



EAST TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY



The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for East Texas A&M University (ETAMU), Foundation for Your Future, equips students with a comprehensive curricular and co-curricular approach to making career choices. These choices begin with an inward assessment and conclude by connecting personal traits to a broad range of career options for which students are most suited, embedded in an engaging, hands-on education that prepares students for success in their chosen careers. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness and the QEP Committee will monitor assessment measures, including ongoing data analysis and continuous improvement activities.

The QEP has three phases:

1. **Phase 1 (Foundation):** To provide students with a solid career foundation as they begin college.

Outcome: Students will align their personal strengths, interests, and values to a potential career path or field of study.

Purpose: The purpose of Phase 1 is to help students make informed degree and career choices as early as possible in their collegiate experience. An informed choice includes both a comprehensive overview of career options, as well as an in-depth look into the self to self-assess and determine how certain personality traits contribute to suitability or 'fit' in a chosen career field.

2. **Phase 2 (Framework):** To build upon the solid foundation with a framework that provides students with the skills, content and competencies for a successful future.

Outcome: Students will develop their integrated values, interests, personal traits, rewards systems, experiences, skills, and strengths (VIPRESS) and career readiness through in-class assignments.

Purpose: Phase 2 has two purposes. First, students will dive deeply into the skills, content, and competencies that they will need for success in their chosen degrees, careers, and lives. Put most simply, Phase 2 includes most of the career-based methods or "how to" courses. The second – yet equally important – purpose is to help students explore other options if or when they begin to discover they may be better suited to a different degree or career path. Herein, Phase 2 will help students continue making informed choices either to stay in the major or change the major.

3. **Phase 3 (Capstone):** To launch students successfully into their careers with a capstone experience or project as a synthesis of prior learning.

Outcome: Students will apply prior learning related to career readiness through the completion of a capstone experience(s).

Purpose: In many degree programs, there is a gap between college and career from which many students never escape. Phase 3 serves to bridge that gap and help students make a smooth transition from college into career through job-imbedded placements, clinicals, internships, practica, job fairs, mock interviews, and other capstone experiences.

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