Community Services and Continuing Education Programs

The Brown Center

The Brown Center is a conference and meeting facility located off Highway 90 west of Orange. It is a center of educational, cultural and social activity, which serves the citizens of Orange County and the surrounding area. The 68 acres of scenic landscaped grounds, including lakes and greenhouses, feature a graceful mansion built and decorated in the Southern antebellum plantation tradition.

Lamar received the estate in 1976 as a gift from the four sons of the late Edgar W. Brown, Jr., an Orange businessman and philanthropist, who served as a charter member of the Lamar University Foundation, Inc. The property, which is open to the public for tours, provides visitors with insights into the accomplishments and lifestyle of one of the region’s leading citizens. The center can be reserved for seminars, meetings, planning retreats and other public service activities.

Continuing Education and Community Service

Lamar State College-Orange offers a wide variety of non-credit educational and recreational courses through its continuing education and community service program. Classes are offered that provide opportunities for individuals to continue their education in the academic and technical/occupational areas. In addition, a number of classes are offered for persons interested in pursuing creative activities, cultural endeavors and/or recreational programs.

Non-credit courses are open to interested adults without regard to eligibility for admission to college-credit programs. Lamar State College-Orange will award continuing education units (CEUs) to those who complete continuing education courses administered by Lamar State College-Orange. In no instance should the award of CEUs be equated with college credit toward a degree.

Customized Business and Industrial Training

The Office of Continuing Education and Workforce Development also offers several training programs for local business and industry. These programs are designed to fit the needs of local employers. Training can take place at a plant or office location or on the Lamar State College-Orange campus.

The division has worked with local business and industry to deliver courses in computer technology, supervisory training, business communication and maintenance technology. Courses can be in the form of one-day seminars or multi-faceted, long-term training.