Council established the graduate faculty, and in 1940, the first Ph.D. was awarded. In the 1960s, the Board of Regents created programs of graduate instruction in each of the academic colleges.

In 1963, the Texas state legislature officially changed the College's name to Texas A&M University, with the "A" and "M" being a symbolic link to the school's past but no longer officially standing for "Agricultural and Mechanical."

Texas A&M underwent many other significant changes in the '60s, as well. Under Gen. Earl Rudder's administration, Texas A&M also opened its doors to African American students and formally admitted women students. Participation in the Corps of Cadets was made voluntary.

Since then, Texas A&M has become an academic powerhouse. It is one of only three Tier 1 universities in the state (along with Rice University and the University of Texas at Austin). Texas A&M was designated a sea-grant institution in 1971 and a space-grant institution in 1989, making it among the first four universities to hold this triple distinction, and one of only 17 nationwide.

In 2001, Texas A&M became a member of the Association of American Universities, which is restricted to the 62 top public and private institutions of higher learning in the United States and Canada. In 2004, the Kappa of Texas Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was installed at Texas A&M.

As the State of Texas has grown, so has the University. Today, women comprise nearly half of the student body, and membership in the Corps of Cadets is more than 2,300. Historically, the Corps of Cadets has produced more officers than any other institution outside the military academies. The George Bush Presidential Library and Museum opened in 1997, making Texas A&M one of only a few universities to host a presidential library.

Texas A&M has a presence in 250 of the state's 252 counties through its extension agencies, and also has two branch campuses: a marine campus in Galveston, and an engineering campus in the Middle Eastern country of Qatar (fully funded by the Qatar Foundation). The university has annual research expenditures of more than $1.13 billion, ranking it among top 20 nationally by the National Science Foundation.

Classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a Research Intensive University, Texas A&M embraces its mission of advancing knowledge and human achievement, helping to drive the economic engine of the state and nation, and preparing students to be life-long learners and leaders in today's knowledge-based, global society.

Texas A&M's focus on excellence and innovation in teaching, research and service has led to rankings among the nation's top universities. Texas A&M today seeks even greater preeminence among the nation's top public universities, while continuing to respect the history and traditions that set us apart.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Student learning outcomes summarize the knowledge and skills Texas A&M University expects students to gain during their educational experience as Aggies. These learning outcomes ask students to connect their course- and degree-level learning to their overall goals as they take on leadership positions in their professions and communities, and prepare them to engage in learning for a lifetime.
First and foremost, Texas A&M expects students to have mastered the material presented in their individual courses, from entry-level general education courses required of all undergraduates, to capstone courses restricted to seniors in a major, to specialized graduate seminars.

The broader institutional student learning outcomes ask students to connect the pieces of their education into a whole that synthesizes what they have learned. Students graduate not only knowing facts and understanding basic concepts, but also demonstrating an ability to apply and explain those facts and concepts creatively in new situations. Through this process, students gain the skills and knowledge that allow them to thrive in our complex world.

**Master’s**

A student who graduates from Texas A&M University with a master’s degree will:

- Master degree program requirements, including theories, concepts, principles and practice, and develop a coherent understanding of the subject matter through synthesis across courses and experiences.
- Apply subject matter knowledge in a range of contexts to solve problems and make decisions.
- Use a variety of sources and evaluate multiple points of view to analyze and integrate information and to conduct critical, reasoned arguments.
- Communicate effectively.
- Use appropriate technologies to communicate, collaborate, conduct research and solve problems.
- Develop clear research plans and conduct valid (data-supported), theoretically consistent and institutionally appropriate research.
- Choose ethical courses of action in research and practice.

**Doctoral**

A student who graduates from Texas A&M University with a doctoral degree will:

- Master degree program requirements, including theories, concepts, principles and practice; develop a coherent understanding of the subject matter through synthesis across courses and experiences; and apply subject matter knowledge to solve problems and make decisions.
- Apply a variety of strategies and tools, use a variety of sources and evaluate multiple points of view to analyze and integrate information and put forth critical, reasoned arguments.
- Communicate effectively.
- Develop clear research plans, conduct valid, data-supported, theoretically consistent, and institutionally appropriate research and effectively disseminate the results of the research in appropriate venues to a range of audiences.
- Use appropriate technologies to communicate, collaborate, conduct research and solve problems.
- Teach and explain the subject matter in their discipline.
- Choose ethical courses of action in research and practice.