Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Cultural Transition Program

Is the Cultural Transition Program (CTP) an English language program?
No. The cultural transition program is an intensive academic and acculturation program. The focus of the Cultural Transition Program is to help students successfully integrate into the graduate community at Bentley University. In contrast, in an intensive language program, students focus only on English and are not current students of the university.

What are the dates of the Cultural Transition Program?
August 2 – August 19, 2016. Students will need to arrive by Monday, August 1st, 2016.

What is the cost to participate in the CTP?
There are two options available: The tuition only option is $2,600. If you would like tuition + housing the cost is $5,000.

Can I take the course if I am not a current Bentley student?
No. Only international graduate students enrolled at Bentley University may participate in the CTP.

I applied to be a graduate student at Bentley University, why have I been asked to participate in the CTP?
Students are selected for the Cultural Transition Program based on a combination of their entrance TOEFL scores and their oral interview results. We are confident that upon completion of the Cultural Transition Program international graduate students will be poised for academic success at Bentley University.

Is there an exam that I am required to pass at the end of this program?
No. Students will take an English Language Assessment at the start of the Cultural Transition Program; however, students will not be required to pass an exam at the end of the program. Successful completion of this program will be based on full participation and completion of all assignments.

Is the Cultural Transition Program mandatory?
If a student has been selected to participate in the Cultural transition program, it will be a required component of his Bentley University program. However, if a student is unable to participate in the Cultural Transition Program during the summer alternative arrangements may be possible. For example, similar courses are offered by the English Language and American Cultural Institute during the fall semester and for a student with extenuating circumstances these courses might be allowed to replace the summer intensive program. However, this approach is allowed only with prior permission and only when a student has an unavoidable conflict with the summer program. Contact Chrishon Blackwell at cblackwell@bentley.edu for more information.

If I take the TOEFL again and receive a higher score, do I still need to participate in the Cultural Transition Program?
Yes, if you have been selected to participate in the Cultural Transition Program, you will be required to attend regardless of future standardized test scores.

What courses will I take during the summer session?
The core courses are: Oral Communications for Business and Business Writing. The Oral Communications for Business class is designed to build and reinforce language skills focusing on strategies for improving all aspects of oral communication in a business setting, including but not limited to effective classroom interactions,
impromptu speaking, and presentation skills. The Business Writing class focuses on higher-level business writing tasks and writing skills needed to communicate effectively using various business formats such as case studies, business texts, and other supplemental materials. In the afternoon students will participate in professional workshops, guest lectures from a variety of disciplines, writing tutorials and much more.

**What is the class schedule?**

Classes run from 9:00am – 2:00pm, Monday thru Friday. A sample schedule would include: Oral Communications for Business and Business Writing in the morning. After a lunch break, students would participate in professional development workshops, listen to guest lectures, or professional skills activities.

**Is health insurance required for the program?**

Yes, health insurance is required.

**Can I participate in the Cultural Transition Program if I am a newly admitted or current graduate student at Bentley University, but have not been asked to attend the program?**

Yes. The Cultural transition Program is currently open to any international graduate student at Bentley University.

**Who can I contact for more information about the Cultural Transition Program?**

Chrishon Blackwell the director of the English Language and American Culture Institute at Bentley University by email at: cblackwell@bentley.edu or by telephone at: 1+ (781) 891-2365.