

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHT!

MEET JULIA!



WHY K-STATE?

I chose K-State because I have friends here that are professors. Also, I like the family atmosphere and community vibe, which is something I felt even over the internet.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR EXPERIENCE SO FAR?

I had high expectations but, it has been better than what I expected! I've met so many wonderful people, both American and international friends. The academic and social life has been awesome!



DIFFERENCE THAT YOU HAVE NOTICED?

The weather... I have heard that the weather changes quickly here, and I did not believe it but, I am getting to experience that now. I lived in Germany before, so I have experienced some winters. In Brazil, we do not experience seasons either so, it has been nice.

Another thing that surprised me is that people use Fahrenheit instead of Celsius. So, whenever I talk about the weather being around five degrees outside people respond, no way! And then I'm like, no Celsius!

Also, taxes are not included in the price of things, and at restaurants, you give tips. This is something that I'm getting used to because, in Brazil, it's all in one thing.

WAS K-STATE WHAT YOU EXPECTED? WAS MANHATTAN WHAT YOU EXPECTED?

It is better than I expected and I already had high expectations. Walking around campus is not so bad. Also, K-State looked bigger on Google maps.



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IS CLASSROOM CULTURE A LOT DIFFERENT HERE?

I came to K-State straight out of high school so, I am not sure I can compare. One thing that comes to mind from my friends' and parents' experience is that in the U.S. you call your professor by their title and last name. In Brazil, you use their title and first name. That is the main thing that I can think about right now.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT BEING A STUDENT AT K-STATE?

I like how I feel at K-State. People are nice! I've heard it is a Midwest thing and something I have noticed here. I really like that because I feel like I belong here and I am part of this family. Also, the little traditions that I have learned, the dances during the football games, or going on the Pizza Shuttle have made my experience more meaningful.

WHAT KINDS OF THINGS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN ON CAMPUS?

I'm not involved in much right now because I am a freshman and just started my journey here, but I am thinking about joining the club Women in Business.

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN IN MANHATTAN?

I have been going on a lot of hikes with my friends. We go early in the morning to watch the sunrise! I have also been visiting different restaurants and ice cream places. My friends and I also enjoy going on car rides and jamming to loud music!

IF YOU COULD HAVE KNOWN ONE THING BEFORE MOVING HERE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Do not be afraid to talk to people! They want to hear what you have to say.

DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR INCOMING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS?

Be proud of your culture! Talking with others about your own culture opens so many doors to meaningful conversations.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE OTHERS TO KNOW ABOUT BEING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AT K-STATE?

Do not be afraid to become friends with domestic students. I feel like it is easy to hold on to being friends only with international students given that we do orientation together and it might feel comfortable and safe. Make friends with both international and local U.S. students! Do not be afraid to meet new people.

WOULD YOU MIND SHARING A PHRASE FROM YOUR NATIVE LANGUAGE AND WHAT IT MEANS?

Saco vazio não para em pé = An empty bag does not stand tall. To me, this basically talks about the importance of eating well. So, like if a sack is not full it falls and many people come to me, and they're like, oh, I didn't eat breakfast and stuff. So it's just like, it's not a healthy thing to do. Because you can have health issues and stuff. In Brazil, we worry a lot about this, people eating well, and healthy.

