B.A., Accounting, Texas A&M University

**Patrick Gray**

**Dean of Center for Arts and Letters**

Ph.D. in English and Renaissance Studies, Yale University  
M.St., Research Methods in English, University of Oxford  
M.Phil., English and Renaissance Studies, Yale University  
M.Litt., English, University of Oxford  
M.A., English and Renaissance Studies, Yale University  
Diplôme de Langue et Civilisation Françaises, Université de Paris-Sorbonne  
B.A., English, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Phil Greenwald**

**Executive Director of The Future Labs**

B.A., Economics, Vanderbilt University

**Charity Jennings**

**Director of Academic Affairs & University Registrar**

EDD/CI, Education, University of Phoenix  
M.A., Education / Elementary Education, Truman State University

**Pano Kanelos**

**Chancellor**

Ph.D., Literature and Political Philosophy, University of Chicago  
M.A., Literature and Political Philosophy, Boston University  
B.A., English and Creative Writing, Northwestern University

**Tim Kane**

**Dean of the Center for Economics, Politics, and History**

Ph.D., Economics, University of California, San Diego  
B.S., Economics and Political Science, United States Air Force Academy

**Rana Liebert**

**Senior Director of Principal Gifts**

Ph.D., Classics, University of Chicago  
M.A., Classics, University of Chicago

M.A., Classics, Yale University  
B.A., Classics, Bard College

**Hillel Ofek**

**Chief Strategy Officer**

Ph.D., Political Science and Government, The University of Texas at Austin  
M.A., Political Science and Government, The University of Texas at Austin  
B.A., Political Science, Kenyon College

**Loren Rotner**

**Associate Provost and Director of Admissions**

Ph.D., Political Science, Claremont Graduate University  
M.A., Political Science, The University of Texas at Austin  
B.A., Political Science, Kenyon College

**David Ruth**

**Vice Provost for Research and Academic Affairs, Dean of the Center for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics**

Ph.D., Operations Research, Naval Postgraduate School  
M.S., Meteorology and Physical Oceanography, Naval Postgraduate School  
M.A., National Security and Strategic Studies, Naval War College  
M.A., Mathematics, University of Texas at Austin  
B.S., Mathematics, United States Naval Academy

**Shehryar Shafiq**

**Senior Vice President for Finance and Operations**

ACMA, CGMA, Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

**Becca Schwinger**

**Vice President of Community Relations**

B.A., Liberal Arts, The University of Texas at Austin

**Jacob Wolf**

**Director of the Program in American Civilization**

Ph.D., Political Science, Boston College  
B.A., History, University of Northwestern, St. Paul

# FACULTY

**Carson Bay**

**Associate Professor of Classics and Biblical Studies**

Ph.D., Religions of Western Antiquity, Florida State University  
M.A., Classics, Florida State University  
M.A., Theology and Religious Studies, John Carroll University  
B.S., Biblical Studies, Moody Bible College

**Timothy Brennan**

**Associate Professor of Political Philosophy**

Ph.D., Political Science, Boston College  
M.A., Political Science, Boston College  
B.A., Political Science and Philosophy, University of Melbourne

**Carlos Carvalho**

**Professor of Statistics**

Ph.D., Statistics, Duke University  
M.S., Statistics, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro  
B.S., Economics, IBMEC Business School

**Fr. Maximos Constas**

**Distinguished Professor of the Humanities**

Ph.D., Patristics/ Historical Theology, Catholic University of America  
M. Div., Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology  
B.A., Religious Studies, Hellenic College

**Brandon Deadman**

**Assistant Professor of the History of Ideas**

Ph.D. candidate, European Intellectual History, University of Chicago  
M.A., Medieval History, University of Toronto  
B.A., History, University of Toronto

**Dorothy Dickmann**

**Assistant Professor of Accounting**

Ph.D., Accounting, University of Texas at Austin  
MAcc., Harbert College of Business  
B.S., Business Administration, Harbert College of Business

**Victor Emma-Adamah**

**Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Theology**

Ph.D., Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Cambridge  
M.A, Historical and Philosophical Theology, University of the Free State  
B.A., Biblical Studies, North-West University

**Boris Fishman**

**Professor of Literature and Creative Writing**

M.F.A., Fiction, New York University  
B.A., Slavic Language/ Literature, Princeton University

**Patrick Gray**

**Professor of Literature**

Ph.D., English and Renaissance Studies, Yale University  
M.St., Research Methods in English, University of Oxford  
M.Phil., English and Renaissance Studies, Yale University  
M.Litt., English, University of Oxford  
M.A., English and Renaissance Studies, Yale University  
Diplôme de Langue et Civilisation Françaises, Université de Paris-Sorbonne  
B.A., English, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Clay Greene**

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Ph.D., English and Renaissance Studies, Yale University  
M.A., English, University of Alabama  
B.A., English, University of Alabama

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M.A., English, The University of Texas at Austin  
B.A., English, Hillsdale College

**J. Michael Hoffpauir**

**Assistant Professor of Political Theory**

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M.A., Political Science, Boston College  
B.A., Political Science, Louisiana State University

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**Associate Professor of Economics**

Ph.D., Economics, George Mason University  
M.B.A., Finance, The University of Texas at Austin  
B.B.A., Information Systems, The University of Texas at Austin

**Coleman Hughes**

**Visiting Professor**

B.A., Philosophy, Columbia University

**Tim Kane**

**Professor of Economics**

Ph.D., Economics, University of California, San Diego  
B.S., Economics and Political Sciences, United States Air Force Academy

**Danny Kaplan**

**Distinguished Visiting Professor of Mathematics and Statistics**

Ph.D., Biomedical Physics, Harvard University  
M.S., Biomedical Physics, Harvard University  
M.S., Engineering-Economic Systems, Stanford University

	B.A., Physics and Philosophy, Swarthmore College
<b>J.J. Kimche</b>	<b>Assistant Professor of Religion and Philosophy</b> Ph.D., Intellectual History, Harvard University B.A., Western Philosophy and Jewish Thought, Shalem College
<b>Aleksandr Kolpakov</b>	<b>Associate Professor of Mathematics</b> Ph.D., Mathematics, University of Fribourg M.S., Mathematics, Novosibirsk State University
<b>Elijah Overbey</b>	<b>Assistant Professor of Bioastronautics</b> Ph.D., Genome Sciences, University of Washington B.S., Computer Science, University of California San Diego
<b>Allen Porter</b>	<b>Assistant Professor of Philosophy</b> Ph.D., Philosophy, Rice University M.A., Philosophy, Rice University M.A., Philosophy, Tulane University B.A., German, Princeton University
<b>Alex Priou</b>	<b>Associate Professor of Political Philosophy</b> Ph.D., Philosophy, Tulane University M.A., Philosophy, Tulane University M.A., Liberal Arts, St John's College B.A., Political Science, University of Connecticut
<b>David Puelz</b>	<b>Assistant Professor of Statistics and Data Science</b> Ph.D., Statistics, The University of Texas at Austin M.S., Statistics, The University of Texas at Austin B.A., Mathematics and Physics, Wesleyan University
<b>Isabella Reinhardt</b>	<b>Assistant Professor of Classics</b> Ph.D., Department of Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania Post-Bacc., Classics, University of Pennsylvania B.A., Classics and English, University of Virginia
<b>Scott Reznick</b>	<b>Associate Professor of Literature</b> Ph.D., English, Boston College M.A. English, Trinity College B.S. Mathematics, Dickinson College
<b>David Ruth</b>	<b>Professor of Mathematics</b> Ph.D., Operations Research, Naval Postgraduate School M.S., Meteorology and Physical Oceanography, Naval Postgraduate School M.A., National Security and Strategic Studies, Naval War College

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B.S., Mathematics, United States Naval Academy

**Scott Scheall**

**Associate Professor of Philosophy  
and Economics**

Ph.D., Philosophy, Arizona State University  
M.A., Philosophy, Arizona State University  
B.A., Economics, Arizona State University

**Michael Shellenberger**

**CBR Chair of Politics, Censorship, and Free  
Speech**

M.A., Anthropology, University of California  
B.A., Earlham College

**Clinton Staley**

**Professor of Computer Science**

Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering, U.C.  
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M.S., Computer Sciences, U.C. Santa Barbara  
B.A., Mathematics and English, Principia College,  
Elsah, IL

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**Professor of Computer Science**

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M.S., Computer Science, University of Illinois at  
Urbana- Champaign  
B.S., Computer Engineering, Instituto Tecnológico  
y de Estudios Superiores

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Ph.D., Political Science, Boston College  
B.A., History, University of Northwestern, St. Paul

**Jonathan Yudelman**

**Assistant Professor of Political Theory**

Ph.D., Political Science and Government, Boston  
College  
M.A., Philosophy, Hebrew University  
B.A., Jewish Thought, Hebrew University

## **ATTACHMENTS**

# **Institutional Rule 2**

## **Student Conduct**

### **I. Preamble**

Institutional Rule 2 defines and governs what constitutes misconduct by students and outlines the procedures for addressing such misconduct. This rule is not a general civility code to overregulate student life. The free exchange of ideas and the pursuit of truth can sometimes be challenging and uncomfortable, and it is not the role of the University of Austin (UATX) to police petty slights or hurt feelings. Students are adults and are expected to engage responsibly, recognizing that disagreement and difficult conversations are an integral part of the UATX experience.

Instead, this policy aims to correct and, when appropriate, sanction misconduct that is harmful to campus life. Such violations can undermine our academic mission and negatively impact the physical safety and well-being of others.

Mistakes are an inevitable part of growth. For most minor or first-time violations, informal resolution methods, such as coaching, expectation-setting, or written warnings, are the appropriate interventions. And when formal sanctions are necessary, they must be educational, proportional, and consistent with our values of growth and accountability. Suspension or expulsion should be reserved for the most serious or repeated cases.

### **II. Scope**

This rule applies to all enrolled students when they are on university property (owned, leased, or controlled), participating in university-sponsored events, or engaged in any university program or activity. If a student formally withdraws from the University and is no longer enrolled, jurisdiction ends unless the student is later readmitted.

This rule does not apply to misconduct covered under the Institutional Rules governing sexual misconduct or anti-discrimination.

### **III. Definitions**

1. **Advisor:** A student may have a single advisor accompany them to a hearing to provide guidance and support. The student is responsible for presenting their case. An advisor cannot directly participate in the hearing. If an advisor becomes disruptive, they may be muted or removed from the hearing. The student is responsible for arranging their advisor, who may be anyone except a student implicated in the same disciplinary matter as the accused student, a witness in

the hearing, or a member of UATX leadership. The unavailability of an advisor on a particular date does not constitute a valid reason to reschedule a hearing. The student must execute the necessary privacy authorizations before the advisor may join the hearing.

2. **Conduct Officer:** A Conduct Officer investigates the facts and circumstances underlying a report of misconduct, assesses whether the evidence supports a finding that it is more likely than not that the misconduct occurred, and proposes an appropriate sanction if needed. The President shall appoint one or more Conduct Officers to investigate allegations of student misconduct. Conduct Officers serve at the pleasure of the President.
3. **Constitution or UATX Constitution:** The formally adopted version of the Constitution of the University of Austin.
4. **Disciplinary Council:** The President, Provost, and Deans shall together constitute the Disciplinary Council, with the President serving as chair, which may hear appeals.
5. **Hearing:** A structured adjudicative process used to determine whether a policy violation occurred and, if applicable, what sanction is appropriate.
6. **Informal Resolution:** A non-adjudicative process used to address and resolve a conduct matter without imposing sanctions or otherwise engaging the formal processes in this rule. Informal resolution may include coaching, written expectations, referrals to support services, or agreements between the parties.
7. **Interim Action:** A temporary, non-disciplinary measure imposed to protect the safety, well-being, or rights of any individual or the university community before the resolution of the formal conduct process.
8. **Major Sanction:** A sanction of suspension, expulsion, or withholding of a degree.
9. **Minor Sanction:** A sanction that does not involve suspension, expulsion, or withholding of a degree.
10. **Respondent:** A student accused of a conduct violation in the formal conduct process.

11. **Sanction:** A formal disciplinary outcome imposed upon a finding of responsibility for a policy violation. Sanctions range from warnings to expulsion.
12. **University Dean:** The official charged with overseeing student affairs at UATX. The University Dean addresses reports of alleged student misconduct and presides over portions of the student conduct process set out in this rule. If the University Dean is unavailable to perform his function under this rule, the President may designate a replacement.

#### **IV. Conflicts of Interest**

All UATX employees are expected to assess their ability to serve impartially in any case. If they determine they cannot do so fairly and without bias, they must recuse themselves. If necessary, the President may appoint a replacement for any recused official, which can include third parties trained to investigate and adjudicate student conduct matters.

#### **V. Calculation of Time**

For this rule, all periods referenced in days refer to business days—those days on which the University of Austin is open and conducting regular operations. Weekends, holidays, and other days when the University is officially closed do not count toward the calculation of time deadlines. When a deadline falls on a day when the University is closed, it will be extended to the next business day. To calculate deadlines, exclude the day of the triggering event, e.g., the day notice was received.

Deadlines in this rule may only be extended by the President or their designee for good cause shown (e.g., medical emergency, bereavement). Extensions must be documented in writing and shared with all parties.

University proceedings under this rule may proceed independently of any criminal investigation. In some cases, the University may delay its process briefly to accommodate law enforcement evidence collection, but it is not required to do so.

A blackout period begins one week before final exams and ends one day after the Respondent's last exam. During this period, timelines under this rule are paused. University officials will refrain from initiating investigations, conducting interviews, or holding hearings during this period to enable students to focus on their final examinations, except in cases deemed time-sensitive by the University Dean or President.

## **VI. Prohibited Conduct**

The following types of conduct are prohibited:

### **1. Academic Misconduct**

- a. **Cheating:** Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or assistance in academic exercises (e.g., copying from another student, unauthorized notes, or obtaining advance access to exams).
- b. **Plagiarism:** Presenting another person's words, ideas, or work as one's own without proper attribution.
- c. **Fabrication:** Falsifying or inventing information, data, or citations.
- d. **Unauthorized Use of Artificial Intelligence:** Using AI tools to complete assignments beyond what the instructor has authorized.

### **2. Behavioral Misconduct**

- a. **Breaking the Chatham House Rule:** Attributing or recording classroom speech without consent.
- b. **Material Disruption:** Behavior that materially disrupts teaching, research, administration, or university activity. Examples include shouting to prevent others from speaking, making loud noises near classrooms, or intentionally blocking access or exit from an area where an event is occurring.
- c. **Unauthorized Entry or Presence:** Entering or remaining in restricted or closed areas without authorization.
- d. **Acts of Violence or Attempted Acts of Violence:** Intentionally or recklessly causing or threatening physical harm or taking substantial steps

toward harming another. Self-defense and the defense of others are defenses provided that the Respondent shows their conduct meets the requirements of Texas law.

- e. **False Information:** Knowingly providing false or misleading information to university officials or forging university documents.
- f. **Theft or Damage:** Unauthorized taking, use, or damage of university or personal property.
- g. **Threatening Behavior:** Actions or words aimed at a person or group that a reasonable person would see as a serious expression of intent to cause physical harm or death.
- h. **Failure to Comply with Directives:** Disregarding directives from university officials or law enforcement.
- i. **Hazing:** Any intentional, knowing, or reckless act for the purpose of initiation or affiliation with a group, including physical brutality, forced consumption of food or alcohol, sleep deprivation, humiliation, coerced law-breaking, and forced servitude. Hazing is prohibited regardless of the victim's consent. Failure to report hazing may result in disciplinary action. Amnesty is provided for good-faith reports of hazing if there is cooperation and no serious injury or death. UATX officials will report suspected criminal hazing to law enforcement, as required by Texas law.
- j. **Weapons:** Unlawful possession of firearms, knives, explosives, or other deadly weapons.
- k. **Hazardous Substances:** Unauthorized possession, use, or transfer of chemicals, explosives, or biological substances with harmful intent.
- l. **Unauthorized Surveillance or Recording:** Secretly recording, observing, or photographing individuals in private settings without consent or in a way that breaches trust or dignity, or knowingly transmitting (including livestreaming) any such audio, video, or image.
- m. **Policy Violation:** Conduct violating the Constitution or any university rule, policy, or regulation.
- n. **Law Violations:** Conduct that would violate local, state, or federal law.

- o. **Retaliation:** Any materially adverse action taken against an individual for reporting a potential policy violation, participating in an investigation, or otherwise engaging in protected conduct in good faith under this policy. Retaliation includes threats, intimidation, coercion, harassment, or any other conduct that would discourage a reasonable person from engaging in such protected activity.
- p. **Obstruction of the Discipline Process:** Intentionally interfering with the investigation or resolution of a conduct matter. This includes, but is not limited to, destroying evidence, attempting to influence witnesses improperly, or knowingly providing false or misleading information during the conduct process.
- q. **Abuse of University Resources:** Misusing, damaging, or interfering with any university-provided resource or service, including technological systems (e.g., email, learning platforms, networks), physical facilities, equipment, or services provided to students. This includes unauthorized access, disruption of services, excessive or inappropriate use, or use that violates university policies or impairs the access or use of others.
- r. **Alcohol and Drug Violations:** A student violates this provision if they use, possess, distribute, or consume alcohol on university property without authorization; possess or consume alcohol while under the legal drinking age or provide alcohol to someone underage; engage in alcohol- or drug-related misconduct, including public intoxication, driving under the influence, or driving while intoxicated; use, possess, or distribute illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia; sell or distribute any drug without authorization. Texas law controls what constitutes an illegal drug under this provision.

## **VII. Sanctions**

Possible sanctions for misconduct include, but are not limited to: written warnings; educational assignments; no-contact directives; loss of privileges; probation; community service; restitution or reimbursement; suspension of rights and privileges, including, but not limited to, participation in athletic or extracurricular activities; academic sanctions; withholding of grades, official transcripts, and/or degrees; bar against readmission; prohibition from entering or residing in student housing; suspension; expulsion; or other sanctions deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

## **VIII. Standard of Evidence**

The standard for determining whether a violation has occurred is the preponderance of the evidence. This means the evidence must show that it is more likely than not that a violation occurred. Decision-makers shall consider the totality of the circumstances to assess whether the evidence meets this standard.

The formal rules of evidence do not apply to the process outlined in this rule, as it is not a formal legal proceeding.

## **IX. The Student Conduct Process and Law Enforcement**

UATX's conduct process is separate from any civil or criminal proceedings. Students may decline to participate if answering would jeopardize a criminal case; however, UATX officials may still make a decision based on the available evidence.

## **X. Reporting Possible Misconduct**

Anyone who believes a student or applicant has violated university policy should report the matter to the University Dean. Reports may be submitted in person, via email, or by using the "Report a Concern" link on UATX's website. While anonymous reports are accepted, the inability to identify the source may impede a comprehensive investigation.

## **XI. Behavioral Misconduct Process**

Within three days of receiving a report of potential prohibited conduct, the University Dean or their designee will review the matter to determine the appropriate course of action, which may include:

1. Referral to the Conduct Officer for investigation
2. Dismissal
3. Informal Resolution
4. Referral to another UATX official
5. Referral to academic or health support resources

The University Dean shall notify the Dean over the Respondent's degree program of this initial assessment.

## **XII. Investigation**

Within three days of receiving a referral from the University Dean, the Conduct Officer must notify the Respondent in writing that an investigation is underway. This notice must summarize the allegations. The Conduct Officer must also include a copy of this rule.

The Conduct Officer will schedule a meeting or call with the Respondent to discuss the allegations. If the student does not appear or otherwise participate without good cause, the investigation may proceed without their input. The Conduct Officer may also request documents, pose written questions, gather other relevant evidence, and conduct interviews with witnesses.

At any time, the Conduct Officer may recommend that the University Dean dismiss the matter or resolve it outside of the formal student conduct process.

Within five days of the initial notice to the Respondent, the Conduct Officer shall issue a report and recommendation, including factual findings, a determination of whether a violation occurred under the preponderance of the evidence standard, and a proposed sanction, if applicable. The report must be sent to the Respondent and the University Dean. The report must explain the student's right to contest an adverse outcome.

## **XIII. Contesting the Report and Recommendation**

**Minor Sanction:** If the Conduct Officer proposes a Minor Sanction, the Respondent may submit a written response to the University Dean within three days of receiving the report. Failure to submit a timely response constitutes a waiver of the right to contest. The Conduct Officer may submit a reply if needed. The University Dean shall issue a decision within three days of receiving the student's response. Any sanction imposed shall take effect after the expiration of the three-day appeal window to seek review by the Disciplinary Council, unless an appeal is filed. If an appeal is timely submitted, any sanction shall be stayed pending resolution of the appeal by the Disciplinary Council.

The Respondent may appeal the University Dean's decision by submitting a written appeal to the Disciplinary Council. Appeals may be filed on one or more of the following grounds:

1. **Material Procedural Error:** A procedural error occurred that materially affected the outcome.
2. **New Evidence:** New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility was made, and that could affect the outcome of the matter.

3. **Misapplication of Standard of Proof:** The preponderance of the evidence standard was misapplied.
4. **Conflict of Interest or Bias:** Involvement of a biased or conflicted individual compromised fairness.
5. **Disproportionate Sanction:** The punishment imposed is unduly harsh relative to the violation.
6. **Violation of the UATX Bill of Rights:** The outcome infringes upon a right specifically protected under the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

A student must cite a specific ground(s) for appeal and include supporting evidence. A student may appeal only the final decision of the University Dean and may do so only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals. Failure to submit a timely appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to contest.

The appeal must be submitted to the Disciplinary Council, copying the Conduct Officer and University Dean, within three days of the Respondent receiving the University Dean's decision. The Conduct Officer may submit a written response to the appeal within three days of receiving it.

The Disciplinary Council shall have three days from receipt of the Conduct Officer's response to accept, modify, or reject the University Dean's decision, or to remand for further proceedings. If no action is taken within that timeframe, the appeal is deemed denied, and the University Dean's decision is adopted as final. In such cases, the University Dean will notify the parties in writing that the appeal period has lapsed and the University Dean's decision is final. The sanction then goes into immediate effect.

**Major Sanction:** If the Conduct Officer proposes a Major Sanction, the student may contest the report and recommendation at a hearing. To proceed to a hearing, the student must submit a written election form within three days of receiving the report and recommendation. The Respondent must submit their election to the University Dean and Conduct Officer via email using a pre-approved form provided by the Conduct Officer. Any sanction imposed in the report shall take effect after the expiration of the three-day window to submit an election form, unless an election form is timely filed. If an election form is timely submitted, any sanction shall be stayed pending resolution of the hearing. Failure to submit a timely election form constitutes a waiver of the right to contest.

#### **XIV. Hearing Procedures**

A hearing before the University Dean shall occur within seven days of the Respondent's timely submission of the election form.

Hearings are conducted virtually and will be recorded with transcription provided if possible. The University Dean will notify the Respondent of the hearing date, time, and access instructions. The University dean shall also provide a link to a shared folder for document uploads. The Respondent is responsible for informing their witnesses and ensuring their availability.

The Respondent is permitted to have an advisor attend the hearing to provide guidance and support.

At least two days before the hearing, the Respondent must upload to the shared folder linked in the notice of hearing (1) a written response to the report and recommendation, (2) any evidence for consideration, and (3) a list of intended witnesses. The Conduct Officer may submit a rebuttal and any additional exhibits within one day of receiving the Respondent's materials.

During the proceeding, the University Dean may impose and enforce reasonable time limits to ensure a focused and efficient hearing.

Hearing Format:

1. The University Dean introduces the case, confirms the contest, and outlines procedures.
2. Conduct Officer presents the report and recommended sanction.
3. Respondent may present their oral argument.
4. The Conduct Officer may question the Respondent.
5. Respondent may call witnesses.
6. The Conduct Officer may question the Respondent's witnesses.
7. The Conduct Officer may offer rebuttal evidence.
8. Respondent may respond to the rebuttal.
9. Closing statements.
10. Hearing concludes.

Within three days of the hearing's conclusion, the University Dean will issue a written decision and notify the Respondent accordingly. Any sanction imposed shall take effect after the expiration of the three-day appeal window, unless an appeal is filed. If an

appeal is timely submitted, any sanction shall be stayed pending resolution of the appeal by the Disciplinary Council.

## **XV. Appeal**

The Respondent or Conduct Officer may submit a written appeal to the Disciplinary Council within three days of receipt of the University Dean's decision.

The Respondent and/or Conduct Officer may appeal the University Dean's decision by submitting a written appeal to the Disciplinary Council. Appeals may be filed on one or more of the following grounds:

1. **Material Procedural Error:** A procedural error occurred that materially affected the outcome.
2. **New Evidence:** New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility was made, and that could affect the outcome of the matter.
3. **Misapplication of Standard of Proof:** The preponderance of the evidence standard was misapplied.
4. **Conflict of Interest or Bias:** Involvement of a biased or conflicted individual compromised fairness.
5. **Disproportionate Sanction:** The punishment imposed is unduly harsh relative to the violation.
6. **Violation of the UATX Bill of Rights:** The outcome infringes upon a right specifically protected under the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

An appealing party must cite to a specific ground(s) for appeal and include supporting evidence. An appealing party may appeal only the final decision of the University Dean and may do so only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals. Failure to submit a timely appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to contest.

The Disciplinary Council then has five days from the receipt of the written appeal to accept, modify, or reject the University Dean's decision, or to remand for further proceedings. If no action is taken within that timeframe, the appeal is deemed denied, and the University Dean's decision is adopted as final. In such cases, the University Dean will notify the parties in writing that the appeal period has lapsed and the University Dean's decision is final. The sanction then goes into immediate effect.

A Respondent or Conduct Officer may appeal only the final decision of the University Dean and may do so only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals.

## **XVI. Discretionary Constitutional Review**

In the event a student receives a major institutional sanction—suspension, expulsion, termination of employment, or the withholding of a degree—and believes the sanction violated the UATX Bill of Rights, they may petition the Adjudicative Panel for discretionary review pursuant to Article IV of the Constitution. Such a petition must be submitted within 14 days of receiving notice of the final decision of the Disciplinary Council. The submission must be made in accordance with the Panel’s rules of procedure, which are listed on UATX’s website along with this rule.

The Adjudicative Panel may decline to hear a petition without explanation. If it elects to proceed, its opinion will be binding and may include recommendations regarding further institutional action.

The applicable sanction remains in effect while the case is under consideration by the Panel.

A student may request discretionary review of only the final decision of the Disciplinary Council and may do so only once.

## **XVII. Academic Misconduct Process**

**Informal Faculty Resolution:** Upon observing or receiving credible evidence of academic misconduct, a faculty member may directly address the issue with the student and assign a grade of zero for the relevant assignment, exam, or project. When addressing the matter with the student, the faculty should provide constructive feedback to the student.

The student has three days from the date of the faculty member’s decision to request in writing that the relevant Dean review the matter. The Dean will review the request and render a final, non-appealable decision within three days. Both the faculty member and the Dean must inform the University Dean of the resolution for record-keeping purposes.

**Severe Cases of Academic Misconduct:** In cases where the academic misconduct is egregious, repeated, or otherwise deserving of the formal process, faculty shall report the conduct to the University Dean for further action. The Dean will initiate the same procedures outlined above for behavioral misconduct.

## **XVIII. Interim Actions**

A student's default status during the conduct process is to remain enrolled and engaged in their academic coursework. However, in certain circumstances, UATX officials may determine that precautionary interim actions are necessary to protect the physical safety and well-being of individuals or the campus community.

Interim actions may include, but are not limited to:

1. No-contact directives
2. Temporary removal from classes or activities
3. Restrictions on access to facilities or programs
4. Removal from UATX housing
5. Interim suspension

These measures are not disciplinary and do not constitute a finding of responsibility.

Only the President and the University Dean, with the President's authorization, may issue an interim action to a student. Interim actions take effect immediately upon issuance of a written notice to the student. The notice must include the nature of the conduct alleged to have caused the interim action and information about the student's rights to challenge an interim action.

A student subject to interim actions may contest the action in writing to the President within three days of receiving notice. The President shall review the materials provided and may modify, uphold, or lift the interim action. The interim action remains in place during the President's review.

An interim action automatically terminates at the conclusion of the conduct process.

## **XIX. Confidentiality**

All proceedings under this rule are confidential to the extent possible under law, rule, or regulation.

## **XX. Constructive Notice**

Students have a responsibility to know the rules that govern their conduct at UATX. Students are deemed to have constructive knowledge of this rule and any others that are publicly available to them.

## **XXI. Notice**

University Officials charged with enforcing this rule shall send all required notifications to students using the email address on file with UATX. An email sent to an address listed in UATX's records will constitute full and adequate notice. Failure to provide and/or maintain current email addresses or failure to open an e-mail message does not excuse a student from adhering to the requirements and deadlines set out in this rule.

Approved by the President: July 9, 2025

Approved by the Board of Trustees (if applicable): N/A

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Rule Owner: The University Dean

# **Institutional Rule 3**

## **Prohibition Against Sexual Misconduct**

### **I. Preamble**

At the University of Austin (UATX), we prepare the next generation of courageous leaders and citizens for the world. That mission relies on a campus culture grounded in respect, integrity, and accountability.

Maintaining that culture means setting clear expectations for conduct. UATX prohibits all forms of sexual misconduct—including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. This behavior violates our values and has no place in our community. We also prohibit retaliation against anyone who reports sexual misconduct or participates in a related investigation or resolution process in good faith.

UATX adopts this rule in accordance with the Texas Education Code and the Texas Administrative Code.<sup>1</sup> The rule protects the right of any victim of sexual misconduct to report the incident to the university and receive a prompt, fair, and transparent resolution.

### **II. Scope**

This rule applies to all students, faculty, staff, and third parties engaged in university programs or activities, regardless of location.

### **III. Safety, Assistance, and Accommodations**

UATX encourages individuals impacted by sexual misconduct—including sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, or stalking—to prioritize their safety, health, and well-being. In an emergency, individuals should call 911 or contact the UATX Security Manager.

If medical care is needed, individuals are strongly encouraged to seek treatment as soon as practicable. Prompt hospital visits are important in cases of sexual assault not only for addressing physical injuries but also for preserving forensic evidence, which may be

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<sup>1</sup> While the University of Austin does not accept federal funding and is therefore not subject to the mandates of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, our sexual misconduct policies are designed to meet or exceed the standards set by the Texas Education Code. These state requirements ensure that students have the right to report sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, and to receive a fair, prompt, and equitable resolution process.

helpful if legal action is pursued. It is also important to preserve any evidence in your possession, such as clothing, messages, photos, or other items, which may be relevant to understanding or documenting the incident. A Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) can typically be conducted within 120 hours of the incident at an emergency room or designated facility. Local facilities offering SAFE exams include St. David's Medical Center (919 E. 32nd St., Austin, Texas, (512) 476-7111) and Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas (1500 Red River St., Austin, Texas, (512) 324-7000).

UATX's Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator (SMRC) can assist individuals in identifying care providers, understanding their options, and arranging appropriate accommodations. Accommodations may include changes to housing, transportation, or work arrangements. In accordance with Texas Education Code § 51.282(e)(2), any student who is the Complainant or Respondent in a pending sexual misconduct case under this rule may request to drop a course in which both parties are enrolled. If such a request is granted, the student shall be allowed to withdraw from the course without academic penalty, and the withdrawal shall not be noted as a disciplinary action.

UATX does not operate an on-campus counseling center but shall ensure that both Complainants and Respondents have equal access to referrals for medical or mental health services following a report of sexual misconduct. UATX may refer both parties to the same off-campus clinic or provider group, provided that different practitioners are assigned to each party and no provider offers services to both individuals in the same matter.

Individuals may also request a list of local support resources from the SMRC. UATX will work to facilitate timely access to care, but does not mandate treatment or prescribe specific providers.

Outside of seeking medical care, a victim of a crime should consider whether to report the incident to law enforcement. UATX respects a victim's right to choose whether to report the crime to law enforcement, to be assisted by the UATX in reporting the crime to law enforcement, or to decline to report the crime to law enforcement. However, in limited circumstances—such as where there is a serious or ongoing threat to the safety of the campus community, a legal obligation to report, or evidence of repeated or escalating harm—UATX may notify police.

#### **IV. Definitions**

1. **Advisor:** A Respondent may have a single advisor accompany them to a hearing to provide guidance and support. An advisor cannot directly participate in the hearing unless explicitly allowed under this rule. If an advisor becomes

disruptive, they may be muted or removed from the hearing. An advisor may be anyone except a student or employee implicated in the same disciplinary matter as the respondent, a witness in the hearing, or a member of UATX leadership. A Respondent or Complainant must execute the necessary privacy authorizations before their advisor may join the hearing.

2. **Complainant:** An individual who was alleged to be the victim of prohibited conduct under this rule.
3. **Conduct Officer:** A Conduct Officer investigates the facts and circumstances underlying a report of misconduct, assesses whether evidence supports a finding that it is more likely than not that the misconduct occurred, and proposes an appropriate sanction if needed. The President shall appoint one or more Conduct Officers to investigate allegations of misconduct under this rule. Conduct Officers serve at the pleasure of the President.
4. **Confidential Employee:** One or more employees designated by UATX whom a student may speak confidentially concerning sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.
5. **Constitution or UATX Constitution:** The formally adopted version of the Constitution of the University of Austin.
6. **Disciplinary Council:** The President, Provost, and Deans shall together constitute the Disciplinary Council, with the President serving as chair, which may hear appeals.
7. **Formal Complaint:** A written document filed by a Complainant or the SMRC that initiates a formal grievance process related to allegations of prohibited conduct.
8. **Hearing:** A structured adjudicative process used to determine whether a rule violation occurred and, if applicable, what sanction is appropriate.
9. **Hearing Officer:** A Hearing Officer presides over a hearing. The President shall appoint one or more Hearing Officers as needed. Hearing Officers serve at the pleasure of the President.
10. **Interim Action:** A temporary, non-disciplinary measure imposed to protect the safety, well-being, or rights of any individual or the University community before the processes outlined in this rule come to a conclusion.

11. **Major Sanction:** A sanction of suspension, expulsion, termination of employment, or withholding of a degree.
12. **Minor Sanction:** A sanction that does not involve suspension, expulsion, termination of employment, or withholding of a degree.
13. **Respondent:** A person accused of conduct in violation of this rule.
14. **Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator (SMRC):** A designated employee responsible for overseeing UATX's compliance with laws, rules, and regulations prohibiting sexual misconduct. The President shall appoint an SMRC. The President or SMRC may designate additional employees to serve as deputies to the SMRC, as needed.<sup>2</sup>

## V. Prohibited Conduct

UATX strictly prohibits the following types of behaviors. Those determined to have engaged in this misconduct may be subject to sanctions, up to permanent separation from UATX.

1. **Sexual Harassment:** Unwelcome, sex-based verbal or physical conduct that:
  - a. in the employment context, unreasonably interferes with a person's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment;
  - b. in the education context, is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it interferes with a student's ability to participate in or benefit from educational programs or activities at a postsecondary educational institution; or
  - c. conditions the provision of university aid, benefit, service, or terms of employment or educational experience on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

Speech and expression do not constitute actionable sexual harassment unless it meets these definitions.

2. **Sexual Assault:** Any offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape as defined in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting program.

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<sup>2</sup> The SMRC and Deputy SMRC serve as the functional equivalents of a Title IX coordinator and deputy Title IX Coordinator under Texas law.

- a. **Rape:** Penetration, however slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without consent.
- b. **Fondling:** Touching of the private body parts of another person for sexual gratification, without consent.
- c. **Incest:** Sexual intercourse between persons who are related within the degrees prohibited by law.
- d. **Statutory Rape:** Sexual intercourse with a person under the statutory age of consent.

Consent is a knowing, voluntary, and mutual agreement to engage in sexual activity. It must be communicated clearly through words or actions and must demonstrate a willingness to participate in each specific act.

Consent is not valid if obtained through force, threats, or coercion. A person cannot give consent if they are:

- a. Under the legal age of consent;
  - b. Unconscious, asleep, or otherwise physically unable to communicate;
  - c. Unaware that the sexual activity is occurring; or
  - d. Subject to pressure or exploitation by a person in a position of authority (including University officials or employees acting within the scope of their responsibilities).
3. **Dating Violence:** Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. It includes sexual or physical abuse or threats of such abuse.
  4. **Stalking:** A course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

Allegations involving prohibited conduct are resolved through the grievance procedures set forth in the section titled Process for Allegations of Prohibited Conduct (Section X).

## **VI. Other Misconduct Prohibited Under this Rule**

In addition to Prohibited Conduct, the following acts of misconduct are prohibited. Those determined to have engaged in this misconduct may be subject to sanctions, up to permanent separation from UATX.

1. **Discrimination Based on Sex or Gender:** Disparate treatment of an individual on the basis of sex or gender—including, but not limited to, sexual orientation or pregnancy status—that adversely affects the terms and conditions

of the individual's employment or substantially interferes with the individual's access to educational programs or benefits.

2. **Retaliation:** Any materially adverse action taken against an individual for reporting or participating in an investigation of alleged misconduct in good faith. This includes intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by law, rule, or this policy.
3. **Failure to Adhere to Interim Measures:** Noncompliance with temporary, university-imposed actions designed to protect the safety, well-being, or rights of an individual or the community. This includes violating no-contact directives, restricted access orders, or interim suspensions.
4. **Failure to Report Prohibited Conduct:** An employee's knowing failure to make a required report of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking involving a student or employee. Under Texas Education Code § 51.252, employees must promptly report such incidents to the SMRC or deputy SMRC if they witness or receive information about them, regardless of when or where the incident occurred.
5. **Providing False Information or Interfering with Investigations:** Knowingly making materially false statements, obstructing the investigative process, or tampering with evidence in a misconduct proceeding. This includes misrepresenting facts to the SMRC, Conduct Officer, Hearing Officer, Disciplinary Council, or Adjudicative Panel as well as submitting fabricated evidence, coercing or attempting to influence witnesses, or engaging in other acts intended to mislead or disrupt the integrity of the process.
6. **Prohibited Employee-Student Relationship:** Romantic or sexual relationships between employees and enrolled students are prohibited, regardless of consent or supervisory role.

Allegations involving misconduct under this section are resolved through the grievance procedures set forth in the section titled Process for Allegations of Other Misconduct Under this Rule (Section XI).

If a case involves both prohibited conduct and misconduct under this section, the entire matter shall be resolved using the grievance process for prohibited conduct.

## **VII. Standard of Evidence**

The standard for determining whether a violation has occurred is the preponderance of the evidence. This means the evidence must show that it is more likely than not that a violation occurred. Decision-makers shall consider the totality of the circumstances to assess whether the evidence meets this standard.

The formal rules of evidence do not apply to the process outlined in this rule, as it is not a formal legal proceeding.

## **VIII. Sanctions**

Possible sanctions for violation of this rule include, but are not limited to: written warnings; educational assignments; no-contact directives; loss of privileges; probation; community service; restitution or reimbursement; suspension of rights and privileges; prohibition from entering or residing in student housing; suspension; expulsion; termination of employment; or other sanctions deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

## **IX. Reporting**

UATX encourages anyone who has experienced, witnessed, or knows of misconduct to report it. Reports may be submitted via email ([compliance@uaustin.org](mailto:compliance@uaustin.org)), to the SMRC or deputy SMRC in person, or through the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website.

Reporting allows the University to connect individuals with support services, assess safety risks, and determine appropriate next steps. Anyone—regardless of whether they are directly involved in the incident—may submit a report. Anonymous reports are accepted, using the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website, though anonymity may limit the University’s ability to take further action.

Under Texas Education Code § 51.252, employees who witnesses or otherwise learn about an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking involving a student, faculty member, or staff member must promptly report it to the SMRC or deputy SMRC in person, via email ([compliance@uaustin.org](mailto:compliance@uaustin.org)), or through the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website.

Failure to comply with mandatory reporting obligations may result in legal and institutional consequences. Texas Education Code § 51.255 makes it a crime to knowingly fail to report. Section 51.255 also mandates that UATX shall terminate the employment of any employee determined, through established disciplinary procedures, to have committed such an offense.

No employee is required to make a report under this section concerning (1) an incident in which the employee was a victim of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking; or (2) an incident about which the employee received information as part of a public awareness event related to sexual misconduct sponsored by UATX or a student organization.

An enrolled student is not required to report an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking. A student who reports such an incident to UATX, a health care provider, a law enforcement agency, or another third party is entitled to accommodations as necessary. Please contact the SMRC to learn more about accommodations.

UATX has designated one or more employees as persons to whom students may speak confidentially concerning sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking. Absent the student's consent, these confidential employees will only report the type of incident disclosed and must not include information that would violate the student's expectation of privacy. A list of confidential employees and other confidential resources can be found on UATX's website.

## **X. Process for Allegations of Prohibited Conduct**

### **1. Initial Review**

After receiving a report of alleged prohibited conduct, the SMRC, with assistance from the General Counsel, conducts an initial review to determine whether the report implicates this rule, requires referral to other officials for processing, should be referred for informal resolution, or can be closed without further action.

If the allegations fall under the rule, the SMRC will contact the potential victim, referred to herein as a Complainant, to offer supportive measures and resources as well as gather information about what, if anything, occurred.

If a Complainant wishes to pursue a grievance related to the alleged prohibited conduct, they may submit a formal complaint to the SMRC. Formal complaints must name a Respondent and describe conduct that, if true, would violate this rule. The SMRC may also initiate a formal complaint when necessary.

Within two days of receiving a formal complaint, the SMRC must either (1) refer the matter to a Conduct Officer, (2) dismiss the complaint, in whole or in part, or (3) refer the matter to another official for processing under a different rule.

If the complaint is dismissed in whole or in part, the SMRC shall notify the Complainant in writing and inform them of their right to appeal the dismissal. A Complainant may submit a written appeal to the Disciplinary Council within five days of receiving the dismissal notice. Failure to submit a timely appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to contest. A Complainant may appeal a dismissal decision of the SMRC only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals.

The Complainant may appeal the SMRC's decision on one or more of the following grounds:

1. **Material Procedural Error:** A procedural error occurred that materially affected the outcome.
2. **New Evidence:** New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding dismissal was made, and that could affect the outcome of the matter.
3. **Conflict of Interest or Bias:** Involvement of a biased or conflicted individual compromised fairness.
4. **Violation of the UATX Bill of Rights:** The outcome infringes upon a right specifically protected under the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

A Complainant must cite a specific ground(s) for appeal and include supporting evidence.

Upon receiving an appeal, the Disciplinary Council shall determine whether a written response from the SMRC is necessary. If no response is requested, the Council shall issue a decision within five days of receiving the appeal. If a response is requested, the Council shall issue a decision within five days of receiving the SMRC's response. The Council may affirm, modify, overturn, or remand the dismissal decision. If the Disciplinary Council does not act within the specified timeframe, the appeal shall be deemed denied. In such cases, the SMRC will notify Complainant in writing that the appeal period has lapsed and the dismissal decision is final.

## 2. **Interim Action**

In rare instances, UATX officials may need to impose interim actions to protect a victim, witness, or others from physical harm or retaliation. An interim action is a temporary, non-disciplinary measure imposed against a Respondent to protect the safety or rights of any individual or the University community before the processes outlined in this rule come to a conclusion.

Interim actions may include no-contact directives, temporary removal from classes or housing, restrictions on facility access, or interim suspension. These are precautionary and non-disciplinary.

The President or SMRC, after consulting with the President, may impose interim actions. Respondents will receive written notice outlining the reasons for the interim action and notice of the process to challenge it.

A Respondent may contest interim actions in writing to the President within three days of being notified of the interim action. The interim action remains in effect pending review and will terminate automatically at the conclusion of the process outlined in this rule. The President shall notify the Respondent if the interim action is affirmed, lifted, or modified.

Nothing in this section or rule limits or prevents UATX from placing an employee on investigative leave, administrative leave, or modified job assignment pending the resolution of a matter. Decisions to place an employee on leave are unappealable.

### **3. Grievance Procedures**

If a formal complaint is lodged and not otherwise disposed of as described above, the SMRC shall refer the matter to a Conduct Officer for investigation. The SMRC shall provide notice to both the Complainant and Respondent of the referral, which will include the formal complaint, instructions on how to access the shared folder for use during the matter, and their rights under this rule.

The Conduct Officer shall interview the Complainant and Respondent and offer them the opportunity to provide a list of potential witnesses and evidence. If the Conduct Officer is unable to interview either party due to factors outside the Conduct Officer's control, or either party otherwise fails to participate without good cause, the Conduct Officer may proceed with the investigation based on the available information.

At any time, the Conduct Officer may recommend that the SMRC dismiss the matter. The SMRC shall respond to the recommendation within three days of receiving it.

Within seven days of receiving the referral, the Conduct Officer shall issue a draft report and recommendation. The report shall include findings of fact, a determination using the preponderance of the evidence standard, and, if applicable, a proposed sanction. Both parties shall receive access to the relevant evidence underlying the report and recommendation. The parties have seven days to submit a written response to the

Conduct Officer, if they choose. After considering the parties' responses, the Conduct Officer shall issue a final report to the parties as well as the SMRC.

If either party wishes to challenge the Conduct Officer's final report and recommendation, they may request a hearing. Such a request must be submitted in writing to the SMRC within three days of receiving the final report. Failure to submit a timely request for a hearing will waive the party's right to further contest the Conduct Officer's findings. If no hearing request is received by the SMRC before the deadline, the Conduct Officer's findings become final, and the sanctions, if any, go into effect immediately.

#### **4. Hearing Procedures**

Upon receiving a timely hearing request, the SMRC will request that the President or his designee appoint a Hearing Officer. The President or his designee shall select a Hearing Officer within two days of receiving the SMRC's request.

Within two days of the appointment, the Hearing Officer shall notify the parties of the hearing date, time, and login information for the hearing. The hearing will be conducted remotely.

At least three days before the hearing, each party must upload to the shared folder:

1. All evidence the party intends to introduce.
2. A list of anticipated witnesses, including a brief summary of their expected testimony. The parties are responsible for notifying and securing the attendance of their own witnesses.
3. The necessary privacy authorizations for their advisor, if applicable.

Any request to reschedule a hearing must be submitted at least 48 hours before the scheduled hearing time, unless justified by an emergency.

Each party may be accompanied at the hearing by an advisor of their choice. If a party has an advisor, the advisor may conduct questioning of the other party and witnesses, subject to rulings by the Hearing Officer. If a party would like an advisor but does not have one, the University will appoint one upon request, at no cost to the party. Requests for a University-provided advisor must be made in writing to the SMRC at least five days before the hearing. If a party chooses not to have an advisor, they may question witnesses themselves, but may not directly question the other party. An unrepresented party may submit written questions to the Hearing Officer to be asked on their behalf, subject to rulings by the Hearing Officer. The Hearing Officer may allow reasonable

breaks so the unrepresented party may formulate follow-up questions to submit to the Hearing Officer to ask on their behalf.

At the hearing, the Hearing Officer will:

1. Open the hearing, explain the procedures, and notify the parties of their rights under the rule;
2. Allow each party and the Conduct Officer to make brief opening statements;
3. Ensure both parties have an opportunity to present evidence and question witnesses through the methods set out above;
4. Make rulings on relevance and procedural matters; and
5. Maintain order and enforce reasonable time limits to ensure a focused and fair proceeding.

The Hearing Officer may pose questions to any party or witness and may exclude any questioning, evidence, or witness testimony that is irrelevant, harassing, or unduly repetitive. The Hearing Officer may exclude testimony or fashion other remedies in the event a party or witness refuses to be cross-examined.

The hearing will be recorded. The Hearing Officer (or designee) shall upload the recording and transcript, if available, to the shared folder within two days of the hearing's conclusion.

Within five days after the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall issue a written decision including: findings of fact; a determination whether a rule violation occurred using the preponderance of the evidence standard; any remedies necessary to restore the Complainant's access to the education program or activity or workplace; a sanction, if necessary; and notice of each party's right to appeal to the Disciplinary Council.

Any sanction imposed shall take effect after the expiration of the five-day appeal window to seek review by the Disciplinary Council, unless an appeal is filed. If an appeal is timely submitted, any sanction shall be stayed pending resolution of the appeal by the Disciplinary Council.

Either party may appeal a Hearing Officer's determination. The appeal must be submitted to the Disciplinary Council—with a copy to the SMRC, Conduct Officer, and nonappealing party—within five days of notification of the Hearing Officer's decision. An appealing party may appeal only the final decision of the Hearing Officer and may do so only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals. Failure to timely appeal waives the right to contest the Hearing Officer's decision.

## 5. Appeal Procedures

Appeals may be filed on one or more of the following grounds:

1. **Material Procedural Error:** A procedural error occurred that materially affected the outcome.
2. **New Evidence:** New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility was made, and that could affect the outcome of the matter.
3. **Misapplication of Standard of Proof:** The preponderance of the evidence standard was misapplied.
4. **Conflict of Interest or Bias:** Involvement of a biased or conflicted individual compromised fairness.
5. **Disproportionate Sanction:** The punishment imposed is unduly harsh relative to the violation.
6. **Violation of the UATX Bill of Rights:** The outcome infringes upon a right specifically protected under the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

An appealing party must cite to a specific ground(s) for appeal and include supporting evidence. The nonappealing party and Conduct Officer may submit a written response within five days of receiving notice of the appeal.

The Disciplinary Council shall review the appeal and issue a written decision to the parties within five days of the expiration of the deadline to file a response. The Council may accept, modify, or reject the Hearing Officer's decision, or to remand for further proceedings. If no action is taken within that timeframe, the appeal is deemed denied, and the Hearing Officer's decision is adopted as final. In such cases, the SMRC will notify the parties in writing that the appeal period has lapsed and the decision is final. The sanction then goes into immediate effect.

## 6. Discretionary Constitutional Review

In the event a student or faculty member receives a major institutional sanction—suspension, expulsion, termination of employment, or the withholding of a degree—and believes the sanction violated the UATX Bill of Rights, they may petition the Adjudicative Panel for discretionary review pursuant to Article IV of the Constitution. Such a petition must be submitted within 14 days of receiving notice of the final decision of the Disciplinary Council. The submission must be made in accordance with the Panel's rules of procedure, which are listed on UATX's website along with this rule.

If the contested sanction arises from a finding of sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, or stalking, the Complainant may choose to participate in the proceeding before the Adjudicative Panel as outlined in the Constitution.

The Adjudicative Panel may decline to hear a petition without explanation. If it elects to proceed, its opinion will be binding and may include recommendations regarding further institutional action.

A student or faculty member may request discretionary review of only the final decision of the Disciplinary Council and may do so only once.

The applicable sanction remains in effect while the case is under consideration by the Panel.

## **XI. Process for Other Misconduct Under this Rule**

This section sets out the process for allegations of discrimination based on sex or gender, retaliation, failure to adhere to interim measures, failure to report, providing false information, interfering with an investigation or resolution process, and prohibited employee-student relationships.

### **1. Initial Review**

When concerns arise about an at-will employee engaging in misconduct under this section—such as sex- or gender-based discrimination, retaliation, failure to adhere to interim measures, failure to report, providing false information, interfering with an investigation or resolution process, or engaging in a prohibited employee-student relationship—the reporting party shall promptly submit the report to [compliance@uaustin.org](mailto:compliance@uaustin.org), to the SMRC in person, or via the “Submit a Concern” link on the UATX website. The SMRC will coordinate with the General Counsel and other relevant officials to investigate the matter, address any misconduct promptly, and, if appropriate, issue disciplinary action. Employment actions taken against an at-will employee in response to this type of misconduct are final and not subject to appeal.

When concerns arise about a faculty member (serving with a fixed term) or student committing misconduct under this section, the report shall be promptly provided to the SMRC to conduct an initial review and determine whether the report warrants further action.

If the report does not warrant further action, the SMRC shall close the matter and document the rationale. If further action is warranted, the SMRC shall refer the matter to a Conduct Officer for investigation. The SMRC shall provide notice to the Respondent

of the referral, which will include the allegations, instructions on how to access the shared folder for use during the matter, and their rights under this rule.

## **2. Investigation**

The Conduct Officer shall interview the Respondent and offer them the opportunity to provide a list of potential witnesses and evidence. If the Conduct Officer is unable to interview the Respondent due to factors outside the Conduct Officer's control, or the Respondent otherwise fails to participate without good cause, the Conduct Officer may proceed with the investigation based on the available information.

At any time, the Conduct Officer may recommend that the SMRC dismiss the matter or resolve it outside of the formal process. The SMRC shall respond to the recommendation within three days of receiving it.

Within seven days of receiving the referral, the Conduct Officer shall issue a draft report and recommendation. The report shall include findings of fact, a determination using the preponderance of the evidence standard, and, if applicable, a proposed sanction. Respondent shall be given access to the relevant evidence underlying the report and recommendation. The Respondent shall have seven days to submit a written response to the Conduct Officer, if they choose. After considering the Respondent's response, the Conduct Officer shall issue a final report to the Respondent as well as the SMRC.

Any sanction imposed in the report and recommendation shall take effect after the expiration of the applicable appeal window set out below, unless an appeal is filed. If an appeal is timely submitted, the sanction shall be stayed pending resolution of the appeal.

## **3. Contesting the Report and Recommendation**

**Minor Sanction:** If the Conduct Officer proposes a minor sanction, the Respondent may appeal to the Disciplinary Council. Appeals may be filed on one or more of the following grounds:

1. **Material Procedural Error:** A procedural error occurred that materially affected the outcome.
2. **New Evidence:** New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility was made, and that could affect the outcome of the matter.
3. **Misapplication of Standard of Proof:** The preponderance of the evidence standard was misapplied.

4. **Conflict of Interest or Bias:** Involvement of a biased or conflicted individual compromised fairness.
5. **Disproportionate Sanction:** The punishment imposed is unduly harsh relative to the violation.
6. **Violation of the UATX Bill of Rights:** The outcome infringes upon a right specifically protected under the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

Respondent must cite to a specific ground(s) for appeal and include supporting evidence.

The appeal must be submitted to the Disciplinary Council, copying the Conduct Officer and SMRC, within three days of receiving the Conduct Officer's final report. Failure to submit a timely appeal will waive the Respondent's right to further contest the Conduct Officer's findings. If the written appeal is not received before the deadline, the Conduct Officer's findings become final, and the sanctions go into effect immediately.

The Conduct Officer may submit a written response to the appeal within three days of receiving the appeal. The Disciplinary Council shall have five days from receipt of the Conduct Officer's response to accept, modify, or reject the Conduct Officer's report, or to remand for further proceedings. If no action is taken within that timeframe, the appeal is deemed denied, and the Conduct Officer's decision is adopted as final. In such cases, the SMRC will notify the parties in writing that the appeal period has lapsed and the decision is final. The sanction then goes into immediate effect.

A faculty member or student may appeal only the final report of the Conduct Officer and may do so only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals.

**Major Sanction:** If the Conduct Officer proposes a major sanction, the Respondent may challenge the report and recommendation at a hearing. A hearing request must be submitted in writing to the SMRC within three days of receiving the final report. Failure to submit a timely hearing request will waive the Respondent's right to further contest the Conduct Officer's findings. If no hearing request is received by the SMRC before the deadline, the Conduct Officer's finding is final, and the sanctions go into effect immediately.

#### 4. **Hearing Procedures**

Upon receiving a timely hearing request, the SMRC will request that the President or his designee appoint a Hearing Officer. The President or his designee shall select a Hearing Officer within two days of receiving the SMRC's request.

Within two days of the appointment, the Hearing Officer shall notify the Respondent and Conduct Officer of the hearing date, time, and login information for the hearing. The hearing will be conducted remotely.

At least three days before the hearing, each party must upload to the shared folder:

1. All evidence the party intends to introduce.
2. A list of anticipated witnesses, including a brief summary of their expected testimony. The parties are responsible for notifying and securing the attendance of their own witnesses.
3. The necessary privacy authorizations for their advisor, if applicable.

Any request to reschedule a hearing must be submitted at least 48 hours before the scheduled hearing time, unless justified by an emergency.

The Respondent is permitted to have a single advisor attend the hearing to provide guidance and support. The Respondent is responsible for presenting their case, including questioning witnesses. An advisor cannot directly participate in the hearing. If an advisor becomes disruptive, they may be muted or removed from the hearing. The Respondent is responsible for arranging their advisor, who may be anyone except a student implicated in the same disciplinary matter as the accused student, a witness in the hearing, or a member of UATX leadership. The unavailability of an advisor on a particular date does not constitute a valid reason to reschedule a hearing. The Respondent must execute the necessary privacy authorizations before the advisor may join the hearing.

At the hearing, the Hearing Officer will:

1. Open the hearing, explain the procedures, and notify the Respondent of their rights under the rule;
2. Allow Respondent and the Conduct Officer to make brief opening statements;
3. Ensure Respondent has an opportunity to present evidence and question witnesses;
4. Make rulings on relevance and procedural matters; and
5. Maintain order and enforce reasonable time limits to ensure a focused and fair proceeding.

The Hearing Officer may pose questions to Respondent or witnesses and may exclude any questioning, evidence, or witness testimony that is irrelevant, harassing, or unduly repetitive. The Hearing Officer may exclude testimony or fashion other remedies in the event Respondent or a witness refuses to be cross-examined.

The hearing will be recorded. The Hearing Officer (or designee) shall upload the recording and transcript, if available, to the shared folder within two days of the hearing's conclusion.

Within five days after the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall issue a written decision including: findings of fact; a determination whether a rule violation occurred using the preponderance of the evidence standard; a sanction, if necessary; and notice of the right to appeal to the Disciplinary Council.

Any sanction imposed shall take effect after the expiration of the five-day appeal window to seek review by the Disciplinary Council, unless an appeal is filed. If an appeal is timely submitted, any sanction shall be stayed pending resolution of the appeal by the Disciplinary Council.

The Respondent and/or Conduct Officer may appeal a Hearing Officer's determination. The appeal must be submitted to the Disciplinary Council—with a copy to the SMRC and the nonappealing party—within five days of notification of the Hearing Officer's decision. Failure to timely appeal waives the right to contest the Hearing Officer's decision.

The Respondent and Conduct Officer may appeal only the final decision of the Hearing Officer and may do so only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals.

## 5. **Appeal Procedures**

Appeals may be filed on one or more of the following grounds:

1. **Material Procedural Error:** A procedural error occurred that materially affected the outcome.
2. **New Evidence:** New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility was made, and that could affect the outcome of the matter.
3. **Misapplication of Standard of Proof:** The preponderance of the evidence standard was misapplied.
4. **Conflict of Interest or Bias:** Involvement of a biased or conflicted individual compromised fairness.
5. **Disproportionate Sanction:** The punishment imposed is unduly harsh relative to the violation.
6. **Violation of the UATX Bill of Rights:** The outcome infringes upon a right specifically protected under the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

An appealing party must cite to a specific ground(s) for appeal and include supporting evidence. Upon receiving an appeal, the nonappealing party or Conduct Officer may submit a written response within five days of receiving notice.

The Disciplinary Council shall review the appeal and issue a written decision to the parties within five days of the expiration of the opposing party's deadline to file a response. The Council may affirm, modify, or overturn the Hearing Officer's decision, or remand the case for further proceedings. If the Disciplinary Council does not act within the specified timeframe, the appeal shall be deemed denied. In such cases, the SMRC will notify the parties in writing that the appeal period has lapsed and the Hearing Officer's decision is final. The sanction, if applicable, then goes into immediate effect.

## **6. Discretionary Constitutional Review**

In the event a student or faculty member receives a major institutional sanction—suspension, expulsion, termination of employment, or the withholding of a degree—and believes the sanction violated the UATX Bill of Rights, they may petition the Adjudicative Panel for discretionary review pursuant to Article IV of the Constitution. Such a petition must be submitted within 14 days of receiving notice of the final decision of the Disciplinary Council. The submission must be made in accordance with the Panel's rules of procedure, which are listed on UATX's website along with this rule.

The Adjudicative Panel may decline to hear a petition without explanation. If it elects to proceed, its opinion will be binding and may include recommendations regarding further institutional action.

The applicable sanction remains in effect while the case is under consideration by the Panel.

A Respondent may request discretionary review of only the final decision of the Disciplinary Council and may do so only once.

## **XII. Conflicts of Interest**

All UATX employees involved in any part of the sexual misconduct process—including the SMRC, investigators, and decision-makers—must be free from conflict of interest and bias against Complainants or Respondents generally, or any specific Complainant or Respondent. All employees are expected to assess their ability to serve impartially in any case. Any official assigned a role under this rule who determines they cannot serve impartially must recuse themselves. The President may also remove an official who has

displayed that they cannot faithfully fulfill their function impartially and without bias. The President may appoint a qualified alternate, including a trained third-party professional from outside the university.

### **XIII. Calculation of Time**

For this rule, all periods referenced in days refer to business days—those days on which the University of Austin is open and conducting regular operations. Weekends, holidays, and other days when the University is officially closed do not count toward the calculation of time deadlines. When a deadline falls on a day when the University is closed, it will be extended to the next business day. To calculate deadlines, exclude the day of the triggering event, e.g., the day notice was received.

Deadlines in this rule may only be extended by the President or their designee for good cause shown (e.g., medical emergency, bereavement). Extensions must be documented in writing and shared with all parties.

University proceedings under this rule may proceed independently of any criminal investigation. In some cases, the University may delay its process briefly to accommodate law enforcement evidence collection, but it is not required to do so.

For student Respondents and Complainants only, a blackout period begins one week before final exams and ends one day after the Respondent's and Complainant's last exam. During this period, timelines under this rule are paused. University officials will refrain from initiating investigations, conducting interviews, or holding hearings during this period to enable students to focus on their final examinations, except in cases deemed time-sensitive by the SMRC or the President.

### **XIV. Confidentiality**

All proceedings under this rule are confidential to the extent permitted by law. While UATX endeavors to protect the confidentiality of all individuals involved in sexual misconduct matters, complete confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Information may be disclosed only as necessary to carry out the purposes of this policy, including implementing supportive measures, conducting investigations, or complying with applicable law. Confidential Employees, as defined herein, shall not disclose identifying information to university officials or law enforcement without the student's express consent, except as required by law.

## **XV. Constructive Notice**

All members of the UATX community have a responsibility to know the rules that govern their conduct. As a result, they are deemed to have constructive knowledge of this rule and any others that are publicly available to them.

## **XVI. Notice**

University Officials charged with enforcing this rule shall send all required notifications using the email address on file with UATX. An email sent to an address listed in UATX's records will constitute full and adequate notice. Failure to provide and/or maintain current email addresses or failure to open an e-mail message does not excuse an individual from adhering to the requirements and deadlines set out in this rule.

## **XVII. Mandatory Review and Reapproval**

This rule shall be reviewed at least once every two years. The review shall evaluate the rule's effectiveness, compliance with applicable law, and its alignment with the mission and values of the University. Pursuant to Texas Education Code § 51.282(f), this rule shall be formally approved by the Board of Trustees following each biennial review.

Approved by the President: July 8, 2025

Approved by the Board of Trustees (if applicable): July 8, 2025

Published on: July 9, 2025

Last Modified: July 9, 2025

Policy Owner: Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator & General Counsel

# **Institutional Rule 4 Equal Employment Opportunity And Prohibition Against Discrimination**

## **I. Preamble**

At the University of Austin (UATX), we prepare the next generation of courageous leaders and citizens for the world. That mission relies on a campus culture grounded in respect, integrity, and accountability.

Maintaining that culture means setting clear expectations for conduct. UATX strictly prohibits unlawful discrimination and harassment in the work and educational environment based on an individual's race, gender, sex, political affiliation, religious faith, disability, or any other legally protected characteristic. We also prohibit retaliation against anyone who reports misconduct or participates in a related investigation or resolution process in good faith.

Institutional Rule 4 defines and governs what constitutes discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and other forms of prohibited behavior and outlines the procedures for promptly investigating and addressing such misconduct. This rule complies with all applicable state and federal laws, including Chapter 21 of the Texas Labor Code and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.

## **II. Scope**

This rule applies to all members of the UATX community (students, faculty, staff, applicants, contractors, and visitors) and governs all university programs, activities, and operations.

It applies to conduct occurring on campus or in university-controlled housing or facilities; in any education program or activity over which UATX exercises substantial control; and off campus when the conduct materially affects an individual's education or employment or poses a risk to the UATX community.

“Campus” means any building or property owned, leased, or controlled by UATX used in support of its educational mission. “Program or activity” includes locations and events where UATX maintains significant oversight or involvement.

Note: Complaints involving sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, sex- or gender-based discrimination, or other forms of sexual misconduct fall under

Institutional Rule 3 (Prohibition Against Sexual Misconduct). Please refer to Rule 3 for more information on reporting and the process for this type of misconduct.

### **III. Speech and Expression**

Freedom of speech and expression are bedrock rights at UATX. Our community may speak, debate, question, and dissent without fear of censorship or punishment. This freedom includes the ability to express views that are unpopular and controversial. Constitutionally protected speech and expression do not constitute discrimination or harassment under this policy.

### **IV. Statement on Equal Employment Opportunity**

UATX is committed to providing equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, political affiliation, creed, gender, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, genetic information, military or veteran status, age, physical or mental disability, or any other classification protected by applicable state and federal laws.

This rule applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including, but not limited to, hiring, job assignment, compensation, promotion, benefits, training, discipline, termination, and reasonable accommodation.

UATX expects employees to take all necessary steps to maintain a workplace free of unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

### **V. Statement on Equal Access**

UATX shall ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, equal access for enrolled students or employees who have disabilities. UATX will make reasonable efforts to consult with disability service providers and other relevant stakeholders to assist the university in complying with its duties under this policy.

### **VI. Definitions**

1. **Advisor:** A Respondent may have a single advisor accompany them to a hearing to provide guidance and support. An advisor cannot directly participate in the hearing. If an advisor becomes disruptive, they may be muted or removed from the hearing. An advisor may be anyone except a student or employee implicated in the same disciplinary matter as the Respondent, a witness in the hearing, or a

member of UATX leadership. A Respondent must execute the necessary privacy authorizations before their advisor may join the hearing.

2. **Conduct Officer:** A Conduct Officer investigates the facts and circumstances underlying a report of misconduct, assesses whether evidence supports a finding that it is more likely than not that the misconduct occurred, and proposes an appropriate sanction if needed. The President shall appoint one or more Conduct Officers to investigate allegations of misconduct under this rule. Conduct Officers serve at the pleasure of the President.
3. **Constitution or UATX Constitution:** The formally adopted version of the Constitution of the University of Austin.
4. **Disciplinary Council:** The President, Provost, and Deans shall together constitute the Disciplinary Council, with the President serving as chair, which may hear appeals.
5. **Hearing:** A structured adjudicative process used to determine whether a rule violation occurred and, if applicable, what sanction is appropriate.
6. **Hearing Officer:** A Hearing Officer presides over a hearing. The President shall appoint one or more Hearing Officers as needed. Hearing Officers serve at the pleasure of the President.
7. **Interim Action:** A temporary, non-disciplinary measure imposed to protect the safety, well-being, or rights of any individual or the University community before the processes outlined in this rule come to a conclusion.
8. **Major Sanction:** A sanction of suspension, expulsion, termination of employment, or withholding of a degree.
9. **Minor Sanction:** A sanction that does not involve suspension, expulsion, termination of employment, or withholding of a degree.
10. **Respondent:** A person accused of conduct in violation of this rule.

## **VII. Prohibited Conduct**

UATX prohibits the following acts of misconduct. Individuals found to have engaged in these behaviors may face sanctions, including permanent separation from the university.

1. **Discrimination:** Disparate treatment of an individual based on race, color, religion, political affiliation, creed, gender, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, genetic information, military or veteran status, age, physical or mental disability, or any other classification protected by applicable Texas state and federal laws that adversely affects the terms and conditions of the individual's employment or substantially interferes with the individual's access to educational programs, activities, and/or benefits.

**Note:** Complaints involving sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, sex- or gender-based discrimination, or other forms of sexual misconduct fall under Institutional Rule 3 (Prohibition Against Sexual Misconduct). Please refer to Rule 3 for more information on reporting and the process for this type of misconduct.

2. **Harassment:** Harassment is a form of discrimination involving unwelcome physical, verbal, or graphic conduct based on a protected trait. It includes:
  - a. **Workplace Harassment:** Conduct based on a person's protected trait(s) that is unwelcome and either severe or pervasive enough to alter the conditions of employment and create a hostile or abusive environment; or
  - b. **Educational Harassment:** Conduct based on a student's protected trait(s) that is unwelcome and so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it denies the student equal access to education.

Harassment must meet both a subjective and an objective standard (the reasonable person standard). UATX considers the totality of the circumstances when evaluating alleged harassment, including the nature, frequency, duration, and location of the conduct, the context in which it occurred, and the relationship between the parties.

Subjective discomfort or offense alone does not constitute actionable harassment.

3. **Retaliation:** Any materially adverse action taken against an individual for reporting or participating in an investigation of alleged misconduct in good faith. This includes intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by law, rule, or this policy.

4. **Failure to Adhere to Interim Measures:** Noncompliance with temporary, university-imposed actions designed to protect the safety, well-being, or rights of an individual or the community. This includes violating no-contact directives, restricted access orders, or interim suspensions.
5. **Failure to Report Misconduct:** An employee's knowing failure to make a required report under this rule.
6. **Providing False Information or Interfering with Investigations:** Knowingly making materially false statements, obstructing the investigative process, or tampering with evidence in a misconduct proceeding. This includes misrepresenting facts to university officials as well as submitting fabricated evidence, coercing or attempting to influence witnesses, or engaging in other acts intended to mislead or disrupt the integrity of the process.

## **VIII. Standard of Evidence**

The standard for determining whether a violation has occurred is the preponderance of the evidence. This means the evidence must show that it is more likely than not that a violation occurred. Decision-makers shall consider the totality of the circumstances to assess whether the evidence meets this standard.

The formal rules of evidence do not apply to the process outlined in this rule, as it is not a formal legal proceeding.

## **IX. Sanctions**

Possible sanctions for violation of this rule include, but are not limited to: written warnings; educational assignments; no-contact directives; loss of privileges; probation; community service; restitution or reimbursement; suspension of rights and privileges; prohibition from entering or residing in student housing; suspension; expulsion; termination of employment; or other sanctions deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

## **X. Reporting**

UATX encourages anyone who has experienced, witnessed, or knows of misconduct to report it. Reports may be submitted via email ([compliance@uaustin.org](mailto:compliance@uaustin.org)), to the General Counsel in person, or through the "Submit a Concern" link on UATX's website.

Reporting allows UATX to connect individuals with support services, assess safety risks, and determine appropriate next steps. Anyone—regardless of whether they are directly

involved in the incident—may submit a report. Anonymous reports are accepted, using the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website, though anonymity may limit the University’s ability to take further action.

All employees who witness or otherwise learn about an incident of misconduct covered by this rule must promptly report it via email ([compliance@uaustin.org](mailto:compliance@uaustin.org)), to the General Counsel in person, or through the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website. Failure to comply with mandatory reporting obligations may result in disciplinary action, including a potential permanent separation from UATX. No person is required to report misconduct to the alleged perpetrator, or if they were the victim of discrimination and harassment.

While highly encouraged to do so, students are not required to report an incident of misconduct under this rule.

## **XI. Process for Prohibited Conduct**

### **1. Initial Review**

When concerns arise about an at-will employee engaging in misconduct under this rule, the reporting party shall promptly report it via email ([compliance@uaustin.org](mailto:compliance@uaustin.org)), to the General Counsel in person, or through the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website.

Once received, the General Counsel will work with other relevant parties (e.g., a supervisor or senior official) to investigate the matter, address any misconduct promptly, and, if appropriate, issue disciplinary action. Employment actions taken against an at-will employee in response to this type of misconduct are final and not subject to appeal.

When concerns arise about a faculty member (serving with a fixed term) or student committing misconduct under this rule, the reporting party shall promptly report it via email ([compliance@uaustin.org](mailto:compliance@uaustin.org)), to the General Counsel in person, or through the “Submit a Concern” link on UATX’s website. The General Counsel will work with the University Dean and Provost to conduct an initial review and determine whether the report warrants further action.

If the report does not warrant further action, the officials shall close the matter. If further action is warranted, the officials shall refer the matter to a Conduct Officer for investigation.

## 2. Investigation

Upon receiving the referral, the Conduct Officer shall provide notice to the Respondent of the referral, which will include the allegations, instructions on how to access the shared folder for use during the matter, and the Respondent's rights under this rule. The Conduct Officer shall interview the Respondent and offer them the opportunity to provide a list of potential witnesses and evidence. The Conduct Officer shall also interview the victim of the alleged conduct, if they can be identified based on the reported information. If the Conduct Officer is unable to interview the Respondent due to factors outside the Conduct Officer's control, or the Respondent otherwise fails to participate without good cause, the Conduct Officer may proceed with the investigation based on the available information.

At any time, the Conduct Officer may recommend that the General Counsel dismiss the matter or resolve it outside of the formal process. The General Counsel shall respond to the recommendation within three days of receiving it.

Within seven days of receiving the referral, the Conduct Officer shall issue a draft report and recommendation. The report shall include findings of fact, a determination using the preponderance of the evidence standard, and, if applicable, a proposed sanction. Respondent shall be given access to the relevant evidence underlying the report and recommendation. The Respondent shall have seven days to submit a written response to the Conduct Officer, if they choose. After considering the Respondent's response, the Conduct Officer shall issue a final report to the Respondent and the General Counsel.

Any sanction imposed in the report and recommendation shall take effect after the expiration of the applicable appeal window set out below, unless an appeal is filed. If an appeal is timely submitted, the sanction shall be stayed pending resolution of the appeal.

## 3. Contesting the Report and Recommendation

**Minor Sanction:** If the Conduct Officer proposes a minor sanction, the Respondent may appeal to the Disciplinary Council. Appeals may be filed on one or more of the following grounds:

1. **Material Procedural Error:** A procedural error occurred that materially affected the outcome.
2. **New Evidence:** New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility was made, and that could affect the outcome of the matter.

3. **Misapplication of Standard of Proof:** The preponderance of the evidence standard was misapplied.
4. **Conflict of Interest or Bias:** Involvement of a biased or conflicted individual compromised fairness.
5. **Disproportionate Sanction:** The punishment imposed is unduly harsh relative to the violation.
6. **Violation of the UATX Bill of Rights:** The outcome infringes upon a right specifically protected under the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

Respondent must cite to a specific ground(s) for appeal and include supporting evidence.

The appeal must be submitted to the Disciplinary Council, copying the Conduct Officer and General Counsel, within three days of receiving the Conduct Officer's final report. Failure to submit a timely appeal will waive the Respondent's right to further contest the Conduct Officer's findings. If the written appeal is not received before the deadline, the Conduct Officer's findings become final, and the sanctions go into effect immediately.

The Conduct Officer may submit a written response to the appeal within three days of receiving the appeal. The Disciplinary Council shall have five days from receipt of the Conduct Officer's response to accept, modify, or reject the Conduct Officer's report, or to remand for further proceedings. If no action is taken within that timeframe, the appeal is deemed denied, and the Conduct Officer's decision is adopted as final. In such cases, the General Counsel will notify the parties in writing that the appeal period has lapsed and the decision is final. The sanction then goes into immediate effect.

A faculty member or student may appeal only the final report of the Conduct Officer and may do so only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals.

**Major Sanction:** If the Conduct Officer proposes a major sanction, the Respondent may challenge the report and recommendation at a hearing. A hearing request must be submitted in writing to the General Counsel within three days of receiving the final report. Failure to submit a timely hearing request will waive the Respondent's right to further contest the Conduct Officer's findings. If no hearing request is received by the General Counsel before the deadline, the Conduct Officer's finding is final, and the sanctions go into effect immediately.

#### **4. Hearing Procedures**

Upon receiving a timely hearing request, the General Counsel will request that the President or his designee appoint a Hearing Officer. The President or his designee shall select a Hearing Officer within two days of receiving the General Counsel's request.

Within two days of appointment, the Hearing Officer shall notify the Respondent and Conduct Officer of the hearing date, time, and login information for the hearing. The hearing will be conducted remotely.

At least three days before the hearing, each party must upload to the shared folder:

1. All evidence the party intends to introduce.
2. A list of anticipated witnesses, including a brief summary of their expected testimony. The parties are responsible for notifying and securing the attendance of their own witnesses.
3. The necessary privacy authorizations for their advisor, if applicable.

Any request to reschedule a hearing must be submitted at least 48 hours before the scheduled hearing time, unless justified by an emergency.

The Respondent is permitted to have a single advisor attend the hearing to provide guidance and support. The Respondent is responsible for presenting their case, including questioning witnesses. An advisor cannot directly participate in the hearing. If an advisor becomes disruptive, they may be muted or removed from the hearing. The Respondent is responsible for arranging their advisor, who may be anyone except a student or employee implicated in the same disciplinary matter as the accused student or employee, a witness in the hearing, or a member of UATX leadership. The unavailability of an advisor on a particular date does not constitute a valid reason to reschedule a hearing. The Respondent must execute the necessary privacy authorizations before the advisor may join the hearing.

At the hearing, the Hearing Officer will:

1. Open the hearing, explain the procedures, and notify the Respondent of their rights under the rule;
2. Allow Respondent and the Conduct Officer to make brief opening statements;
3. Ensure Respondent has an opportunity to present evidence and question witnesses;
4. Make rulings on relevance and procedural matters; and
5. Maintain order and enforce reasonable time limits to ensure a focused and fair proceeding.

The Hearing Officer may pose questions to Respondent or witnesses and may exclude any questioning, evidence, or witness testimony that is irrelevant, harassing, or unduly repetitive. The Hearing Officer may exclude testimony or fashion other remedies in the event Respondent or a witness refuses to be cross-examined.

The hearing will be recorded. The Hearing Officer (or designee) shall upload the recording and transcript, if available, to the shared folder within two days of the hearing's conclusion.

Within five days after the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall issue a written decision including: findings of fact; a determination whether a rule violation occurred using the preponderance of the evidence standard; a sanction, if necessary; and notice of the right to appeal to the Disciplinary Council.

Any sanction imposed shall take effect after the expiration of the five-day appeal window to seek review by the Disciplinary Council, unless an appeal is filed. If an appeal is timely submitted, any sanction shall be stayed pending resolution of the appeal by the Disciplinary Council.

The Respondent or Conduct Officer may appeal a Hearing Officer's determination. The appeal must be submitted to the Disciplinary Council—with a copy to the General Counsel and the nonappealing party—within five days of notification of the Hearing Officer's decision. Failure to timely appeal waives the right to contest the Hearing Officer's decision.

The Respondent and Conduct Officer may appeal only the final decision of the Hearing Officer and may do so only once. The Disciplinary Council may summarily dismiss any repeated or interlocutory appeals.

## 5. **Appeal**

Appeals may be filed on one or more of the following grounds:

1. **Material Procedural Error:** A procedural error occurred that materially affected the outcome.
2. **New Evidence:** New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility was made, and that could affect the outcome of the matter.
3. **Misapplication of Standard of Proof:** The preponderance of the evidence standard was misapplied.

4. **Conflict of Interest or Bias:** Involvement of a biased or conflicted individual compromised fairness.
5. **Disproportionate Sanction:** The punishment imposed is excessively harsh in relation to the violation.
6. **Violation of the UATX Bill of Rights:** The outcome infringes upon a right specifically protected under the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

An appealing party must cite to a specific ground(s) for appeal and include supporting evidence. Upon receiving an appeal, the nonappealing party may submit a written response within five days of receiving notice.

The Disciplinary Council shall review the appeal and issue a written decision to the parties within five days of the expiration of the opposing party's deadline to file a response. The Council may affirm, modify, or overturn the Hearing Officer's decision, or remand the case for further proceedings. If the Disciplinary Council does not act within the specified timeframe, the appeal shall be deemed denied. In such cases, the General Counsel will notify the parties in writing that the appeal period has lapsed and the Hearing Officer's decision is final. The sanction, if applicable, then goes into immediate effect.

## 6. Discretionary Constitutional Review

In the event a student or faculty member receives a major institutional sanction—suspension, expulsion, termination of employment, or the withholding of a degree—and believes the sanction violated the UATX Bill of Rights, they may petition the Adjudicative Panel for discretionary review pursuant to Article IV of the Constitution. Such a petition must be submitted within 14 days of receiving notice of the final decision of the Disciplinary Council. The submission must be made in accordance with the Panel's rules of procedure, which are listed on UATX's website along with this rule.

The Adjudicative Panel may decline to hear a petition without explanation. If it elects to proceed, its opinion will be binding and may include recommendations regarding further institutional action.

The applicable sanction remains in effect while the case is under consideration by the Panel.

A Respondent may request discretionary review of only the final decision of the Disciplinary Council and may do so only once.

## **XII. Conflicts of Interest**

All UATX employees involved in any part of the process under this policy must be free from conflict of interest and bias against Respondents generally, or any specific Respondent. All employees are expected to assess their ability to serve impartially in any case. Any official assigned a role under this rule who determines they cannot serve impartially must recuse himself or herself. The President may also remove an official who has displayed that they cannot faithfully fulfill their function impartially and without bias. The President may appoint a qualified alternate, including a trained third-party professional from outside the university.

## **XIII. Calculation of Time**

For this rule, all periods referenced in days refer to business days—those days on which the University of Austin is open and conducting regular operations. Weekends, holidays, and other days when the University is officially closed do not count toward the calculation of time deadlines. When a deadline falls on a day when the University is closed, it will be extended to the next business day. To calculate deadlines, exclude the day of the triggering event, e.g., the day notice was received.

Deadlines in this rule may only be extended by the President or their designee for good cause shown (e.g., medical emergency, bereavement). Extensions must be documented in writing and shared with all parties.

University proceedings under this rule may proceed independently of any criminal investigation. In some cases, the University may delay its process briefly to accommodate law enforcement evidence collection, but it is not required to do so.

For student Respondents only, a blackout period begins one week before final exams and ends one day after the Respondent's last exam. During this period, timelines under this rule are paused. University officials will refrain from initiating investigations, conducting interviews, or holding hearings during this period to enable students to focus on their final examinations, except in cases deemed time-sensitive by the General Counsel or President.

## **XIV. Confidentiality**

All proceedings under this rule are confidential to the extent permitted by law. While UATX endeavors to protect the confidentiality of all individuals involved in misconduct matters, complete confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Information may be disclosed only as necessary to carry out the purposes of this policy, including implementing supportive measures, conducting investigations, or complying with applicable law.

## **XV. Constructive Notice**

All members of the UATX community have a responsibility to know the rules that govern their conduct. As a result, they are deemed to have constructive knowledge of this rule and any others that are publicly available to them.

## **XVI. Notice**

The University Official charged with enforcing this rule shall send all required notifications using the email address on file with UATX. An email sent to an address listed in UATX's records will constitute full and adequate notice. Failure to provide and/or maintain current email addresses, or failure to open an e-mail message, does not excuse an individual from adhering to the requirements and deadlines set out in this rule.

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