Making the most of your first year

K-STATE.EDU/FIRST

K-STATE
A great college experience starts with
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.
Kansas State University has a wide selection of opportunities just for first-year students. K-State First will help you succeed as you begin your first year of college.

Within our programs, you’ll have the chance to connect with students and faculty, and you’ll learn with them in the classroom and beyond.
# K-State First Programs

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
One interest, endless connections

The program
Connecting Across Topics, or CAT Communities, connect students with similar interests through two regular courses and a one-hour connections course, all taken during the fall.

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

How you’ll benefit
• Learn in a small community.
• Earn credit toward general education requirements.
• Take courses tailored around 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 to sign up. Space is limited.
“My time as an RLA has been an enriching learning experience. I often find myself learning right along with my students, and that is why this program is so great! There is something to gain for everyone involved.”

Brooke Williams
Psychology major
Residential CAT Community Learning Assistant
FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

Small classes, big gains

“My first-year seminar was the most beneficial class that I took my first semester of college. It gave me an inside look into the university and all of the resources that I would need to succeed as a student at K-State. My professor was so helpful, and she genuinely cared about my education. I couldn’t have asked for more!”

Marisa Sotelo
Industrial engineering major
First-year seminar student

Examples of First-Year Seminars
• Introduction to Literature
• Insects and People
• Introduction to Leadership Concepts
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
Space is limited. Visit k-state.edu/fys to see upcoming First-Year Seminars, and talk to your academic advisor at orientation and enrollment to sign up.
The program
The Guide to Personal Success Program, or GPS, matches first-year students with one campus professional for a one-on-one mentoring relationship. GPS guides are K-State staff, faculty, graduate students and recent 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 prior to the start of the year. Visit k-state.edu/gps to sign up. Space is limited.
“GPS is the only organization on campus that matches first-year students with professionals. When I arrived, I wanted to make some connections here and my mentor has been a big part of my journey so far.”

Drew Ewing
Industrial engineering major
GPS mentee

GPS Connect Events
• Attend a K-State athletics event.
• Volunteering in the community.
• Networking with campus offices and leaders.
KSBN books

- *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 discussion. 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.

Who it’s for
All students

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 was captivated by many of the issues and ideas raised in *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* and used elements of the story to create a dance piece for my students. It was exciting to talk to attendees after the performance about the book, the dance and their connections to the story lines. KSBN reaches beyond K-State and connects people across many areas of the community.”

Laura Donnelly
Assistant professor of dance
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES for success

K-State has additional offerings that will help you choose the academic and student life programs that best fit your needs and interests. Check out these programs for other ways to connect on campus.

Week of Welcome events and activities
Meet new people during a weeklong series of events designed to help students all find their way and get involved at K-State.

Act now
Visit wow.k-state.edu to check out events.

University Experience
This program combines a K-State orientation with academic instruction to make the transition from high school to college as smooth as possible.

Act now
Ask your academic advisor at orientation and enrollment, visit k-state.edu/aac/universityexperience for more information, or call 785-532-6492.

PILOTS
This yearlong program provides qualifying freshmen with academic structure, individual tutoring and assistance in making a strong K-State connection.

Act now
Space is limited, so talk to your academic advisor at orientation and enrollment. Visit k-state.edu/pilots or call 785-532-6492 for more information.

University Honors Program
You’ll take challenging classes, work with K-State’s top professors and study with other students who want to excel. You’ll interact with students from all of the colleges at K-State.

Act now
Apply now. Visit k-state.edu/ksuhonors or call 785-532-2642.
Notice of nondiscrimination

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