A large, stylized white 'W' logo is painted on a green lawn. The logo is composed of thick white lines and is surrounded by a dark brown border. In the background, there are several small, dark green bushes and a portion of a light-colored building. A semi-transparent dark red banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing white text.

UNIVERSITY HISTORY
& TRADITION

history and tradition

By resolution of the Legislature of the State of Texas in November 1866, Texas agreed to provide for a college under the terms of the Morrill Act, but no such institution was organized until the establishment of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas by the Texas state legislature on April 17, 1871. A commission created to locate the institution accepted the offer of 2,416 acres of land from the citizens of Brazos County in 1871, and instruction began in 1876.

Texas A&M was established as a military institution, and the Corps of Cadets has played an important part in its history and development. Although membership in the Corps of Cadets became voluntary in 1965, Texas A&M historically has produced more military officers than any other institution in the nation except for the service academies. Texas A&M remains one of only six senior military colleges today, and the Corps is the largest uniformed body outside the national service academies.



In keeping with the diversified and expanded character of the institution, in 1963, the name of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas changed to Texas A&M University. In September 1971, the designation Sea Grant College was assigned to Texas A&M University in recognition of its achievements in oceanographic and marine resources development. Texas A&M was one of the first institutions nationwide to achieve this distinction. Texas A&M added a third special designation to its credentials in August 1989, when it was named a Space Grant College based on its continuing commitment to space research. Texas A&M is one of a select few institutions nationwide to hold the triple Land-Grant, Sea-Grant, and Space-Grant designations. Texas A&M has two branch campuses: Texas A&M University at Galveston, the university's marine-oriented branch, opened in 1962; and Texas A&M University at Qatar, an engineering branch established in the Middle Eastern country of Qatar in 2003, with full funding by Qatar Foundation.

aggieland today

Texas A&M University offers a variety of programs in both undergraduate and graduate studies through its academic colleges and programs: Agriculture & Life Sciences, Architecture, Bush School of Government & Public Service, Mays Business School, Education & Human Development, Geosciences, Health Science Center, School of Law, Liberal Arts, Science, and Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. In addition, its extensive research efforts in all fields total more than \$800 million.

From humble beginnings in 1876 as Texas' first public institution of higher learning, Texas A&M is now a bustling 5,200-acre campus (one of the nation's largest) with over 50,000 students and a nationally recognized faculty. With a fall 2013 new student enrollment near 12,000, almost 27 percent are the first in their family to attend college. Average SAT scores are well above the national average and the university ranks in the top ten nationally in the number of National Merit Scholars.

In addition to the exemplary education students receive inside the classroom, Aggies also have the opportunity to experience "education in action" through participation in one or more of the University's 800 clubs and organizations. In fact, more than 75 percent of students belong to at least one student organization. See the involvement section of this handbook to learn more about opportunities on campus.

timeline

1876 Texas A&M University, the state's oldest public institution of higher education, opened on October 4th.

1883 The first Silver Taps was held to honor Lawrence Sullivan Ross, the former governor of Texas and president of A&M College. Silver Taps, one of Texas A&M's most honored traditions, is held any student who passes away while enrolled at A&M. This final tribute is held the first Tuesday of the month following the students' passing.

1889 The Class of 1889 was the first to receive Aggie Rings.

1898 "Pinky" Wilson wrote The Aggie War Hymn while standing guard on the Rhine River during World War I.

1907 Pinky Downs shouted out at the Yell Practice before the TCU football game, "What are we going to do to those Horned Frogs?" Answering his own question, he replied, "Gig 'Em, Aggies!" while making a fist with his thumb extended.

1918 Membership dues for The Association of Former Students were abolished because it was agreed that any Aggie graduate was automatically a member of their alumni association in spirit and fact.

1922 First women admitted to the University on a limited basis. Full admission of women began in 1971. The Corps of Cadets allowed women to join in 1974.

1930 November 18, 1999 Bonfire fell, taking 12 of our fellow Aggies with it. This marked the second time in A&M's history Bonfire did not burn, the first being 1963 following John F. Kennedy's assassination. At this time, on-campus Bonfire has been postponed indefinitely.

1876

1883

1889

1898

1907

1918

1922

1930

1931

1942

1963

1965

1982

1999

Aggies gathered together for the first Muster to "live over again their college days." Muster is celebrated in more than four hundred places worldwide on April 21st, with the largest ceremony on-campus in College Station.

The Class of 1889 was the first to receive Aggie Rings.

The first Bonfire was held in the early morning hours of November 18, 1907. However, the first on campus Aggie Bonfire was not held until 1909.

Student E. King Gill came down out of the stands and donned the uniform of an injured player during the Aggie football game against Centre College. He was the last man standing on the sideline at the end of the game, and though he never played, he stood by in case his team needed him and began the tradition of the 12th Man.

A group of cadets hit a small black and white dog on their way back from Navasota. They picked up the dog and brought her back to school so they could care for her and she was quickly named "Reveille" when she barked during the bugler's morning wake up call.

Membership in the Corps of Cadets became voluntary.

The Big Event began as a way for students to say "Thank You" by serving the surrounding community. The largest one-day, student-run project in the nation, this event has over 18,000 student volunteers performing tasks such as painting and yard-work.



Division of Marketing and Communications

Aggie Ring

The Aggie Ring is rich in symbolism and tradition and is perhaps the most recognizable and enduring symbol of the Aggie Network. The Association of Former Students has the distinct privilege of protecting the spirit and integrity of the Aggie Ring.

The highly cherished Aggie Ring can only be obtained through The Association of Former Students. Students must meet eligibility requirements before they can order their Aggie Ring. Please visit AggieNetwork.com/Ring to learn more about the Aggie Ring requirements.

Aggie Bonfire

Aggie Bonfire began in 1907 when cadets lit a pile of wood and trash on fire at the train station to welcome the football team home from a victory on the road. Bonfire grew immensely throughout the years and it came to symbolize the undying love all Aggies hold in their hearts for Texas A&M, and eventually evolved into an exciting and eagerly anticipated tradition at Texas A&M.

For nearly a century, Bonfire was lit just prior to the annual football game with the University of Texas (referred to as "t.u." by Aggies), representing the burning desire Aggies have to "beat the hell out of t.u.!" Aggie Bonfire has been a testament to Aggie spirit and what Aggie leadership, teamwork, and motivation can accomplish. Since the tragic fall of the stack on November 18, 1999, the Aggie Bonfire is now remembered in a memorial on campus dedicated to those who were lost and injured that day and throughout Bonfire's history.

More information about Texas A&M traditions available at tamu.edu/about/traditions.html

Corps of Cadets

The Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets, known as “The Keepers of the Spirit,” has been preserving Aggie traditions and producing leaders of character for 138 years. The over 2,250 member Corps provides a balanced, structured military lifestyle focused on academic excellence and offers a wide range of extracurricular activities. The Corps provides opportunities to master leadership and management skills that prepare cadets to become leaders in the military, private, and public sectors.

The Corps of Cadets may be best known for preparing students for commissions in the military; however, nearly 60% percent of graduating cadets do not join the military. Cadets who want to pursue non-military careers — whether in the private sector or in public service — can declare themselves Academic Certificate in Leadership candidates after their second year in the Corps of Cadets.

Silver Taps

By far, one of Texas A&M’s most honored traditions is Silver Taps. Silver Taps is held for any graduate or undergraduate student who passes away while enrolled at A&M. This final tribute is held in Academic Plaza the first Tuesday of the month following the student’s passing. The first Silver Taps was held in 1898 and honored Lawrence Sullivan Ross, the former governor of Texas and president of A&M College.

On the day of Silver Taps, a small card with the deceased student’s name, classification, major, and date of birth is placed at the base of the flagpole in Academic Plaza. Around 10:15 that night, lights are extinguished around Academic Plaza and hymns chime from Albritton Bell Tower. Students silently gather at the statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross. At 10:30 p.m. the Ross Volunteer Firing Squad marches into the plaza and fires a 21 gun salute. Buglers then play a special rendition of Taps, called Silver Taps, three times from the dome of the Academic Building: once to the north, south, and west. It is not played to the east because it is said that the sun will never rise on that Aggie’s life again. After the buglers play, those in attendance leave from Academic Plaza in complete silence.

Muster

Muster began in June of 1883 as members of the Ex-Cadets Association came together to “live over again our college days, the victories and defeats won and lost upon drill ground and classroom” and to “let every alumni answer a roll call.” In 1922, April 21st became a formalized day of events for all A&M clubs to celebrate San Jacinto Day in the same fashion. Since then, events that occurred on April 21st have grown in size and number.

Muster gained national recognition in 1942 when newspapers reported that a Muster ceremony was held by 24 Aggies on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines, just days before the land fell to the Japanese.

Today, Aggie Muster is celebrated in more than 400 locations worldwide. Students coordinate the Campus Muster that is held for students and faculty. Each year Muster is dedicated to the 50-year reunion class. The Campus Muster involves a day of activities for all Aggies to come together on campus to enjoy a barbecue, friendship, and entertainment.



Photo by Division of Marketing and Communications

The day closes with the roll call for the absent ceremony, when over 13,000 people come together to honor and remember those who are no longer with us. Following the Singing Cadets, Aggie Band, and Muster speaker, lights are dimmed and the roll call begins. As each name is called, a candle is lit and a friend or family member answers “here” to remind us all that each Aggie, though no longer present in body, will always remain with us in spirit.

Muster is a time to look to the past, present, and future, not only to grieve but to reflect and to celebrate the lives that connect us to one another. A gesture so simple in nature yet so lasting in spirit, Muster is the lasting impression every Aggie leaves with us; it reminds us of the greatness that lies within these walls, of the loyalty we possess, of the connection that binds us, and of the idea that every Aggie has a place of importance—whether they are present in flesh or spirit. Muster will continue to serve as the foundation of Aggie Spirit, upholding those ideals and principles common to all students of Texas A&M, common to all Aggies, forever.

history and tradition



Photo by Division of Marketing and Communications

Reveille

Reveille, the first lady of Aggieland, is the official mascot of Texas A&M University. As an honorary Cadet General, she wears 5 diamonds, making her the highest ranking member of the Corps of Cadets. Reveille I came to Texas A&M in January 1931. A group of cadets hit a small black and white dog on the side of the road on their way back from Navasota. They picked up the dog and brought her back to school so they could care for her. The next morning, when "Reveille" was blown by a bugler, she started barking and was later named after this morning wake up call. The following football season she was named the official mascot when she led the band onto the field during their half-time performance.

When Reveille I died in January 1944, she was given a formal military funeral on the gridiron of Kyle Field. She was then buried at the north entrance to the field, as all Reveilles are, facing the scoreboard so

that she can always watch the Aggies outscore their opponent. Reveille is the most revered dog on campus. Corps of Cadets Company E-2 has the privilege of taking care of Reveille. If she is sleeping on a cadet's bed, that cadet must sleep on the floor. If she is in class and barks while the professor is teaching, legend is, the class is to be immediately dismissed.

Howdy

In true Aggie Spirit, "Howdy" is the official greeting of Texas A&M. The university is known for its welcoming attitude and for making sure no one who visits the campus feels like a stranger. Visitors often say they find the friendliness of the campus remarkable. They tell stories of looking lost only to have an Aggie walk up, say "Howdy," offer to help and, to their amazement, walk with them to make sure they arrive at their destination. While the exact origin of this tradition is not known, "Howdy" has come to be a tradition that sets Texas A&M apart as one of the friendliest campuses in the world, where all are welcome.



Photo by First-Year Photo Project student, Christine Vega

Gig 'Em

Pinky Downs, class of 1906, is credited with the "Gig 'Em" hand sign. At the 1930 Yell Practice before the TCU football game, Downs shouted out, "What are we going to do to those Horned Frogs?" Answering his own question, he replied, "Gig 'Em, Aggies!" while making a fist with his thumb extended. A "gig" is a spear-like tool used for hunting frogs. The gesture became known as the first hand sign of the Southwest Conference. Now Aggies use this sign to encourage and motivate each other.



Photo by Division of Marketing and Communications

Yell Leaders

When A&M was an all-male military college in 1907, students often invited ladies from Texas Woman's University to take the train to College Station to attend Aggie football games. According to legend, during one football game the Aggies were being out-scored so badly that the ladies were threatening to leave the game from boredom, and the upperclassmen ordered the freshmen to find a way to entertain them. The freshmen raided a janitor's closet, changed into the white coveralls they found there, and began leading the crowd in yells from the track in front of the stands. The freshmen got so much attention from the ladies that it was decided that only upperclassmen would be allowed to participate in this entertainment in the future.

The Yell Leaders have evolved into a team of five upperclassmen (three seniors and two juniors). Student body elections to choose the Yell Leaders are held annually.

The Yell Leaders attend all home and away football games, all home basketball games, all home volleyball games, all home soccer matches, and post-season football, basketball, and volleyball. They can always be found on the sidelines of the playing field in front of the student section.

history and tradition

Midnight Yell Practice

Where other schools have cheers, Aggies proudly (and loudly) show enthusiasm through their many yells. They shout these yells at Yell Practice to build motivation and spirit for an upcoming event, whether it is a football game or another competition.

Yell Practice began as a post dinner activity in early 1900's, when different Corps companies would gather together to "learn heartily the old time pep." However, it was not until 1931 that Midnight Yell Practice, as it is known today, was held before the t.u. game. It began when a group of cadets were gathered in Peanut Owen's dorm room in Puryear Hall. Someone suggested that all of the freshmen should fall out and meet on the steps of the YMCA building at midnight. The Yell Leaders at the time said that they couldn't make it official, but they just might show up. Needless to say, the word spread quickly, and when the freshmen began to arrive, railroad flares and torpedoes were stuck in flower pots around the YMCA building to light the area. The first Midnight Yell Practice had begun!



Photo by Texas A&M Corps of Cadets

For home football games, Yell Practice occurs at midnight, Friday night before the game at Kyle Field. For an away game, a Yell Practice is held on Thursday evening at the Corps Quad arches and Friday at midnight in the town of the opponent. The purpose of Midnight Yell is to pump up the 12th Man for the next day's big game!

The 12th Man

The tradition of the Twelfth Man was born on January 2, 1922. The Aggies were playing Centre College, the nation's top ranked team at the time. As the hard-fought game wore on, the Aggies were forced to dig deep into their limited reserves because of injuries. Coach Dana X. Bible remembered that a former squad member, who was playing basketball at the time, was in the press box helping reporters identify players. His name was E. King Gill. Gill was called from the stands, suited up, and stood ready throughout the rest of the game, which A&M finally won 22 to 14. Gill later said, "I wish I could say that I went in and ran for the winning touchdown, but I didn't. I simply got ready and waited—just in case I was needed."

Although Gill did not play in the game, he had accepted the call to help his team. He came to be known as the "12th Man" because he stood ready in case the 11 men on the gridiron needed him. That spirit of readiness for service, desire to support, and enthusiasm helped kindle a flame of devotion among the entire student body, a spirit that has grown vigorously throughout the years. The entire student body at A&M is the "12th Man," and they stand during the entire game to show their support. The "12th Man" is always in the stands waiting to be called upon if needed.

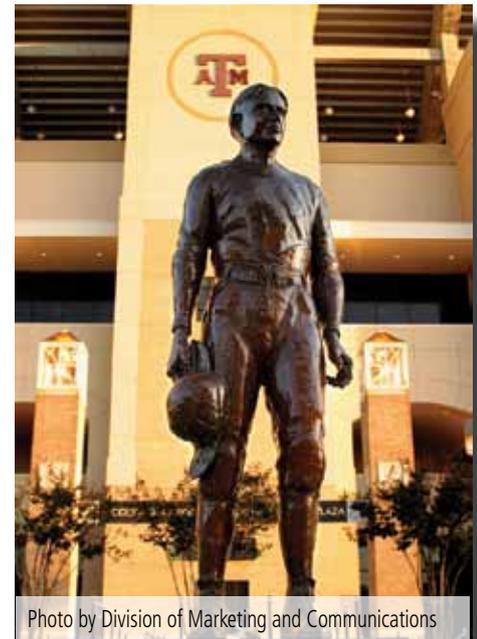


Photo by Division of Marketing and Communications

Jackie Harman '14
aggie orientation leader program



"As a first generation college student, coming to a school as large as Texas A&M seemed daunting. However, when I first arrived on campus I was met with the kind of warmth and welcome that only the Aggie Family can provide. *OUR Rich history and deeply rooted traditions set Texas A&M apart from other universities not only in academic excellence, but also by being a second family and 'home away from home' for many during their studies here.* My advice to all is to go out and get involved on campus, find a student organization you love, stand with the 12th Man at sporting events, and say "Howdy!" Make the most of your time here, Texas A&M is more than a place to get a degree."

history and tradition



Photo by Division of Marketing and Communications

aggie yells

GIG 'EM

Aaaaaaa, gig 'em, Aggies!

AGGIES

A-G-G-I-E-S

A-G-G-I-E-S

Aaaaaaa, fight 'em, Aggies!

FARMERS FIGHT

Farmers, fight! Farmers, fight!

Fight! Fight!

Farmers, farmers fight!

MILITARY

Squads left; squads right!

Farmers, farmers we're all right!

Load, ready, aim, fire: BOOM!

Reload! (said by Seniors only)

A&M, give us room!

TEAM

T-E-A-M, T-E-A-M

Aaaaaaa, team, team, team!

HORSE LAUGH

Riffety, Riffety, Riff-Raff!

Chiffity, Chiffity, Chiff-Chaff!

Riff-Raff! Chiff-Chaff!

Let's give 'em a horse laugh:

Ssssss!

OLD ARMY

A---, R---, M---, Y---

T---, A---, M---, C---

Aaaaaaa, Old Army Fight!

FIFTEEN FOR TEAM

Rah! Rah! Rah! Team!

Farmers, fight! Farmers, fight!

Fight! Fight!

Farmers, farmers fight!

SKY ROCKET

Whistleeeeeeeeeeee

Boom

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa

Whistleeeeeeeeeeee

Rah! Boom! Team! Yea!

LOCOMOTIVE

(slow)

Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!

T-A-M-C

(faster)

Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!

T-A-M-C

(very fast)

Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!

T-A-M-C

Aaaaaaa

Rah! Rah! Rah! Team!

BEAT THE HELL

Beat the Hell Outta...

(whoever we are playing!)

KYLE FIELD

K-Y-L-E

F-I-E-L-D

Aaaaaaaaaaaaa

Kyle Field, Aaaa

aggie songs

SPIRIT OF AGGIELAND

Some may boast of prowess bold
Of the school they think so grand,
But there's a spirit can ne'er be told,
It's the Spirit of Aggieland.

(Chorus)

We are the Aggies -
the Aggies are we,
True to each other as Aggies can be.
We've got to fight boys,
We've got to fight!
We've got to fight for Maroon and
White.

After they've boosted all the rest,
They will come and join the best,
For we are the Aggies -
the Aggies are we,
We're from Texas AMC.

T-E-X-A-S A-G-G-I-E
Fight! Fight! Fight-fight-fight!
Fight! Maroon! White-White-White!
A-G-G-I-E
Texas! Texas! A-M-C!
Gig 'em, Aggies, 1-2-3
Farmers fight! Farmers fight!
Fight! Fight!
Farmers, farmers fight!

THE TWELFTH MAN

(Sung if the Aggies are behind when
the time runs out)

Texas Aggies down in Aggieland,
We've got Aggie Spirit to a man.
"Stand united!"
That's the Aggie theme,
We're the 12th Man on the team.
When we're down,
the goin's rough and tough,
We just grin and yell:
"We've got the stuff
To fight together for the Aggie
dream,"
We're the 12th Man on that
FIGHTIN' AGGIE TEAM!

AGGIE WAR HYMN

Hullabaloo, Caneck! Caneck!
Hullabaloo, Caneck! Caneck!

Good-bye to Texas University,
So long to the Orange and the
White.
Good luck to dear ole Texas Aggies,
They are the boys
that show the real old fight.
"The eyes of Texas are upon you . . ."
That is the song they sing so well,
So good-bye to Texas University,
We're going to beat you all to—
Chig-ga-roo-gar-em!
Chig-ga-roo-gar-em!
Rough! Tough! Real Stuff!
Texas A&M!

Saw Varsity's horns off!
Saw Varsity's horns off!
Saw Varsity's horns off!

Short!
Varsity's horns are sawed off!
Varsity's horns are sawed off!
Varsity's horns are sawed off!
Short!

HOT TIME

(follows The Aggie War Hymn)
Late one night
When the t-sips were in bed,
Old Sul Ross
Took a lantern in the shed.
The Aggie kicked it over,
He winked and then he said,
There'll be a hot time in Austin
tonight!

TEXAS, OUR TEXAS

(Official State Song)
Texas—Our Texas!—
All hail the mighty State!—
Texas—Our Texas!—
So wonderful and great!—
Boldest—and grandest,—
Withstanding ev'ry test,—
O, Empire wide and glorious,—
You stand supremely blest.
God bless—you Texas,—
And keep you brave and strong,
That you may grow in power and
worth,
throughout the ages long.
God bless—you Texas,—
And keep you brave and strong,
That you may grow in power and
worth, throughout the ages long.



Photo by Division of Marketing and Communications

history and tradition

campus lingo

Add/Drop: A period of time, at the start of the semester when students may add and drop classes online.

Aggie: A student or former student of Texas A&M University.

Aggie Spirit: Undefined, yet an awesome force that radiates from students, former students, and friends of Texas A&M University.

Aggieland: (1) Home of the Fightin' Texas Aggies; (2) Texas A&M's yearbook.

The Association of Former Students: The alumni association - there is really no such thing as an Ex-Aggie; there are only Former Students. Once an Aggie, always an Aggie!

Bad Bull: Anything that does not promote the Aggie Spirit.

Batt: The Battalion, Texas A&M's student newspaper.

Blue Book: A ruled paper booklet used in some classes for essay tests.

Brass: (1) Metal buttons, buckles and insignia on Corps uniforms; (2) Rank.

Bonfire: A past tradition that symbolized A&M's desire to beat t.u. in football.

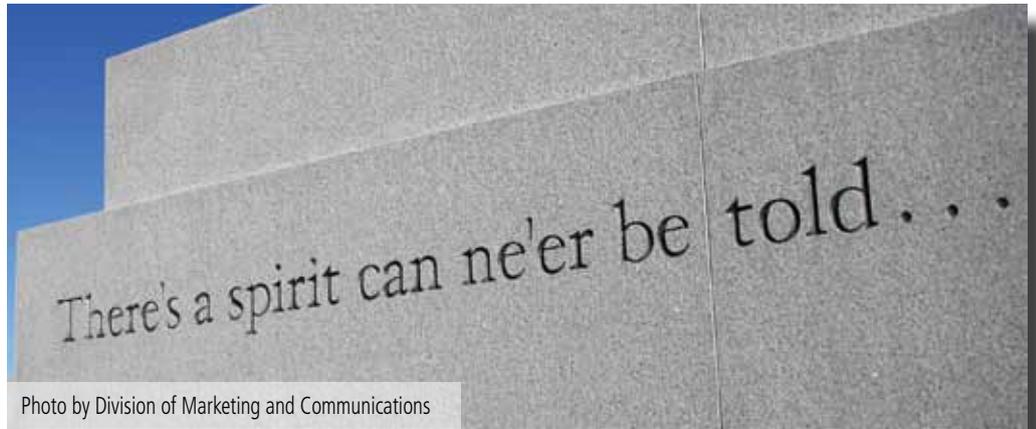
Commons: The residence hall complex consisting of Krueger, Dunn, Aston, and Mosher halls and the dining and recreational areas the halls share.

Contract: Advanced military science contracts (ROTC)-why some juniors and seniors in the Corps get paid.

Corps Trip: Trip made by the entire Corps to an out-of-town football game.

D&C: Drill and Ceremony. Junior or Senior in the Corps who does not have a contract with one of the military services.

Elephant Walk: Held around the last home football game, seniors celebrate their place in A&M's history by wandering around the campus like dying elephants.



ExCEL: A student organization and orientation program designed to help freshmen find an academic, social and personal balance at Texas A&M.

F.O.W.: Freshman Orientation Week - held the week before classes begin to help Corps freshmen make the transition from a high school environment to the Corps of Cadets' way of life.

Final: Final examination, last major exam of the semester.

Final Review: The last Corps review of the school year, held around graduation. Graduating cadets turn the command of their outfits over to the officers for the following year.

First Yell: Typically held the Friday before the first home football game. Hosted by the Yell Leaders, the event includes a major performer and Yell Practice.

Fish: A freshman.

Fish Camp: Freshman orientation camp held just before classes begin in the fall. Provides an overall introduction to Texas A&M.

Fish Pond: The fountain outside of Sbisa Dining Hall.

Frog: Cadet who joins the Corps after he/she starts school.

G.P.R.: Grade point ratio. (G.P.A.)

Good Bull: Anything that promotes the Aggie Spirit.

Greek(s): The members of social fraternities and sororities.

Guard Room: Office of the Corps Staff, located in Kiest Hall on the Quad.

Hole: A Corps member's room.

Howdy!: Traditional Aggie greeting; a derivative of "hello."

Howdy Camp: An orientation camp designed for students entering A&M in the Spring semester.

Hullabaloo: The first word in the Aggie War Hymn.

Humping It: Position taken by an Aggie when giving a yell. To do this, put your hands on your knees and bend forward at the waist.

Instructor: Person who teaches and has not attained the rank of professor.

Koldus Building: The John J. Koldus Building houses the Prospective Student Center, Career Center, Student Activities, Student Government, Fraternity & Sorority Life, numerous student organizations, and several meeting rooms.

Kyle Field: The football field and stadium where staunch Aggie fans yell for an eager team.

Mt. Aggie: The practice ski slope that hosts ski classes and practice sessions before ski trips.

MSC: Memorial Student Center.

New Family Welcome: An annual event in the Fall semester for family members of new Aggies to visit their student(s) and attend scheduled events.

history and tradition

Non-Reg: An undergraduate student who is not a member of the Corps of Cadets.

OL: Orientation Leader- student leader in AOLP (Aggie Orientation Leader Program) who volunteers with New Student Conferences.

Ol' Army: Like it "used to be" at A&M or term used to define an unknown, past time period.

Open House: Usually held the first Sunday after school starts. Recognized student organizations set up booths to inform the student body about opportunities for involvement and available services.

Parents' Weekend: A University-wide activity set aside to honor Aggie parents, held in the Spring semester. Also, the Aggie Parents of the Year are announced and academic, Corps, organization, and Spirit Awards are presented.

Privilege: A benefit merited by virtue of class rank.

Q-Drop: The process of dropping a course after the designated add/drop period without penalty.

Quad/Quadrangle: Where the Corps residence halls are located.

R.A.: Abbreviation for resident advisor of a residence hall.

R.V.s: Ross Volunteers - members of the military honor company named for Lawrence Sullivan Ross, the oldest student organization in Texas and the honor guard for the Governor of Texas.

RHA: Residence Hall Association - a recognized student organization working for all students living in the residence halls.

Recruitment: Recruitment process used by fraternities and sororities. Usually at the beginning of the semester, it provides students interested in joining Greek social organizations an opportunity to meet members and ask questions.

Rest!: Be quiet!

Sbisa: Pronounced "sa-bee-sa"; located on the north side of campus, it is the second largest dining hall on any college campus.

SEC (Southeastern Conference): College athletic conference made up of 14 schools including University of Alabama, University of Arkansas, Auburn University, University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of Kentucky, Louisiana State University, University of Mississippi, Mississippi State University, Texas A&M University, University of Missouri, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee, and Vanderbilt University.

Shuttle Bus: An alternative to driving to and from campus, as well as around campus.

SPO: MSC Student Programs Office; located on the 2nd Floor of the Memorial Student Center.

Student Activities: Central location for clubs and organizations, Student Government and other opportunities. Drop by 125 Koldus to see how getting involved can help you develop to your full potential.

Sully: Statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross, former Governor of Texas and former President of Texas A&M, located in front of the Academic Building.

T.A.: Abbreviation for teaching assistant - a graduate student who instructs one or more classes.

T-Camp: An extended orientation camp designed for students transferring to A&M in the Fall semester.

T-sip: Student at t.u.

Trigon: Military Sciences Building.

t.u.: Aggie term for the University of Texas, that other school in Austin.

Twelfth Man: Aggies not actively engaged in an athletic event but who support the team.

Walk: When your class is cancelled, or your professor/instructor fails to show up for class.

Whipping Out: The way Corps underclassmen introduce themselves to upperclassmen. Usually with a firm handshake and a "Howdy!"

Whoop!: Aggie expression of approval said by junior and seniors.

Wildcat: Another Aggie expression of approval; each academic class has its own wildcat.

Wrecking Crew: The defense of the Texas A&M football team.

Yell Leaders: Three seniors and two juniors who encourage Aggie Spirit by leading leaders. They are elected each spring by the student body.

Yell Practice: Spirit session, which is held regularly during football season. Friday before home football games, it is held at midnight in Kyle Field.

Zip: (1) Senior in the Corps, identified by gold braid on his or her hat or Senior boots (2) Any Senior.



Photo by First Year Photo Project student, Samantha Abshire