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# Technology-Enhanced Orientation:

Reaching a Large Number of  
Students without Losing the  
Human Touch

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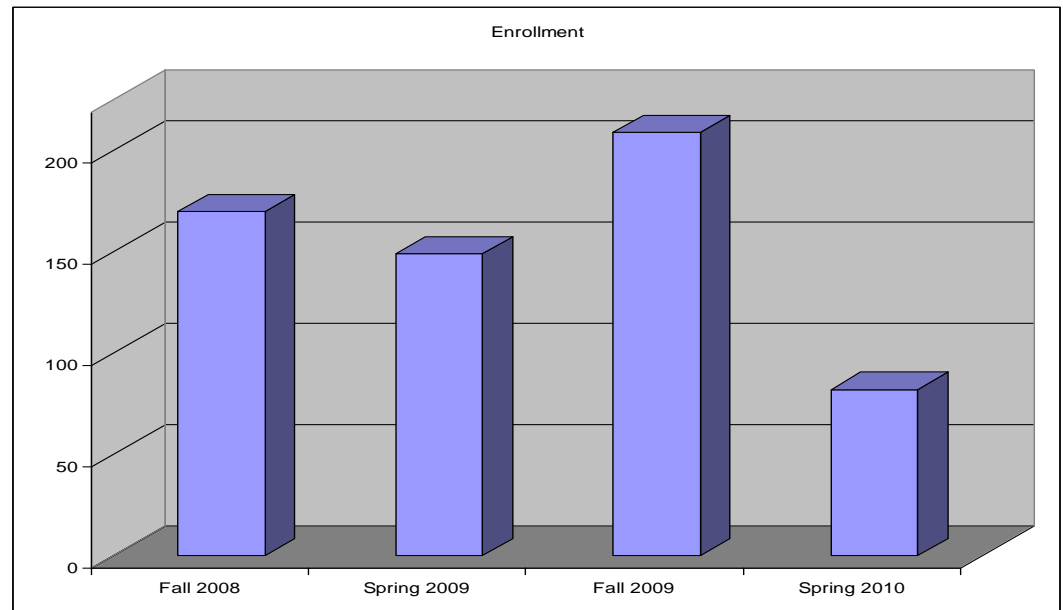
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**Kansas State University**  
**English Language Program**

**NAFSA Poster Presentation**  
**June 2010**

# General Information

- Offered every semester
- Managed by two ELP Counselors / Instructors



# Participation

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- A **1 credit hour course** with a grade that **affects undergraduate GPA**
- **Required** during first semester at intermediate level or above
- **Attendance** taken at lectures
- **Online grade book** tracks progress
- **Email and letters** used to follow-up with students who are not making progress

# Adapting

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- ❑ Originated as a paper-and-pencil series; moved online to help **ensure student participation** and facilitate tracking
- ❑ Focus of some assignments changed based on **feedback from campus offices**
- ❑ New components added based on **information from instructors** about student needs



# Online Components

Delivered through K-State Online,  
a Learning Management System  
(LMS) used by Kansas State  
University



# Topics

- **ELP and University Policies**
- **University Resources**
- **ELP Computer Lab resources**
- **Basics of the American academic system** (credit hours, GPA, etc.)



# Logistics

- **Self-paced**
- **Gated Assignments**
  - students must complete assignments in order
- **Generated in-house**
  - quizzes and some content
  - html editor and assignments in K-State Online
- **Links to other resources**





# Benefits

- Assignments are **graded automatically**
- Students can **re-take assignments** to raise their grade
- Information can be **easily changed** from semester to semester
- **Record keeping** and tracking progress is easy



# New Student Interviews

One-on-one with an ELP  
Counselor early in the semester



# Topics

## ■ Personal Adjustment

- Living situation, food, transportation
- Extra-curricular activities

## ■ Academics

- Expectations for class participation
- Study skills
- Future plans

## ■ Orientation Course Overview



# Logistics

- **Students schedule appointments through the ELP Office**
- **Meetings held in conference rooms**
- **Interviews divided among 2-3 ELP Counselors by student level**
- **Appointments last from 15-45 minutes**



# Benefits

- Students meet a resource person in a friendly setting **soon after their arrival**
- **Establishes contact** in case problems arise later in the semester
- Critical adjustment issues can be addressed **one-on-one**
- Students have comfortable place **ask questions**



# Lectures

Delivered by ELP Counselors and guest lecturers from the University community throughout the semester (every 2-3 weeks)



# Topics

## ■ Academics

- Library Services (K-State Multicultural Librarian)
- Academic Integrity

## ■ University Services

- Relationships (Director of K-State Women's Center)
- Important Legal Issues (K-State Student Attorney)
- Stress Management and Cultural Adjustments  
(Counselors from K-State Counseling Services)

## ■ ELP Program and Policies



# Logistics

- **Reminders** sent to students via email and **announcements** in classes
- ELP office staff (student workers) help take **attendance** as students enter the lecture hall
- Followed by an **online quiz** to assess comprehension and reinforce important points





# Benefits

- Periodic **face-to-face contact** throughout the semester
- Introduces students to go-to **people in the university community**
- Allows students to **practice note-taking** during lectures in English
- Opportunity to **deliver critical and time-sensitive information** face-to-face



# Contact Information

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