Technology-Enhanced Orientation:

Reaching a Large Number of Students without Losing the Human Touch
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Kansas State University
English Language Program

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General Information

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

![Enrollment Graph](image-url)
Participation

- 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

- 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 to 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
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