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.

Start your first day at K-State.

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

Meet new friends and interact with professors through K-State First programs.
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 learning community course. 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
- Study abroad
- Interest-based
- Pre-professional
- Degree-specific

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/first/cat to see upcoming CAT Community offerings and email kstatefirst@k-state.edu. Space is limited. You can also reserve your spot in a Residential CAT Community through your Housing contract. Visit k-state.edu/first/cat/non-residential to sign up for other CAT Community options!
“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 hands-on learning 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/first/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
- Principles of Macroeconomics
- Fiction into Film
- University Experience
- Insects and People
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/first/gps to fill out the survey and be matched with a Guide. Space is limited.
GPS Connect Events

- Attend a K-State theater event.
- Take advantage of great workshop opportunities.
- Volunteer on campus and in the community.
- Network with campus offices and leaders.

“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
KSFB books

- *Darius the Great is Not Okay* by Adib Khorram, 2019
- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas, 2018
- *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon, 2017
- *Spare Parts* by Joshua Davis, 2016
- *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 K-State First Book, or KSFB, 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/ksfb 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
KSFB “Ready Player One” game winner pictured with author Ernest Cline
Take your first step towards success. Get involved with K-State First!