The University of Texas at Arlington is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, 404-679-4501) to award bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees.


It is the policy of The University of Texas at Arlington that to the extent provided by these applicable laws, no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, disabilities, or veteran status, be denied employment or admission, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subject to discrimination under, any program or activity which it sponsors or conducts. It is also UTA’s policy to maintain an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to an academic and working environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment and sexual misconduct are prohibited and will be in violation of this policy. The University will take prompt disciplinary action against any individuals on this campus who engage in actions that violate this policy. The Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Office, (817) 272-2106, is empowered to investigate all complaints alleging sexual harassment.

MISSION

The University of Texas at Arlington Police Department is charged with the responsibility of providing police services, as well as protecting the life and property of the students, faculty, staff, and visitors of the University. Its goal is to provide a safe learning environment, thus, supporting the mission of higher education.

UTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Its authorized strength is 73 total personnel: 33 sworn police officers, 13 police guards, 8 communications officers, 5 parking office personnel, 4 shuttle drivers, 4 key control personnel, 4 secretaries, 1 technical staff assistant and 1 program coordinator.

The Department’s police officers are commissioned by The University of Texas System Board of Regents per Article 51.203 of the Texas Education Code. These officers are defined as peace officers under Article 2.12 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure and are fully empowered by the State. As peace officers, the Department’s police officers have the same authority to detain and arrest as municipal police officers.

An amendment by the legislature in 1987 to Section 51.203 of the Texas Education Code extends the jurisdiction of The University police officers to include all counties in which property is owned, leased, or otherwise under the control of the institution. A policy issued by The University of Texas Board of Regents in 1987 defines the primary jurisdiction of the UTA Police Department as the area within the geographical boundaries of property owned, leased, or otherwise under the control of The University of Texas System or UTA.

The UTA Police Department maintains a solid working relationship with the City of Arlington Police Department, as well as all local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Additional information about the department is located on the UTA Police Department’s Web page at www.uta.edu/police/.

TRAINING

Police officers at UTA have completed The University of Texas System Police Academy and been licensed by the Texas Commission on Licensing and Officer Standards in Education (TCLOSE). In addition to the Academy, officers receive 14 weeks of field training and a minimum of 40 hours of in-service training every two years, as required by law. Guards and communications officers complete a 8-week field training. Communications officers also complete a 40-hour state certified telecommunications training program.

ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS

Academic buildings on campus are opened at approximately 6 a.m. and locked at approximately 11 p.m. on weekdays. On weekends, buildings are kept locked unless they are sites for classes or special events. Campus libraries have special operating hours that can be obtained from library personnel or from the UTA Web page at http://www.uta.edu/library/home.html.

Access to the Architecture Building, the Automated Robotics Research Institute (ARRI), all campus residence halls, all residence hall parking lots, and some faculty lots are controlled by a card access system operated by the Mav Express Office. Access is restricted to cardholders.

SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE

The UTA Police Department provides these services free of charge as a courtesy:

**Escorts:** Personal escorts are available upon request from the UTA Police Department at (817) 272-3381.

**Vehicle Unlock and Jump Starts:** UTA Police will assist motorists on the campus needing a jump start or help in unlocking their vehicles.

**Lost and Found:** “Lost and Found” is located in the UTA Police Station and is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Other “Lost and Found” locations on campus include: The Libraries, Activities Building checkout counter, Housing and University Center Office, the UTA Bookstore, and the School of Nursing in Pickard Hall.

**Accident Reports:** Motor vehicle accident reports are available at the UTA Police Station during normal office hours. To obtain an accident report, the following information is necessary: a) the report number of the accident, and b) the name of the driver involved. There is a $4.00 fee for a copy of an accident report.

**Bike Registration:** Bicycle registration and engraving are free services available through the UTA Police Crime Prevention Office.

**Crime Prevention Speakers:** A crime prevention speaker can be arranged for any campus-affiliated group upon request. The speaker can cover any crime prevention related subject including, but not limited to, all of the items listed under crime prevention in this brochure.

**Shuttle Bus Service:** The UTA Police Department provides free shuttle bus service around the campus. The shuttle bus runs on campus 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. The bus runs approximately every twenty minutes.

**Fingerprinting:** Fingerprinting services are available at the UTA Police Station and are free to students, faculty, and staff. (Fingerprinting is not available for INS purposes.)

**Operation Identification:** Operation ID is a program designed to help protect property from theft by engraving the property with a driver’s license number. Engravers are available for check out at the Police Station.

**H.E.A.T.:** For more information about Texas Help End Auto Theft registration, please contact the UTA Police Department.

DISSEMINATING INFORMATION ON CAMPUS CRIME

The UTA Police Department is dedicated to keeping the University community informed about criminal activity occurring on campus. A weekly summary of reported crimes is published in The Shorthorn, the campus newspaper. Timely reports of any crime considered a threat to other students and/or employees are made by local press releases to the news media, and special notices are distributed to any affected areas such as residence halls, apartments, or other UTA buildings.

REPORTING A CRIME

Call (817) 272-3381 to report a criminal incident on campus. Call (817) 272-3303 in case of an emergency. A police communications officer in the Dispatch Office answers these numbers. Emergency phones are located in most campus buildings, and there are 53 white emergency call boxes located throughout the campus. The call boxes and emergency phones are linked directly with the police dispatcher.

The dispatcher will take the information, send an officer, and contact any necessary emergency personnel from other agencies such as the fire department or ambulance service. The officer will complete a police report after the necessary action has been taken.

Officers are dispatched on a priority basis according to the seriousness of the calls received. Calls of an emergency nature are
dispatched immediately. The average response time is less than three minutes. A person reporting a non-emergency incident may expect to experience a short delay.

Reports of criminal offenses are forwarded to the Criminal Investigation Division. Call the Criminal Investigation Division at (817) 272-3381 to check the progress of an investigation.

SEXUAL OFFENSES

Sexual assault and aggravated sexual assault are serious felony crimes, and The University of Texas at Arlington considers it imperative to provide sexual assault awareness programs aimed at the prevention of such crimes. The Police Department’s Crime Prevention Officer and personnel from Student Health Services are available to coordinate programs that include representatives from the Tarrant County Rape Crisis Center and the Arlington Women’s Shelter.

Sexual offenses include, but are not limited to, some form of forced or non-consensual intercourse, indecent exposure, or indecency with a child, and range from Class C misdemeanors to second degree felonies. The victims of these crimes should report the crime to the Police Department. The Student Health Services will assist any victim by direct counseling or referral to the appropriate agency. Refer to “Sexual Assault Policy,” Handbook of Operating Procedures.

VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

A victim of sexual assault that has occurred on campus should notify the UTA Police Department immediately. Other campus personnel such as residence hall personnel or counselors may assist in reporting the sexual assault to the Police Department. If the assault occurred outside of the UTA campus, the local police department where the assault occurred should be called.

The victim should not bathe, douche, or change clothes after the assault in order to preserve evidence necessary for the proof of criminal sexual assault. The victim will need to go to a hospital emergency room for a sexual assault examination once the police have been notified. A friend of the victim may take him/her to the hospital or a police officer can provide transportation. The police officer will need to obtain a statement describing the details of the assault.

A counselor from the Tarrant County Rape Crisis Center will be contacted to meet with the victim at the hospital. The counselor will inform the victim of his/her options involving counseling. Student Health Services offers professional counseling to sexual assault victims. Off-campus counseling options include the Tarrant County Rape Crisis Center and the Arlington Women’s Shelter.

The sexual assault victim has an option to choose a pseudonym (fictitious name) and address to maintain confidentiality. The pseudonym will be assigned at the victim’s request. A victim of sexual assault may request to change his/her living situation or academic situation. All efforts to carry out these requests will be made by the University if such changes are reasonably available.

PRESSING CHARGES

If the victim presses charges, the UTA Police Department will conduct a thorough investigation. There is a possibility that some courtroom testimony may be required if the case goes to trial.

DISCIPLINE

If the accused in a sexual offense reported to the UTA Police Department is a UTA student, the case will be referred to the Dean of Students for review of the allegations. The victim and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during campus disciplinary hearings. Both the victim and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of any campus disciplinary proceedings. Sanctions may include probation, suspension and/or expulsion. For more detailed information, please refer to Section 2, Student Conduct, in the Handbook of Operating Procedures or the student handbook, Mav Dates and Data. In addition to the imposition of disciplinary sanctions, the accused may face prosecution under federal or state law.

SEX OFFENDERS

Pursuant to the Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act of 2000, states that register sex offenders are required to develop procedures to obtain from the sex offenders information regarding institutions of higher education in that state where the person is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student. The registration information is to be made available to law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction where the institutions of higher education are located beginning October 2002. In Texas, information regarding registered sex offenders may be obtained at [http://records.bdpse.state.tx.us/](http://records.bdpse.state.tx.us/) or by contacting the police department where the sex offender is registered.

HAZING

Hazing and the failure to report hazing by an individual or organization are misdemeanors in the State of Texas (Texas Education Code, Section 37.151-37.157 and Section 51.936). Violators can be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Penalties may include imprisonment, fines, and community service.

If the Dean of Students determines that an incident of hazing has occurred, penalties may be imposed upon both the individual(s) and the organization(s) involved.

Becoming more aware of what constitutes hazing and informing students of the risks and dangers of hazing are steps that will help eliminate hazing. All members of the University community share the responsibility to make known to the Dean of Students Office and/or local law enforcement agency acts of apparent hazing. Individuals who participate in acts of hazing as perpetrators or victims are personally accountable.

Alleged violations of hazing should be reported to the UTA Police Department or the appropriate law enforcement agency and the Dean of Students Office.

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND CAMPUSES ACT

The Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act, Public Law 101-226, is intended to combat substance abuse on college campuses through methods of punishment, rehabilitation, and prevention. This Act requires that colleges certify that annual alcohol and drug information is distributed to each employee and student. This information must include the consequences of unlawful drug or alcohol possession, as well as information about available drug and alcohol counseling.

At a minimum, in complying with the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act, The University of Texas at Arlington distributes to students, faculty, and staff annually the Campus Safety brochure which includes the standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on University premises or as part of any University sponsored activities.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Possession, use, or sale of illegal drugs (as defined by the Texas Penal Code) on campus is a violation of state law. Violators will be prosecuted. Possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages on campus are prohibited by University policy, with three exceptions:

1. A person of legal age (21) may possess and consume alcoholic beverages inside his/her campus residence (residence halls, apartments, fraternity houses, etc.).
2. Permission may be obtained from the Office of Student Activities in advance to allow alcoholic beverages at social events such as fraternity functions and other University events.
3. The E. H. Hereford University Center has specific rules that apply to alcoholic beverage consumption.

In addition to criminal charges and/or fines (if applicable), any student found to be in violation of The University's drug and alcohol policies will be referred to the Dean of Students. Drug and/or alcohol abuse counseling may be required. Faculty or staff found to be in violation may be referred to the appropriate supervisor.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Office for Substance Abuse Prevention, located in the Student Health Center, offers a program to assist students and employees to make appropriate decisions regarding the use of alcohol and/or drugs. The program does not provide a long-term treatment for those individuals, but does emphasize education, programming, support, intervention, and short-term counseling. Referrals are also made to Metroplex resources when a person is identified as being chemically dependent. More information about these services and referral resources is available by contacting the Coordinator for Substance Abuse Prevention at (817) 272-2619.

The Graduate School of Social Work Community Clinic, located at 211 South Cooper, also offers counseling services available on a sliding-fee scale basis. Contact the Community Service Clinic at (817) 272-2165 for more information about these services and referral resources.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for full-time employees and their dependents is coordinated through the UTA Human Resources Office. The program includes four, prepaid sessions for the evaluation, short-term counseling, and referral for alcohol/drug abuse, as well as other problem areas. The program is offered through Family Services of Tarrant County which has a staff of trained, professional counselors. Their services are available at...
five Family Services locations that are convenient to UTA employees. Referrals to the EAP may be self-referrals or supervisory referrals. Services provided beyond the initial four, prepay sessions take into consideration insurance coverage and ability to pay. A sliding-fee scale is utilized and participants are evaluated for possible United Way assistance. Call Human Resources (817) 272-7315 for more information.

CRIME PREVENTION

The UTA Police Department places a high priority on crime prevention. While it is impossible to prevent all crime, the Department believes that persons can be made aware of ways to reduce their chances of becoming victims. The Department provides a wide range of services and educational programs designed to promote campus security and that aid in anticipating and minimizing potential dangers to the population and property of the University.

While all police personnel are oriented to the concept of crime prevention, the Crime Prevention Officer attends many advanced training schools to keep his/her level of expertise current at all times. This officer acts as the Department’s liaison to the campus community.

Program and information available from the Crime Prevention Officer include, but are not limited to: new student orientation; new employee orientation; campus safety; personal safety; Operation Identification; bicycle registration; property and home protection; Texas Help End Auto Theft Registration (H.E.A.T.); security surveys for residences and departments on campus, theft prevention; sexual assault awareness/prevention; and a R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense) self defense class for women.

These and other programs are available upon request and are presented throughout the year to groups on campus. Additionally, the Crime Prevention Officer participates in the annual Student Congress Night Walk during which student representatives walk the campus and make suggestions on lighting and other areas of concern. The Police Department, Environmental Health and Safety Office, and the Physical Plant are watchful for safety and security considerations in campus maintenance. Inspections of campus facilities by Physical Plant personnel are made regularly so repairs and necessary maintenance can be made. Concerns regarding potential safety or security hazards may be reported to any of these groups. The Police Department number is (817) 272-3381.

Anyone desiring information on crime prevention programs or related literature may contact the Crime Prevention Officer at (817) 272-3905 or prevent@uta.edu (email).

An electronic security alarm system located at the Police Department’s Communication Center monitors a comprehensive network of intrusion detection and duress alarm systems, as well as video monitors, located in various areas of the campus.

SAM MAVERICK’S SAFETY TIPS

Driving:

- Never pick up hitchhikers.
- Do not get close to a vehicle if you are walking.
- Have your keys out and ready.
- Make an inspection of the interior before you enter your vehicle. Once inside, lock all doors and windows.
- Park in well-lighted areas. Do not park where suspicious persons are loitering.
- Trust and follow your instincts.

Off Campus:

- Keep doors and windows locked at all times. All exterior doors should be equipped with deadbolt locks.
- If you do not have a peephole, request that one be installed.
- Know whom to call in an emergency.
- Do not open your door for anyone you do not know. If a person in uniform knocks and you did not call for assistance, contact the person’s place of employment to verify the reason for the visit.
- Use outside lighting and keep shrubbery trimmed around windows and doors.

On Campus:

- Never leave your personal property unsecured or unattended.
- Look around and be aware of your surroundings when you enter and exit a building.
- Always tell someone where you are going and what time you expect to return.
- Be aware of your surroundings and think about how you would defend yourself. Develop a “game plan” for prevention.
- Avoid walking alone, particularly after dark. If walking alone is unavoidable, be aware of your surroundings.
- Walk with confidence and determination, holding your head up. Look behind and around you frequently.
- Avoid shortcuts. The shortest route is not always the safest route.
- Dress for mobility, particularly after dark.
- Carry your personal belongings in a backpack or similar container that will enable your arms and hands to be free at all times.
- Never allow someone to predict your route of travel. Whether you are driving, biking, walking or jogging, frequently alter your route between campus and your residence.

On Dates:

- Know your sexual limits and communicate them clearly and firmly.
- Do not allow your body language to send a different message than what you are verbally communicating.
- Avoid the use of mind-altering drugs. (This includes alcohol.)
- Listen to and respond to your instincts. They are usually correct.
- Never accept a ride from someone you do not know well.

Residence Halls:

- Never prop your door open, even if you will be gone for only a few minutes. Always lock doors, screens, and windows to prevent uninvited access to your room.
- Do not go inside your residence if you return and find that the door is ajar. Immediately notify the police.
- Do not give anyone a key to your room. If you lose your room key, report it immediately to your Residence Advisor.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight. Register, engrave, mark, and/or photograph all your valuables including bicycles, stereos, jewelry, vehicles, computers, etc.
- Never let strangers into your hall. This puts you and others at risk.
- Be aware of suspicious persons and activities. If you observe someone or something suspicious, notify the residence hall staff and the UTA Police Department.
- Report any obscene, annoying, or threatening telephone calls to the UTA Police Department.

In compliance with the Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act, information regarding graduation rates can be obtained from the Registrar’s Office.

CRIME STATISTICS

Crime statistics are collected by the UTA Police Department daily and a daily log is maintained for public use. The statistics are compiled monthly as part of the UT System Report. Information regarding discipline referrals from all departments is maintained by the Dean of Students and is included in the crime statistics reported in the annual disclosure of crime statistics. Pursuant to the Jeanne Clery Act, any covered violations reported to a campus security authority and/or local police departments are included in the crime statistics. There are no formal policies regarding allowing victims or witnesses to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics. There are no formal policies that encourage pastoral counselors and professional counselors to inform the persons they are counseling to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics.
These locations are outside the geographical boundaries of The University of Texas at Arlington, but do fall under the jurisdiction and control of the UTA Police Department. The figures in this section reflect statistics from the Arlington Police Department and/or the Fort Worth Police Department. Calls answered by the UTA Police Department to these addresses are included in the campus statistics.

JEANNE CLERY DISCLOSURE OF CAMPUS SECURITY AND CAMPUS CRIME STATISTICS ACT

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires that colleges and universities publicize campus crime statistics and interim reports of serious crime incidents. These publicized statistics are meant to warn students, employees, and applicants of the prevalence of campus crime. Students and employees must be given interim crime reports that include statistics on murder, forcible sex offenses, non-forcible sex offenses, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny (theft), and motor vehicle theft. The annual report must also describe how to report crimes and emergencies on campus, as well as the method used to collect data. The purpose of this Act is to educate the campus community about security.

The University of Texas at Arlington