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Today heralds the beginning of an exciting new chapter in your life. If you’re a new TAMIU student, a transfer to TAMIU, a TAMIU parent or family member, today signals entry into an international community of fellow students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends who share a commitment to converting dreams into reality. I encourage all to become part of our Dustdevil family, and urge all to continue to champion your shared success.

TAMIU offers a destination experience hard to find at other institutions. We expect students to engage in the countless opportunities we provide to develop critical thinking, career skills, leadership, and research strengths. Our University’s support services help all to reach their goals both inside and outside the classroom. At TAMIU, we truly “go beyond,” and promote an international education by providing opportunities for our students to study abroad. We ask that families and friends encourage and support students’ discovery of the world through study abroad.

Programs are offered year-round, and for various lengths of time to accommodate almost any degree program and location. These experiences last a lifetime, and help prepare graduates for the global workforce of their future. Some 80% of study abroad students receive scholarship assistance to travel and study. Last year, they traveled to 21 countries, logging over 1.5 million miles.

I understand the tremendous value and opportunities this University provides, and I am committed to ensuring that these opportunities expand. We take great pride in knowing that our faculty, facilities and programs have all earned impressive accolades. U.S. News and World Report has ranked TAMIU in the top 20 regional public schools in the West, and as the second highest ranked regional public school in Texas. We are ranked third nationally among colleges with the highest income mobility rate, something that earned the attention of The New York Times. Our graduates are making their dreams come true around the world.

I invite all of you to earn your own accolades and make the most of your time at TAMIU—whether in the classroom here or abroad, perhaps enjoying a Dustdevil game together, or through countless campus activities, dynamic student clubs and organizations, or community outreach.

I wish all of you the best as you begin this new, shared adventure, and welcome each and everyone to our growing Dustdevil family.

TOGETHER, WE GO BEYOND

Dr. Pablo Arenaz
President
Texas A&M International University

The International
We are very excited to have you join our Dustdevil family. As a proud alumnus, I welcome you to the campus and to the thousands of Dustdevils that have roamed these halls before you.

As you begin this next phase of your academic journey, you will engage in a world of new concepts, ideas, research, and friends. You will have endless opportunities to get involved and “Go Beyond” at TAMIU.

Here at our University, you will have numerous opportunities to become an active and involved student. There are over 100 student organizations on campus that you can join. You are encouraged to participate in student and faculty-led activities both on and off campus, visit our tutoring and writing center, be a part of our leadership programs, plan your study abroad experience, or join us as we cheer on our Heartland Conference Dustdevils. Each of these activities, events, and services will positively influence your classroom experience by enhancing it with invaluable organization, teamwork, and leadership skills.

The Division of Student Success is committed to providing you with the tools and services that will guide and assist you during your time on campus and help you “Go Beyond.” Our dedicated staff is ready to help mentor your success to ensure you get what you want out of life.

You have made the right decision by choosing TAMIU and I encourage you to find ways to get involved and discover your passion.

Dr. Minita Ramirez,
Class of 1983
Vice President for Student Success TAMIU
For some families, Laredo is already considered “Home.” For others, the “Gateway City” might be a new adventure. Regardless, we encourage you and your loved ones to re-discover Laredo through your experience at TAMIU. Each semester, we offer programs that connect our campus, including Discover TAMIU.

Laredo is a city that is rich in culture and tradition. Annual celebrations such as the George Washington Birthday Celebration, Menudo Bowl, and Sister Cities Festival are great opportunities to immerse yourself in our culture. We encourage you to explore the community and enjoy the ever-growing dining, shopping and entertainment venues (many of which offer student discounts)!

Living on campus is a great opportunity to explore University life to the fullest by being just a short walk away from the Library or evening student activities.

People often think living on campus is just for those who are not from Laredo, but really this is a great resource for those who may not have a vehicle or want to make lifelong friendships by being fully integrated in TAMIU Life.

For more information about living on campus, contact the Office of Housing and Residence Life at 956.326.1300, or visit their website at tamiu.edu/housing.
Welcome to Dustdevil Country, and welcome to your Orientation Program! This Orientation will introduce you to many aspects of TAMIU, including academic and student life. Here, you will learn everything from how to read your degree plan, to expectations of your College and area of study, and safety on campus.

We believe each one of you holds the key to success and hope this Orientation Program and print guide empowers you to seek resources and take opportunities as you become a Dustdevil and navigate your new home.

For more information regarding your orientation program, please contact The Office of Student Orientation, Leadership and Engagement at orientation@tamiu.edu or 956.326.2280.

“Bleed Maroon and Silver” and are not afraid to show their Dustdevil pride in our community and world-wide.
GROW YOUR NETWORK

Your first days on campus will be exciting with new classes, a new campus, and new friends. Don’t forget that the first weeks of class are also when we celebrate Welcome Week. You can attend the Welcome Back Barbeque and Involvement Fair. TAMIU has over 1,000 ways to get involved on campus including one membership in our 100 student organizations on campus.

These organizations include social organizations, honor societies, and pre-professional student groups. This is your chance to connect with what TAMIU has to offer, so step out and get involved!

TERMINOLOGY

Throughout your University years, you’ll hear some of these words quite a bit.

We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the following terms as they will help you transition into the University setting!

**Academic year:** The school year that begins with Fall classes and ends with Spring classes. For example, the 2019-2020 academic year starts in August 2019 and ends in May 2020.

**Advisor:** School official, usually assigned by your College or University, who can help choose your classes and make sure you are taking the right courses to graduate.

**Elective:** A class you can take that is not specifically required by your major or minor.

**Course Load:** The number of courses or credits a student takes during a semester or specific term.

**Course Number:** The number your College or University uses to classify a course. You usually need this number in order to register for a class.

**Credit Hour:** The number of hours assigned to a specific class. This is usually the number of hours per week you are in the class. The number of credit hours you enroll in determines whether you are a full-time student or a part-time student.

**Prerequisite:** A class that must be taken before you can take a different class. (For example, English 1301 is a prerequisite for English 1302.)

**Syllabus:** Created by the professor, a syllabus outlines important information about the class. Your syllabus will include your professor’s information, including office hours.

**Transcript:** An official academic record from a specific College/School. It lists the courses you have completed, grades and information such as when you attended.

**Office hours:** Time set aside by professors or teaching assistants (TA) for students to visit their office and ask questions or discuss the course they teach. Your professor or TA will tell you at the beginning of the term when and where office hours will be every week.

**Catalog:** The University Catalog provides information for each degree and the requirements to graduate. Each year, there is a new Catalog, so as a student you always have to follow the Catalog year you entered. Your mentors will help you understand this a little bit better.

**Core Curriculum:** Also known as “the basics,” refers to courses that every student intending to get a degree from TAMIU must complete.

**Extracurricular activities:** Groups you belong to outside of class, such as sporting teams, clubs and organizations, optional research activities, etc.

**Greek Life:** The system of Greek-lettered organizations can include fraternities, societies, and sororities and their activities.

**Grade point average (GPA):** The average of all of the course grades you have received on a four-point scale.
Major: Your primary area of study. For example: Business, Biology, Nursing, Psychology, etc.

Minor: Your secondary area of study. Minors are optional and not always required in your degree plan. Many students’ minors are a specialization of their major field. For example, a student who wants to become a science reporter might major in Communication and minor in Biology.

Degree Plan: A degree plan is essentially the outline of your major (and sometimes minor) that indicates what classes and other requirements you must complete to successfully graduate. DegreeWorks will be your best friend to follow your degree plan!

12th Class day: This is the last day to add or drop classes without a record.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Taking care of finances is very important as you embrace your higher education. We want to empower you with information and help you understand terminology you will hear very often especially if we speak about Financial Aid.

Grant: A form of financial aid from a non-profit organization, such as the government, that you do not have to repay.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid): Application used by U.S. citizens and permanent residents to apply for financial aid from U.S. federal and state governments. You have to file your FAFSA every year!

Loan: A form of financial aid that you must repay.

Scholarship: A form of financial aid that you do not have to repay.

Tuition: The amount of money charged by the University per term, course, or credit in exchange for instruction and training. Tuition generally does not include the cost of textbooks, room and board, and other University fees. You will often hear “Tuition and Fees” used together, this totals the amount of money needed to pay.

OFTEN CONFUSED

Student ID and NetId: Your student ID is your A00XXXX number or “A Number” and your NetId refers to the credentials you use to log in to UConnect and Blackboard, often your first and last name.

Credits and Hours: Are the same thing! These terms are often used interchangeably and confused, but they are the same.

Colleges and TAMIU: Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) is your College/University. Your specific College will be the one your major falls into. Let’s say you are an Education Major. Your college would be the College of Education within TAMIU of course.
MY BUSINESS

TUITION: ____________________________________________

BOOKS: ____________________________________________

FINANCIAL AID AWARDS: _______________________________

TUITION TOTAL - AWARDS: ____________________________
Denotes quantity to pay or refund
* Books can be purchased with financial aid
  prior to refund being dispersed
** Make sure to take care of redflags in Uconnect

MY PAYMENTS

Did you know you can make online payments and set up payment plans?

Simply visit Uconnect or the Bursar’s Office website for more information.

Looking at how to select your refund? Visit tamiu.edu/onecard and select the refund selection kit for more information.

BURSAR’S OFFICE
ZSC 137
956.326.2140
businessoffice@tamiu.edu

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID
ZSC 214
956.326-2225
financialaid@tamiu.edu

MY CHECK LIST

☐ Obtain my student I.D. (TAMIU OneCard)

☐ Turn in all important documents (transcripts, financial aid forms or record of meningitis vaccine)

☐ Register for Fall 2019 classes

☐ Download the TAMIU App. Here you can access your class schedule, Blackboard, and your Dusty Email.

☐ Sign up for DustyALRT at: dustyalert.tamiu.edu

☐ Purchase books at the TAMIU Bookstore

☐ Manage my finances (accept awards and/or set up a payment plan)

☐ Select my refund choice with BankMobile.

THINGS THAT I NEED TO FOLLOW UP ON:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
COLLEGES & PROGRAMS

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

APPLIED ARTS & SCIENCES
ART
BIOLOGY
COMMUNICATION
COMMUNICATION & SPANISH
CHEMISTRY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE & POLITICAL SCIENCE
ENGLISH
HISPANIC STUDIES
HISTORY
HISTORY & POLITICAL SCIENCE
MATHEMATICS
MUSIC
POLITICAL SCIENCE
PSYCHOLOGY
SCIENCE
SOCIOLOGY
SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

MA IN COMMUNICATION
MA IN COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY (MACP) (OR NON-THESIS)
MA IN ENGLISH (MA)
MA IN HISTORY & POLITICAL THOUGHT, HISTORY
CONCENTRATION (OR NON-THESIS)
MA IN HISTORY & POLITICAL THOUGHT, POLITICAL SCIENCE
CONCENTRATION (OR NON-THESIS)
MA IN HISTORY & POLITICAL THOUGHT, HISTORY & POLITICAL
SCIENCE CONCENTRATIONS (NON-THESIS)
MA IN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND TRANSLATION
MA IN SOCIOLOGY (OR NON-THESIS)
MA PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)
MA IN BIOLOGY (OR NON-THESIS)
MA IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (OR NON-THESIS)
MA IN MATHEMATICS (OR NON-THESIS)
MATHEMATICS EDUCATION TRACK (NON-THESIS)
MA IN PSYCHOLOGY (MS)

A. R. SANCHEZ, JR. SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

ACCOUNTING
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
FINANCE
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS
MANAGEMENT
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS
MARKETING

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA) WITH A
CONCENTRATION IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

• INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS (TAUGHT IN ENGLISH & SPANISH)
• INTERNATIONAL BANKING AND FINANCE
• MANAGEMENT

MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANCY (MPACC)
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS (MS-IS)
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION (PH.D.-IB)

COLLEGE OF NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES

NURSING

MS - FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
MS - NURSING ADMINISTRATION

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

PRE-ENGINEERING
PRE-DENTAL
PRE-LAW
PRE-MED
PRE-PHARMACY
PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
KINESIOLOGY
SPECIAL EDUCATION

MA IN TEACHING (MA)
MS IN BILINGUAL EDUCATION (THESIS AND NON-THESIS)
MS IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (THESIS AND NON-THESIS)
MS IN EDUCATION INTERVENTIONS FOR AUTISM (THESIS)
MS IN EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION (THESIS AND NON-THESIS)
MS IN READING (THESIS AND NON-THESIS)
MS IN SCHOOL COUNSELING
MS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (THESIS AND NON-THESIS)

GO BEYOND

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KLM - Sue and Radcliffe Killam Library
CWT - Dr. Billy F. Cowart Hall
BLK - Bob Bullock Hall
WHT - Western Hemispheric Trade Center
PLG - Anthony J. and Georgia A. Pellegrino Hall
CNS - Dr. F. M. Canseco Hall
LBV - Lamar Bruni Vergara Science Center
STC - Student Center
ECHS - Hector J. García Early College High School
KCB - Kinesiology - Convocation Building
FPA - Center for the Fine and Performing Arts
ZSC - Senator Judith Zaffirini Student Success Center
MS - Engineering Machine Shop
REC - Kinesiology, Wellness and Recreation Center
JHBF - Jorge Haynes Baseball Field
RLC - Residential Learning Community
H - Physical Plant