

## **Auburn University launches new Global Bridge Program for International Students**

*Citing growing demand from overseas, the new program merges ESL training and first semester university courses into an attractive pathway to college.*

**AUBURN** – Auburn University will offer a new path to an American education for international students through a summer program providing a full semester of academic credit along with English language courses and on-campus housing. The first classes in the Global Bridge Program will be offered in May.

“The United States is the number one destination for students wishing to complete their education abroad,” provost and vice president for academic affairs Timothy Boosinger said. “Auburn University is committed to providing international students not only with the full range of world-class academic opportunities for which we are already known, but also with the language and other skills they need to achieve success in an American undergraduate program.”

During the Global Bridge Program, students can complete 15 credits toward an undergraduate degree during Auburn's summer semester. Nine credits will be for advanced English language skills and six credits will be for classes of the student's choosing.

Program participants who successfully complete the summer classes will be considered full-time transient students in the fall semester where they can take an additional 12 to 15 credit hours. Students who maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average through the summer and fall will be admitted as full-time students for the 2013 spring semester with the university's ACT/SAT score requirement waived.

“Auburn University has a rich tradition of international student success in our highly-ranked graduate and professional school, and now with our new Global Bridge Program, we have a competitive offering for undergraduates,” Boosinger said. “We are now looking to prepare students to think creatively, engage in academic discussion and become oriented to the American campus culture.”

Global Bridge Program classes begin May 17 and last through August 1. Fall semester classes for those who successfully complete the summer classes begin August 16 and last through December 7.

Prospective students can contact the English as a Second Language office at 334-844-2122 or [raffadc@auburn.edu](mailto:raffadc@auburn.edu). The Global Bridge Program will also be available through selected AIRC-certified agents worldwide.