HISTORICAL REVIEW AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS OF PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT AT TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

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Texas State University formally Southwest Texas State University has had a non-traditional program since 1973.

Early years served military especially those returning from Viet Nam.
Prior Learning Assessment system established using portfolio system.
A. extensive documentation
B. multiple evaluation points
C. academic credit awarded (course, worklife, noncollegiate)
D. rigorous
Operation Development Late 70s

- Evaluation created that was internal and awarded block credit based on nine digit DOT codes.

- Academic class created that would assist the students in reviewing their past and planning for the future.
Class “Occupational Assessment” offered “live” in San Marcos, Austin, Round Rock and San Antonio.
( Bergstrom AFB, Ft. Sam Houston, Randolph AFB, Lackland AFB and Kelly AFB all had coursework. Through the years bases closed and more courses consolidated and moved to campus.)
Strong numbers of students. (close to 1,000 majors)

Broader service area...more civilians.

PLA remained strong
Leadership change...PLA remains option...more civilians.

More private institutions compete with Texas State...greater flexibility, different PLA options, costs less of a problem for students attending private schools.
History of 2000 to 2013

- Movement of classes off bases after 9-11
- More institutions entering IH35 corridor market
- Distance learning changes