A great college experience starts with a GREAT FIRST YEAR

K-STATE.EDU/FIRST
College is an adventure, and having good friends and mentors to relate to and learn from makes for a great experience. Connect with other first-year students in K-State First programs. Explore college life, share the experience, make it yours.
Find the right K-STATE FIRST PROGRAMS for you

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Email us at kstatefirst@k-state.edu with questions.

Talk to your academic advisor at orientation and enrollment about K-State First offerings.

Start your first day at K-State.

Meet new friends and interact with professors through K-State First programs.
CAT COMMUNITIES

The program
Join a learning community made up of 22 students with matching interests in the Connecting Across Topics, or CAT, Community program. You’ll enroll in two regular courses taken together and another one-hour opportunity to discover course connections. You’ll learn together with 21 other first-year students, be taught by an expert faculty member, and a Learning Assistant (an experienced student who has taken the course before) helps you throughout the semester.

CAT Community types:
• Residential
• Non-Residential
  - Interest-based
  - Pre-professional
• Study abroad

How you’ll benefit
• Learn in a small community.
• Earn credit toward general education requirements.
• Take courses tailored to your interests.
• Attend campus events with your community.
• Make new friends who share your interests.

Act now
Before orientation and enrollment, visit k-state.edu/cat to see upcoming CAT Community offerings and email kstatefirst@k-state.edu. Space is limited. You can also reserve your spot today in a Residential CAT Community by taking our survey at k-state.edu/cat/residential.
“K-State First gave me the option to connect with faculty, meet new people and make friends, and inevitably pointed me toward a major that lead me toward the career route I have chosen.”

Darrah Tinkler
Psychology of Prejudice CAT Community
"K-State First helped me gain confidence in a college classroom setting. The professor loved engaging with college students in their first year while they were transitioning. The small class size, passionate instructor, and interesting subject made me less intimidated in my other classes and connected me to students who later became good friends."

Maddie McClellan
First-Year Seminar
The program
Do more than just go to class. Ask questions, interact with professors and engage in classes with 22 or fewer students.

How you’ll benefit
• Learn in an interactive environment.
• Connect with classmates and professors.
• Earn credit toward general education requirements.
• Receive personalized attention from exceptional faculty.

Act now
Visit k-state.edu/fys to see upcoming First-Year Seminars, and talk to your academic advisor at orientation and enrollment to sign up. Space is limited.

Examples of First-Year Seminars
• Physical Anthropology: Myths and Mysteries
• Fiction into Film
• Innovation and Creativity
• Mass Communication in Society
The program
The Guide to Personal Success program, or GPS, matches first-year students with a campus professional for a one-on-one mentoring relationship. GPS guides are K-State staff, faculty, graduate students and young alumni who volunteer their time to invest in the lives of first-year students like you.

How you’ll benefit
- Discover the university in a personal way from someone who knows the campus.
- Connect with your Guide at least three times per semester.
- Attend exclusive GPS Connect Events throughout the year.
- Meet other first-year students and professionals across campus.

Act now
Students and Guides are matched before the start of the fall semester. Visit k-state.edu/gps to fill out the survey and be matched with a Guide. Space is limited.
“Through the GPS program, I was paired with a mentor who inspires me, motivates me, and has connected me to amazing opportunities. K-State First has also provided me with opportunities to lead and to meet other individuals on campus who have the same common goals that I do.”

Morgan Gauby
Guide to Personal Success
Mentee
KSBN books

- *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore, 2015
- *The Ghost Map* by Steven Johnson, 2014
- *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline, 2013
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, 2012
- *Zeitoun* by Dave Eggers, 2011
- *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins, 2010
The program
Read a book with the rest of the campus in the K-State Book Network, or KSBN, and join fellow students in a series of book-related events and discussions. Students will receive a copy of the book at June orientation and enrollment.

How you’ll benefit
• Participate in thought-provoking discussions about the book.
• Connect with students, faculty and staff through a shared academic experience.
• Use the book as a conversation-starter when you arrive on campus.
• Attend out-of-classroom learning experiences: visit with the author, attend a faculty lecture, and watch a film.

Act now
Read your book after receiving it at orientation and enrollment. Plan how you’ll get involved in the conversation. Visit k-state.edu/ksbn for more information.

“I am part of the GPS mentoring program, and my mentor told me about the ‘Ready Player One’ game. I met many fun people and made several new friends through the game. When I won, I got to meet the author and he is a very friendly and laid-back person.”

Jamie Ladner
KSBN “Ready Player One” game winner pictured with author Ernest Cline
Learning doesn’t always happen behind a desk. That’s the idea behind Beyond the Classroom events. They are an informal and fun way for you to interact and connect with some of K-State’s most esteemed and popular professors and leaders.

Each semester, Beyond the Classroom brings you a variety of topics presented by amazing K-State faculty and leaders. The best part? These professors and leaders come directly to you, whether you live in a residence hall or scholarship house.

Past events cover a broad range of dynamic topics, including:

**Where pop culture and history intersect:**

- **I Love the 80s! Dystopia, Nostalgia and Ready Player One**  
  Phil Nel, university distinguished professor of English
- **Hollywood and the Battle of New Orleans: Separating Fact from Fiction**  
  Charles Sanders, associate professor of history
- **Here’s Looking at You, Kid: Depictions of Women in Film**  
  Michele Janette, department head, women’s studies, and associate professor of English
- **Indians and Cowboys and U.S. Realities: The Stories We Tell**  
  Lisa Tatonetti, associate professor of English

**Global issues everyone is talking about:**

- **Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition: What Can We Do?**  
  April Mason, provost and senior vice president
- **Religion and Culture**  
  Mike Wesch, associate professor of cultural anthropology and university distinguished teaching scholar
- **What Sustains You? What Sustains K-State? How to Make a Difference in a World of Rapid Global Environmental Change**  
  Ben Champion, former director of the Office of Sustainability
Learning and leading at K-State:

- **Women and Leadership**
  Emily Lehning, assistant vice president for student life and director of New Student Services

- **Crystalline Moments and Moving Science**
  Laura Donnelly, assistant professor of dance, and Amit Chakrabati, professor of physics

- **A Backstage Pass of How a University Runs: Candor, Confidence and a Candid Look at K-State**
  Pat Bosco, vice president for student life and dean of students

- **One World, One Food System: World Food System Challenges Require the Brightest K-State Minds**
  Randall Phebus, professor of food safety and defense

- **Engaging in Leadership From Where you Live**
  Mary Tolar, director of leadership studies

“While working with K-State First I got to organize and sit in on a Beyond the Classroom event led by Dr. Emily Lehning. The amount of insight she provided about leadership roles on campus was extremely helpful to not only me, but others in attendance as well. Throughout the year she was always there to support K-State First in any way that she could.”

**Emily Beneda**
Beyond the Classroom Attendee
Take your first step towards success. Get involved with K-State First!

K-STATE FIRST
k-state.edu/first
kstatefirst@k-state.edu
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