ELLO

English Language Learner Orientation
2024

Bolles English Language Learner Orientation (ELLO)
The goal of this three-week summer orientation is to provide a fun and informative start to the student experience on the San Jose Campus. An intensive look at academic English guides students as they engage in activities that will help them be ready for success in the classroom, not just language-wise, but socially as well. In addition to the language classes, there are also units on the concept of academic integrity in the US, American history, culture and traditions — and more!

In other words — students get insight into how to get the most out of their time at Bolles.

Academic Skills
Students are introduced to skills necessary to navigate the American system of education. Students work on note-taking, formal academic writing, oral presentations and seminar-style discussion. Material from a variety of sources—newspapers, history books, science lectures, etc. serve as the backdrop for this work.

ELLO also offers a brief overview of United States history with readings, lectures and movies as resources. As group assignments and oral presentations are frequently assigned in the Upper School, students practice and become more comfortable with these two approaches.

In the reading portion of the Summer ESL program, students complete reading assignments to help them with the summer reading requirement.

Orientation
Another very important focus of this program is the social and cultural orientation of international students new to Bolles. Students meet classmates they will be learning with, and they become familiar and comfortable with the campus, the academic and linguistic expectations of the classwork, and the daily schedule. They also get a chance to learn more about Jacksonville and surrounding areas.

During the program, students also receive help finalizing their course schedules, purchasing textbooks, buying school-appropriate clothes and anything else needed for a smooth start to their school year.

Students who attend this course have reported being relaxed and comfortable at the opening of school and feeling better prepared for class because they start on day one with faces they know in their classes and with vital study skills.

Testing
The course starts with an assessment of each student’s strengths in English. They do this through a short test, a writing sample and a speaking sample. These evaluations help the faculty place students more accurately in content-area classes for the fall semester. Placement testing in mathematics also helps us better match a student with the math class that corresponds with the knowledge they bring with them.

Accommodations
Students live on campus in beautiful residence halls which are supervised by faculty. Facilities include a laundry room, lounge, entertainment, ping pong and pool tables, games and a computer room.
Students Develop
• Reading Comprehension
• Accuracy of expression
• Vocabulary
• Writing (Academic and Personal)

Included:
• Three weeks of academic instruction in language and multicultural topics
• 75-hours of classroom instruction
• Weekend activities
• Dorm housing with two to a room on the Bolles San Jose Campus
• All transportation during program dates
• All meals
• All supplies
• 24-hour gated campus security

Not Included:
• Spending money for personal needs

On the weekend, we allow for a later wake-up time, no classes and more leisure time.

For more information, contact Head of Upper School
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