



HC Academic Newsletter

...aka "the counselor's newsletter" ...updated weekly with the most recent copy available at www.houstonchristian.org under Counseling & College Guidance.

2016-17

HC School Code: 443-409

January 6, 2017



2017 Summer School at HC

Summer School sign-up is now available.

Click on [this link](#) for details and an application.
Mail or turn applications in (not by email or fax) to the Counseling office with deposit or full payment to reserve your spot.

SAT Test Prep now available for registration!

Class starts 1/28/17 - 3/7/17 Discounted Pricing
Every Tue, Thu, Sat

Click on the link below for more details and to sign up!
<http://www.princetonreview.com/partner/houston-christian>



Students – Plan Ahead...Upcoming college visits after the holiday break:

Tuesday, January 10th – Mississippi State
Tuesday, January 17th – University of Houston
Wednesday, January 18th – University of Texas
Thursday, January 19th – Baylor University

Test Prep & Testing Info

SAT/ACT DATES 16-17

SAT	ACT
1/21/17	2/11/17
3/11/17	4/8/17
5/6/17	6/10/17
6/3/17	

The best time for HC kids to take an SAT or ACT test prep course is the summer after 10th grade... this will help you be prepared for the PSAT in October of 11th grade and also for the *first SAT (and ACT) that you take in December of 11th grade...* it is right around the corner and you need to plan ahead. MOST HC kids are too busy in the school year to take a prep course during school because they have homework and sports that make it impossible. However, if you can take it during the month of October it will be of great benefit as well.

Class of 2018, rising Juniors: should register to take the 1st SAT and ACT in December of 11th grade... so you will have a benchmark to know if one test score is better than the other...then you can take a 2nd testing of the strongest test. Always take the writing option, every time since many schools require the writing option in order to accept the scores (UT and TAMU specifically). Please take both tests as early as possible even if you have not done any test prep. ALL colleges take either test. HC always recommends that you send your scores to 4 colleges every time you take the test. If you score higher on a 2nd or 3rd testing the colleges will ALWAYS take/use your higher score. You get 4 free submissions to colleges with each test registration. If you wait until you receive your scores to send them to a college it will cost \$11.25 per college....choose 4 colleges you are likely to apply to at the time you register!

Click these links to register for the ACT and SAT: www.sat.collegeboard.org or www.act.org

You can get free prep from Khan Academy via Collegeboard.org which will use your PSAT score report to tutor you on questions you missed and areas that appear weak as a result of your scores. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS IN THE SUMMER!

A little test preparation goes a long way - especially when it is free! The link below offers great video tutorials that correspond to the different sections on the ACT test. Check it out - you never know what you might learn!

<http://www.mometrix.com/academy/act-test/>

Upcoming Calendar Events and College Visits

PLEASE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE PROGRAMS and VISITS IF you are the least bit interested in any of these schools that offer preview days or open houses on their campuses....you CANNOT wait until your junior year to begin attending all the programs that interest you----there won't be enough time!

College/University	Date	Location
Mississippi State	Tuesday, 1/10 at 11:15	Student Center Conf. Rm B
University of Houston	Tuesday, 1/17 at 11:15	BCSL Lecture Hall
University of Texas	Wednesday, 1/18 at 11:15	BCSL Lecture Hall
Baylor University	Thursday, 1/19 at 12:15	BCSL Lecture Hall
University of Tennessee	Monday, 1/23 at 11:15	Student Center Conf. Rm B
Sam Houston State University	Tuesday, 1/24 at 11:15	Student Center Conf. Rm B
University of Alabama	Monday, 1/30 at 11:15	Student Center Conf. Rm B
University of Arkansas	Tuesday, 1/31 at 11:15	BCSL Lecture Hall
Texas Tech University	Wednesday, 2/15 at 11:15	Student Center Conf. Rm B



Misc. College & Career/Job Info

ATTN: Juniors:

Interested in an Aerospace career? 1. VISIT has.aerospacescholars.org to find more info and apply. 2. Train for a mission through an interactive online course that covers space exploration's past, present and future. Eligible students who score high enough will be invited to.....3Spend an ALL-EXPENSE-PAID week at NASA's engineers and scientists as you work with students from across the state to complete hands-on engineering design challenges and plan a mission to Mars. Come see Mr. Chaves in the counseling office for more details.

College Essay Information:

The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. *What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores?* Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response. (The application won't accept a response shorter than 250 words or more than 650.)

U of Texas Essays % 2017, <http://admissions.utexas.edu/apply/freshman-admission>

- Topic A plus a second essay of the student's choice
- Review applicants will be more 'holistic' & students should find a "relevant way" on application to connect their requested major with something they have been doing (could be community service, extra-curricular, possibly in essay Topics B or C, or something on the resume.)

NEW UT and TAMU info for seniors, c/o 2017!

TAMU Info & Essays % 2017, <http://admissions.tamu.edu/freshman/apply>

3 essays required- A, B, & C on ApplyTexas application (Average length = 1 - 1.5 pages)

- No more than two rec letters will be considered.
- Essays Should be personal and utilized as tools to share your story with the Admissions Committee
- DO NOT USE the new "COALITION APPLICATION"**only use APPLYTEXAS.ORG**

ApplyTexas Essay Prompts For Freshman Applications, entering fall 2017:

Essay A: What was the environment in which you were raised? Describe your family, home, neighborhood, or community, and explain how it has shaped you as a person.

Essay B: Some students have an identity, an interest, or a talent that defines them in an essential way. If you are one of these students, then tell us about yourself.

Essay C: You've got a ticket in your hand – Where will you go? What will you do? What will happen when you get there?

Topic D: Personal interaction with objects, images and spaces can be so powerful as to change the way one thinks about particular issues or topics. For your intended area of study (architecture, art history, design, studio art, visual art studies/art education), describe an experience where instruction in that area or your personal interaction with an object, image or space effected this type of change in your thinking. What did you do to act upon your new thinking and what have you done to prepare yourself for further study in this area?

Topic S: There may be personal information that you want considered as part of your admissions application. Write an essay describing that information. You might include exceptional hardships, challenges, or opportunities that have shaped or impacted your abilities or academic credentials, personal responsibilities, exceptional achievements or talents, educational goals, or ways in which you might contribute to an institution committed to creating a diverse learning environment.

THE COMMON APPLICATION

Common Application essay topics for 2016-2017 (class of 2017): Choose one:

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

Sophomore, Junior and Senior Athletes:

If you intend to pursue athletics in a D1 or D2 college or university, you must register with the NCAA. To register, go to www.eligibilitycenter.org and click New Account in the upper right hand corner. You must request an official HC transcript after your junior year and AGAIN after your senior year. A transcript may ONLY be requested by using the My Planner section of your NCAA account. Contact the Registrar at kklassen@houstonchristian.org with questions.

CAP program UT: The University of Texas System developed the Coordinated Admission Program (CAP) to expand the admission options available to students interested in enrolling at The University of Texas at Austin. In general, CAP makes it possible for some freshman applicants to UT Austin to begin their studies at another UT System university. After completing the CAP requirements during their freshman year, such students transfer to UT Austin to complete their undergraduate studies. The following requirements are necessary for successful completion of CAP:

- Complete a minimum of 30 semester credit hours of transferable coursework from an approved list of courses offered by the UT System school that you choose to attend.
- Earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.2 on the coursework that you complete while enrolled at your selected UT System university.
- Enroll in and complete at least one mathematics course from the approved list of courses that is beyond Math 301 (College Algebra) during the fall 2015 or spring 2016 semester.
- Complete all college coursework during the fall 2015 and spring 2016 semesters. Submit a final official transcript to UT Austin by June 1, 2016, from the UT System University that you select to attend.

U. of Texas & PACE = A partnership between ACC and UT is Admission to UT through Co-Enrollment at Austin Community College (PACE)
Students cannot apply to participate in PACE. UT Austin offers participation to selected freshman applicants who applied to UT but were not granted admission. Longhorns from day one, students in the Path to Admission through Co-Enrollment program take the majority of their classes at Austin Community College, plus one course per semester at The University of Texas at Austin, until they complete ACC's core curriculum. PACE students have two years to complete the core curriculum and achieve a 2.5 cumulative grade point average. Then they continue their undergraduate studies at UT Austin without reapplying for admission. Those enrolled in PACE have the opportunity to enjoy four years on the Forty Acres, and their coursework is fully applicable toward degree requirements at UT Austin. Students also save about \$4,000 in tuition a year by taking their core courses at ACC.

Texas A&M again ranked among nation's top animation schools

Texas A&M was recognized as one of the nation's top animation schools, placing **third** among public institutions and **second** in the Southwest in new lists created by Animation Career Review, an online career resource for aspiring animators, game designers and digital artists. <http://one.arch.tamu.edu/news/2016/4/12/top-animation-schools-us/>

Texas A&M policy for "Auto-admit" to students in top Quartile:

As long as a "State" university automatically admits the top 10% students, the school can add other auto admit policies as they please. In previous years, TAMU has given automatic admit to students who were in the top Quarter of their class and ALSO had a 1300 SAT (Cr + M with minimum of 600 on each). TAMU has a system of evaluating applicants who attend high schools that do not provide an EXACT numerical rank (like HC, John Cooper, St. John's, etc.). They have a process of assigning a rank to students if they do not have an exact numerical rank from their high school (such as #40 out of 132). Most private schools and many public like Lake Highlands in Dallas do NOT rank. TAMU assigns a numerical rank for the student based upon historical data from the student's high school. As an example, HC students with GPA's in the 90 or 91 range and in the 1st Quartile according to HC policy could be given a rank of 70th percentile in their class, versus 75th percentile. It is certainly possible to be admitted to TAMU if a student is in the 70th percentile range. Keep in mind that courses students choose to take, especially in the senior year, test scores, essays, and resume are very important! Do YOUR personal best...leave the rest to God! The competition at selective schools, like TAMU, continues to grow and every student should have a good back up plan...never plan on just "ONE" college... VISIT campuses before your senior year! **Texas A&M University info:** If you go to a Community College and transfer into TAMU, you must have a 3.2 (further information here: <http://admissions.tamu.edu/PTA>)

Texas A&M College of Engineering FALL 2017 Freshman Admission Process – due to the continued increase of competitive applications, the Texas A&M College of Engineering is moving to a total holistic review process beginning August 2016. This new policy applies to engineering, including Texas A&M automatic admits. For more details click on this link [Texas A&M Engineering Admissions Process](#).

TAMU 3+2 Bachelor's/Master's degree with Bush School of Government & Public Service: The Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University is offering a new 3+2 program for students who may be interested in pursuing, an Agriculture Economics or Agricultural Business degree with a master's degree from the Bush School of Government & Public Service. A slide and information details about the new 3+2 program with The Bush School can be found at <http://agecon.tamu.edu> - select the slide "our students in action". This program allows a student to obtain a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree concurrently and will be available starting Fall 2015. You may call 979-845-4911 with any questions you may have about our new program, or the Agricultural Economics Department.

TOP 10% BILL is still in effect– In accordance with Texas Education Code 51.805, all Texas students are automatically admitted to any state university in Texas as first-time freshmen if they: graduate in the top 10 percent of their class from an accredited Texas high school and submit all required credentials/application/fee to the university within published deadlines of the university (for exception to this rule, see U. of Texas-Austin info just above regarding top 8% for c/o 2016 and top 7% for c/o 2017).

Summer Camps, Courses, etc.

University of Texas Summer Discovery 2017 – For grades 9th-12th, June 24th-July 14th. Click on www.summerdiscovery.com/u-texas-austin for details.



for details visit <http://summersession.duke.edu/>

University of Miami – Summer Scholars Program – College for sophomore and junior high school students. July 1 – July 21, 2017. For details visit www.miami.edu/ssp

Cornell University Summer College – www.summercollege.cornell.edu 2, 3 or 6 week programs in various areas of study. Earn 3-6 credits in courses with Cornell faculty.

Stephen F. Austin State University PRE-LAW ACADEMY – this one week program is designed for high school juniors and seniors who would like an overview of the key steps in becoming a lawyer. For more information go to www.sfasu.edu/pre-lawacademy

College Scholarship Information

SCHOLARSHIPS.COM You find money and colleges find you!

www.Myscholly.com

The Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. Scholarship Foundation will award \$10,000 scholarships to African-American/Black, Asian, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, or Pacific Islander students from the greater Austin, Dallas and Houston area high schools. These seniors must be interested in a career in law, be in the top 20% standing in their class with a minimum combined SAT score of 1650, and demonstrate a financial need to attend college. Students can apply online by clicking this [link](#). Application deadline is April 1, 2017.

Ronald McDonald House Charities – US Scholarship Program – visit www.rmhc.org for more information or apply today at <https://aim.applyISTS.net/RMHC>

Kansas State Wabash Scholarship Houston – available to students who are admitted to K-State and have completed a general scholarship application due by Nov. 1. For details: www.k-state.com/wabashscholarshipouston

The American Legion Oratorical Contest Scholarship – Visit www.legion.org/oratorical

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES: <http://scholarships.texasexes.org/>

Use Naviance Scholarship Search, or Fastweb www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships for the best search engines.

Way to Go HC Students & Alumni!
Email your news to hrosandich@houstonchristian.org



Stoetzer Gray USMA, and Jordan Rapp USNA, c/o 2016...at the recent Army vs Navy game where Army beat Navy for the first time in 14 years.

Look where our Seniors were accepted! As of 12/16/2016

Students must inform the counseling office in order for names and colleges to be included on this list. A college listed in **bold** is the college the student will be attending. Fill in the information on the clipboard on Mrs. Rosandich's desk and show proof of your college acceptance and any scholarship offers.

Shreya Aggarwal – University of Texas Dallas
University of Houston
Houston Baptist University
Baylor University

Isabella Baar-Hill – University of Mississippi
University of Alabama
University of Arkansas
Texas Tech University
Baylor University
Auburn University

Dani Baltazar – Baylor University
Louisiana State University
Emerson College

Rachel Barnes – Baylor University
University of Mississippi
Auburn University
University of Alabama

Carol Batdorf – **Mississippi State**

Will Bates – Auburn University
University of Oklahoma

Jordan Behan – University of Mississippi
Baylor University
University of Alabama

Emily Blakley – Southwestern University
Samford University
Texas State University

Sam Brewer – Texas Christian University

Taylor Buchanan – Oklahoma State University
Texas State University
University of Mississippi
Louisiana State University
University of Arkansas
Baylor University

Cooper Budd – Texas State University
University of Alabama
University of Mississippi
University of Oklahoma
Texas Christian University

Caroline Burge – University of Texas
Texas A&M University

Conner Carmichael – University of Arizona
Texas Tech University
Michigan State University
Texas A&M University
Baylor University

Olivia Christiansen – University of Mary-Hardin Baylor
University of Alabama
Louisiana State University
University of Mississippi
Abilene Christian University
University of Houston

Maya Claypool – Texas A&M University
Baylor University

Mackenzie Colville – University of Oregon
Southwestern University

Allison Couch – Michigan Technological University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Priscila Cruz – Louisiana State University
University of Alabama
University of Oklahoma

Anna Cubbler – Fashion Institute of Design and Marketing

Julia Davis – Baylor University

Kate Dotson – Texas Tech University
Auburn University
Indiana University
Florida State University

Cate Dunne – University of Mary Hardin Baylor
Abilene Christian University

Alex Dye – Southwestern University
Texas Christian University
Texas Tech University

Evan Dye – University of North Texas
Texas Tech University

Lexi Edwards – University of Alabama
Louisiana State University

Sarah Kate Elliott – University of Arkansas
University of Oklahoma
Texas A&M University

Austin Fiuzat – Texas Tech University
Sam Houston State University

Madeleine Flanders – University of Arizona
University of Alabama
Baylor University

Rachel Goudeau – Texas State University
Louisiana State University
University of Mississippi
University of Alabama
Auburn University
Baylor University

Gillian Grace – Southern Mississippi University
University of Mississippi

John Gualy – Belmont University
University of Arkansas

Iris Guerrero – Baylor University
Southern Methodist University
Texas Christian University

Josh Gustafson – University of Arkansas
Arizona State University

Richard Hansen – University of Alabama
Baylor University
University of Colorado – Boulder
US Naval Academy Prep School

Madi Haynes – Sam Houston State University
University of Louisiana Lafayette

Abby Hepburn – University of Alabama
University of Arkansas
University of Mississippi
Baylor University

Carlos Hernandez – Baylor University
Mississippi State University

Skye Hill – Texas State University
Texas A&M Corpus Christi
Texas A&M University

Hudson Hopper – Texas A&M University

Patrick Hurley – Southern Methodist University
Texas Christian University

Davis Jackson – Baylor University

Katya Jimenez – Abilene Christian University
University of Mary Hardin Baylor

Amy Johnson – Texas State University
University of North Texas
University of Houston

Andrew Kovach – Oklahoma State University
University of Arkansas
Texas Tech University
University of North Texas
Baylor University
Southwestern University

Shelby Krummel – Colorado School of Mines
Texas A&M University
Southern Methodist University
Texas Christian University
Texas A&M University – Business Honors

Kelsey Lehane – Texas Christian University
Southern Methodist University

Cole Little – Texas A&M University
Auburn University
Colorado School of Mines

Evan Marshman – Auburn University

Elizabeth McCoy – University of Dallas

Merrimack College
 Gannon University
 Baylor University
 Kevin McGee – University of Mississippi
 Texas State University
 University of Texas San Antonio
 Jeremy Mitschke – Texas Tech University
 Louisiana State University
 Louisiana Tech
 University of Mississippi
 Baylor University
 Kristen Moehlman – University of Texas
 Linnea Mosvold - Colorado Christian University
 Clayton Nugent – Samford University
 University of Arkansas
 Baylor University
 Spencer Osato – Belmont University
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 Baylor University
 Colton Parker – Baylor University
 Auburn University
 University of North Texas
 Samford University
 Anya Parrish – **Savannah College of Art and Design**
 Oklahoma State University
 Brooke Phillips – University of Alabama
 University of Mississippi
 University of Oklahoma
 Sydney Pickle – Lynchburg College
 Baylor University
 St. Edwards University
 University of Oklahoma
 Drew Pontikes – Oklahoma State University
 Texas Tech University
 Sam Houston State University
 University of Houston
 Mississippi State University
 Connor Redd – Texas Tech University
 Texas A&M University – Galveston
 Zerik Rodriguez – Carthage College
 Kailey Shanks – Baylor University
 Connor Smith – University of North Texas
 Spencer Smith – Texas A&M University
 University of Tennessee Knoxville
 Nicholas Stout – Louisiana State University
 University of Alabama
 Texas A&M University
 Thomas Varner – University of Arkansas
 Sydney Welling – University of Alabama
 Texas Christian University
 Nicole Welsh – Baylor University
 Allison White – Texas A&M University
 University of Texas
 Hendrix College
 Dayton Wilson – Southern Methodist University
 Grace Young – Texas A&M University
 Colorado School of Mines
 Ashley Zelaya – University of Mississippi
 Baylor University
 University of Alabama
 Grace Zhang – **New York University**

Scholarships (all scholarship amounts listed are over 4 years unless otherwise noted):

Shreya Aggarwal – Baylor University \$60,000
 Dani Baltazar – Baylor University \$160,000
 Louisiana State University \$80,000
 Emerson College - \$120,000
 Jordan Behan – University of Alabama \$72,000
 Emily Blakley – Southwestern University \$100,000
 Sam Brewer – Texas Christian University \$64,000
 Connor Carmichael – Baylor University \$52,000
 University of Arizona Excellence Award \$40,000
 Texas Tech University Presidential Scholarship \$16,000
 Olivia Christiansen – Louisiana State University \$17,000
 Abilene Christian University \$26,000
 University of Houston \$6,000
 Maya Claypool – Baylor University Dean’s Gold Scholarship \$60,000
 Mackenzie Colville – University of Oregon \$16,000
 Southwestern University \$100,000
 Julia Davis – Baylor University President’s Gold Scholarship \$60,000
 Cate Dunne – Abilene Christian University \$26,000
 Madeleine Flanders – Baylor University \$67,000
 University of Arizona \$65,000
 Rachel Goudeau – Baylor University \$60,000
 John Gualy – Belmont University \$24,000
 Iris Guerrero – Baylor University \$68,000
 Southern Methodist University \$80,000
 Texas Christian University \$68,000
 Josh Gustafson – Arizona State University \$50,000
 Richard Hansen – Baylor University \$28,000
 Abby Hepburn – University of Alabama \$16,000
 Baylor University \$60,000
 Patrick Hurley – Southern Methodist University \$80,000
 Katya Jimenez – University of Mary Hardin Baylor \$36,000
 Andrew Kovach – Southwestern University \$88,000
 Shelby Krummel – Southern Methodist University \$120,000
 Texas Christian University \$80,000
 Kelsey Lehane – Southern Methodist University \$120,000
 Elizabeth McCoy – University of Dallas \$96,000
 Merrimack College \$76,000
 Gannon University \$68,000
 Baylor University \$64,000
 Linnea Mosvold – Colorado Christian University \$98,000
 Spencer Osato – Belmont University \$12,000
 Baylor University \$28,000
 Sydney Pickle – Lynchburg College \$76,000,
 Baylor University \$60,000
 St. Edwards University \$68,000
 Kailey Shanks – Baylor University Presidents Gold Scholarship \$64,000
 Spencer Smith – University of Tennessee Knoxville \$60,000
 Nicholas Stout – Louisiana State University Flagship Scholars Non-Resident Award \$82,000
 Texas Tigers Scholarship \$13,340,
 President’s Student Aid Program \$6,200
 University of Alabama - Presidential Scholarship \$107,800
 Engineering Leadership Scholarship \$10,000
 Sydney Welling – University of Alabama \$14,000
 Texas Christian University \$52,000
 Nicole Welsh – Baylor University \$82,000 President’s Gold Scholarship
 Allison White – Hendrix College \$100,000

Running Total: \$3,210,340