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Elon University Audio Tour Transcript

Inman Admissions Welcome Center

Mary Grace: Hello and welcome to Elon University's Self-Guided Audio Tour. My name is Mary Grace. I'll be guiding you around campus and introducing you to other current students and faculty members.

This audio tour is meant to highlight a few of the most essential resources for academic success and student life here at Elon. Hopefully, you'll also gain a sense of what our community is like.

If you're interested in an even more in-depth look at campus, please feel free to visit locations listed on the Self-Guided Walking Tour that aren't covered here. You may use this audio playlist as a comprehensive tour, use it to compliment the more extensive Self-Guided Walking Tour, or simply reference these audio tracks as you explore campus at your own pace. Any way you do it, we're excited to show you around!

Let's begin with where we are right now, the Inman Welcome Center. This is home to the Office of Admissions, as well as the Office of Financial Aid. Be sure to visit elon.edu to connect with the admissions counselor that represents your area. They'll be glad to answer any questions you may have.

If you plan to follow this audio tour chronologically, let's continue to our next stop – Belk Library. I'll see you there!

Koenigsberger Learning Center/Belk Library

Mary Grace: Welcome to Belk Library. Meet my friend Deena, a fellow tour guide. She's going to tell you a little bit more information about all that Belk Library has to offer.

Deena: Hey y'all, my name is Deena Elrefai; I'm a junior. I'm originally from Leesburg, Virginia and I'm doing a double-major in International Studies and Public Health, with a minor in Spanish.

This is Belk Library. This is our main academic library on campus. First off, Belk Library does have three floors. So, on the first floor it's set up mainly for group work and the volume's a little bit louder, the second floor is going to be small groups or pairs, a little quieter, and the third floor is like solo study time. I'm from a big family, so I prefer the downstairs loud area, but it's different for different students.

We do have a couple of really cool services in this building. So, first off, we do have Media Services, which is an area where students can rent equipment for things like projects or personal use. So, things like cameras, GoPro's, sound equipment, a projector – maybe for movie night – whatever you can think of. Over on the other side of the library, we have our Writing Center, which is an area for all of the writing needs on campus. We do have students that work here six days a week to tutor in any academic writing course. So, whether it's your first English class or it's your 300-level Public Health class, they can match you up with a student in that discipline and make sure that you get all of the help that you need.

Lastly, upstairs you do have the Koenigsberger Learning Center, which is home to three really important programs. The first one is our tutoring center for all of our other courses, so they have tutors on-call for everything from Economics to STEM courses to anything you can think of – and if you need a tutor and they don't offer it, they'll find you a student who has taken the course and has gotten an A and has a recommendation and they'll match the two of you together. That's also home to our Office of Academic Advising, so if you need other support in graduation planning or course registration, they'll find someone who can help you to make sure you're graduating on time and meeting all of your goals.

Mary Grace: Thank you for that information, Deena. The third resource that we'd like to highlight upstairs is the Disability Resources office. That's a space that I've personally utilized over my four years at Elon to make sure that I am accommodated with my learning differences to be successful in the classroom.

Our next stop on tour will be the Moseley Center.

Moseley Center

Mary Grace: Welcome to the Moseley Student Center. This building houses many important organizations that support student life. If you enter through the front doors opposite the Young Commons flowerbed, the Student Professional Development Center will be directly to your right.

This office works closely with students as they build their professional network, prepare for internships, and search for employment opportunities. The SPDC is staffed with full-time advisors, specific to a student's area of study. This office assists students in creating cover letters, resumes, and LinkedIn profiles, while also offering mock interviews, professional headshot photos, and career planning services. Students are additionally able to use the Elon Job Network, a large database of internships and jobs opportunities, when searching for those professional experiences.

The Moseley Center is also home to Elon's more than 280 student-run clubs and organizations. These organizations span from Student Government Association to Juggling Club to Acapella, and Elon Volunteers. Upstairs, there are several offices that support diversity and inclusion, such as CREDE (or the Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education) and the GLC (the Gender and LGBTQIA+ Center). These spaces offer resources to identifying students, but also conduct outreach for the entire Elon community to engage with.

On the opposite side of Moseley Center, there is an integrated study space for students to use for group projects, studying, or just socializing. This is also where you can find one of Elon's campus kitchens, open for student use as well as cooking classes throughout the year.

I hope you found this overview of the Moseley Center useful. When you're ready, let's continue to the Center for the Arts.

Center for the Arts

Mary Grace: Welcome to the Center for the Arts, home of our Performing Arts program, including Dance and our nationally recognized Musical Theatre program. Here comes our marching band playing our fight song, led by director Dr. Poquette. Let's hear from him next.

Dr. Poquette: Greetings! My name is Dr. Jonathan Poquette and I'm the director of bands here at Elon University.

Elon University bands provides students a wide variety of unique and high-quality musical, artistic, and social experiences. We offer three bands here at Elon and each ensemble is open to music majors and non-music majors who perform woodwind, brass, percussion instruments, or participate in color guard. We also have spots available for select guitarists, bassists, and pianists. Essentially, if you're interested in music, we have a spot for you; no experience is needed!

We are glad that you are here at Elon. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Mary Grace: Thank you, Dr. Poquette! Next, let's continue on to the Global Neighborhood.

Global Neighborhood

Mary Grace: Welcome to the Global Neighborhood. This is actually where I spent my first two years at Elon, my first year in Jackson Hall and my second as the RA of the International Living Learning Community, located in Global A. Now we'll hear from Deena.

Deena: This right here is the Global Neighborhood. This is one of our five residential neighborhoods on campus. The Global Neighborhood is mostly home to first-years and sophomores and the majority of the rooms here will be that classic suite-style that you might have seen, where you have two rooms with two students each and they share a bathroom. Each of our residential neighborhoods also share a theme, so the Global Neighborhood focuses on Global Engagement, which is also why this area is home to our Global Education Center.

The Global Education Center is located on the third floor of our Global Commons building, right in the middle. And they serve as the academic advising program to help students identify programs in the U.S. and abroad that they want to attend during their time at Elon. We offer many different ways for students to do this. So, the first one is what's called embedded travel. This will be where a student will take a course for the fall or spring semester and, during that time, they'll go abroad for either the spring break or Thanksgiving break of that semester with their class. I took a course that went abroad to India during the spring break of my first year and it was an amazing experience and I really was able to connect the themes of the course to the real-world experiences that we had.

We also offer what's called a January-term, so that students can go abroad for three to four weeks with an Elon course. And then, lastly, we do offer the semester abroad option as well. The Global Education Center has global counselors on hand who can help you identify programs all over the world that you might be interested in.

Mary Grace: I hope that you enjoyed learning all about the Global Neighborhood. Head with me next to the Koury Athletic Center, home of one of my favorite pastimes, Zumba class.

Koury Center

Mary Grace: Welcome to Koury Athletic Center. We'll hear next from Deena.

Deena: Hi there, Deena again! Koury Athletic Center is home to Campus Recreation and Wellness, which is our largest student employer on campus. Around 300 students work in this department, including me. We've got a variety of different athletic and wellness programs for students to engage in during their time at Elon.

On one end of the building we have the Experiential Learning and Outdoor Adventures Office, or the ELOA Office, and this is home to our Elon Outdoors team, where students can go on different trips all over North Carolina every weekend to do things like whitewater rafting, backpacking, rock climbing, ziplining, whatever you can think of – and we run those for a small fee. Also, in Campus Recreation and Wellness, we have our group exercise classes, which are taught by student instructors; they offer over 30 classes every week and everything from Zumba, Pilates, HIIT, yoga, whatever you can think of. This is also home to our Club Sports and Intermural Sports. So, Intermural Sports are going to be our less-competitive options where students can do everything from soccer to frisbee to golf, and they can kind of make a team of their friends and compete for the championship t-shirt every year. If you're someone who's a little bit more experienced in the sport and you want a little more of a competitive environment, we also offer Club Sports. This is a way for students to get engaged and compete against other schools in the area – and again, we offer everything from soccer to cross-country to all the different programs listed.

Otherwise, we also have our fitness center in the Koury Athletic Center. This is a space where students can either workout on their own or they can be guided by one of our personal trainers, who again are student employees. So, you can come in and do your own workout anytime from 6:00 AM to 11:00 PM, seven days a week. If you want a little bit more guidance, you can hire one of the student personal trainers for a four, six, eight, or ten week program, where they can guide you to all of your fitness goals.

Mary Grace: Head across the street to our next stop, McEwen Dining Hall.

McEwen Dining Hall

Mary Grace: Welcome to McEwen Dining Hall. We'll hear from Tommy next about Elon Dining.

Tommy: Hi, my name is Tommy Truitt. I am a sophomore here at Elon University. I'm from Mount Airy, Maryland with a major in Acting and minoring in Religious Studies, Political Science, and Dance.

Welcome to McEwen Dining Hall, one of our three dining halls here on campus. McEwen's focus is on homestyle cooking – and then our other two dining halls, Clohan and Lakeside – Clohan's focus is sustainability and Lakeside's focus is international food.

One thing that is super awesome about Elon's dining halls is all the options for everyone to eat there. We have options for vegan and vegetarian students, and that is more than just salad, it's also meat substitutes as well. We also have options for student who are dairy free, Kosher, gluten free, peanut free; all of those options we have available to students.

We do require first-year students to be on a meal plan, which will be called All-Access Basic. And then you can also add on retail options if that's something you're interested in. Some of our retail options include Flat Out, which is a pizza place, Freshii, which has nice healthy bowls, and a Biscuitville – and we are the only college campus in the nation to have a Biscuitville because the founders went to Elon.

I also love to mention that the food here is good – I promise! I've begged my mom to let me stay on a meal plan all four years that I am here. If you get the chance to eat in a dining hall while you're here, definitely go check out the food.

Mary Grace: I hope you enjoyed hearing all about the incredible food at McEwen Dining Hall. My favorite's the pasta bar. Let's continue on next door to McEwen Communications Building.

McEwen Communications/Dwight C. Schar Hall

Mary Grace: Welcome to McEwen Communications Building, home to Elon's School of Communications. Housed within this building is the Jane and Brian Williams Studio, a space equipped with the industry's most up-to-date lighting, sound, and camera technology. This space is meant to prepare students for real-world television and broadcasting applications.

Here, the Elon News Network is directed, filmed, and edited entirely by students. There's no requirement to have a major within the School of Communications to become involved; anyone who's interested can try their hand at directing, hosting, and writing for the dozens of programs produced here. For students wishing to make a career in communications, these hands-on experiential opportunities provide skills and experiences that are directly applicable to a professional studio environment.

The McEwen Communications Building is also home to the Pendulum, Elon's student-published newspaper, and WSOE 89.3, an FCC-regulated FM radio station. A program-specific office of the Student Professional Development Center is also located here to assist Communications students in preparing for opportunities more tailored to their field of study.

Whether you're interested in diving into the world of media, or just experiencing it, I recommend making note of Turner Theater, Elon's on-campus movie theater. Weekly blockbusters are screened here, in addition to student-produced films. Attending these screenings is a fun way to spend your evening – and popcorn, candy, and other concessions are always offered free of charge!

I would also like to mention that Downtown Elon is located right across the street. There are several Elon-famous restaurants, such as Tangent Tacos and The Root, in addition to The Acorn and Oak House coffee shops. If you're feeling like a snack, I'd recommend giving one of these locations a try.

Next, follow your map and let's continue on to explore the Historic Neighborhood.

Historic Neighborhood

Mary Grace: Welcome under the oaks to the Historic Neighborhood. If you look down at your feet, you'll notice that the bricks have writing on them. That writing symbolizes what Elon meant to different alumni. My family even has a brick under the oaks.

Did you know, us tour guides say that it's good luck if you hear from the president of the university while on your tour? Well you're in luck because here she comes! Let's hear next from Dr. Book.

Dr. Book: Hello! My name is Dr. Connie Ledoux Book, President of Elon University.

Thank you for taking time to explore campus and learn more about this very special community. Tradition and innovation are two cornerstones of Elon and together, they inspire and shape ideas that move us toward a compelling and prosperous future.

As we stand under the oaks, I'm reminded of the founding of Elon. Elon: Hebrew for 'Oak.' When the president declared, "We are building a college for the world."

One of Elon's long-standing traditions is when first-year students receive an acorn at New Student Orientation. At commencement four years later, graduates are presented with an oak tree sapling to symbolize their growth during their undergraduate experience and their potential to soar like our mascot, the mythical Phoenix.

We are excited you're considering Elon University. Enjoy the rest of your visit and I hope to meet you as a first-year student soon.

Mary Grace: Your tour was just a little bit luckier thanks to our president, Dr. Book. Thanks, Dr. Book!

Next, we will head towards the Alamance Building and the Historic Campus.

Historic Campus

Mary Grace: We've now arrived at the Historic Campus. We'll hear now from Deena.

Deena: This right here is Alamance Quad. This is one of our main academic centers on campus and this is also a great spot to cover our core curriculum. We do have something called first-year foundations, which are the three courses that all first-year students are required to take.

The first one will happen right over here in the Duke Building, and that's going to be home to all of our math and computer science courses. The second first-year foundation will be your English course, which is going to be English, Writing, and Rhetoric, and that will happen in the Alamance Building. The last first-year foundation is something called the Global Experience, which is an Elon-unique course where students are introduced to college courses at Elon while getting to meet a professor and learn about how our operations work. My Global Experience course was on Soccer and Politics, but I know people who have had them on things like Entrepreneurship or Bird Science, so you never really know what you're going to get, but they're always really interesting.

Over to the left of the Duke Building is Powell, which is home to the Office of the President, Dr. Connie Book, and it's also home to the National & International Fellowships Office and our Office of Undergraduate Research.

Lastly, over to your left, you'll see the Carlton Building, which is home to our World Languages and Cultures Department. So, for all students wishing to study a world language, that will happen likely in Carlton. Students are required to take the first two levels of a language during their time at Elon, and that can either be something that you've studied before or something new that you're looking into studying. On the bottom floor of Carlton, we also have El Centro de Espagnole, which is our Spanish center. And that is an extension of our Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education, and it's a space where our Latinx-community students can gather, hang out, and speak Spanish. But, also, it's a space where students who are learning Spanish can do tutoring, cooking classes, conversation classes, watch a movie, hang out, really anything that you want. If you spend 140 hours there over your time at Elon, you can get a plane ticket to any Spanish-speaking country of your choice, round-trip. My roommate and I are at 132 hours, so keep your fingers crossed for us and hopefully we'll get to travel soon.

Mary Grace: Thanks, Deena, for telling us all about Historic Campus. Now, continue on the tour route, where we'll stop at the Mooney Building.

Mooney Building

Mary Grace: Welcome to the Mooney Building. My friend John will now tell you more about it.

John: Hello! My name is John Ambrose; I'm a junior from Carthage, North Carolina and I'm a Strategic Communications major here at Elon.

Welcome to the Mooney Building, home to the School of Education and the Center for Access and Success.

Starting with the School of Education, there are a number of different majors offered here, including Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Middle Grades Education, Adventure Health and Physical Education, Secondary Education Programs, and Special Education. One of the things that makes these programs so unique is that students are able to spend time in an actual classroom space as early as their first semester. Many students appreciate this, as it allows them to gain that hands-on experience that simply can't be matched any other way. This experience builds throughout your four years and prepares you to spend the second semester of your senior year fully inside a local classroom in a student teaching position. Not only is this an amazing learning opportunity, but it looks great on your resume.

You'll be able to pursue a licensure to teach in North Carolina, but there will also be support and guidance for students who want to earn their licensure in other states, as well.

Up on the third floor of Mooney, the Center for Access and Success is an office comprised of three programs: The Elon Academy, The Odyssey Scholars Program, and The Village Project. These programs are designed to promote educational engagement through community outreach and provide increased college access to students from all backgrounds. Even if a student is not directly involved in one of these

programs, there's still resources here designed to support first-generation students at Elon. There are also a number of student-employment opportunities to work with these programs and feel like you're really making an impact in our community.

Mary Grace: I hope you enjoyed learning all about the Mooney Building. Follow me next to the Lambert Academic Village.

Lambert Academic Village

Mary Grace: You've now arrived at the Lambert Academic Village. Tommy will tell us more about it.

Tommy: Hey, there! The Lambert Academic Village is comprised of six pavilions and Lindner Hall, home of Elon College, The College of Arts and Sciences.

Some of the spaces in the Academic Village are residential; for instance, students involved with the Elon College Fellows Program may live in the Cannon Pavilion. There are six Fellows Programs at Elon: One representing each of our undergraduate schools and two multidisciplinary programs in Honors and Leadership. These four-year cohorts involve things like research, study abroad, and community, as well as providing students with annual scholarship.

Also located in the Academic Village is the Numen Lumen Pavilion, which houses the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life. Here at Elon, we're a multifaith campus that supports all religions, spiritualities, and non-religions. The Truitt Center offers various types of programming throughout the year that all Elon students are welcomed to engage with.

Finally, I'd like to mention the large brick patio near the road, which is called Phi Beta Kappa Commons. Phi Beta Kappa is one of the oldest and most prestigious honors societies in the nation. But, in my opinion, even more notably, this is the site of College Coffee – one of our favorite and most important Elon traditions. This weekly gathering of community members for coffee and snacks allows students and professors to engage with each other outside the classroom. College Coffee is also a great opportunity to learn more about certain student organizations and hear about events happening around campus. And, besides, who can say no to free breakfast?

Mary Grace: Thank you for telling us all about Lambert Academic Village. Follow me next through Phi Beta Kappa Commons, across the street, to McMichael Science Center.

McMichael Science Center

Mary Grace: Welcome to McMichael Science Center. We'll hear now from Deena.

Deena: Hey folks, this is Deena. Welcome to McMichael Science Center. This is home to all of the natural sciences on campus and all of the courses that students take within those majors.

As you can see, McMichael actually goes up for three floors, and that will be a mix of professors' offices, labs, and classrooms. And then, down below us in the basement, is actually our Human Donor Lab, where students taking anatomy courses get that hands-on experiential learning during their time at Elon. We do offer a Pre-Health track, if you're interested in going to medical school after you graduate.

You would get a separate academic advisor who would make sure you take all the right courses and that you could qualify to apply to those graduate programs after your time at Elon.

McMichael is also a popular place for students to conduct undergraduate research, but it's not the only place. I am not a major in the sciences, but I am doing undergraduate research. In our undergraduate research program, about 20% of students will complete research during their time at Elon. We do offer the Lumen Prize, which is the largest undergraduate research scholarship offered at Elon and it's awarded to 15 sophomores every year. And I actually am personally a Lumen Scholar, so I'm working on a Public Health research project with a faculty mentor throughout my last two years at Elon.

We also offer SURF Day, which is Student Undergraduate Research Forum, where students can do a conference presentation about their undergraduate research to their peers and faculty and get practice presenting in a conference style.

Mary Grace: Thank you so much for telling us all about McMichael Science Center. Next, we're going to head towards Koury Business Center. As you're walking, you may notice some construction. That's for our Innovation Quad, an expansion of our STEM programs, with growing fields in Engineering and Nursing.

Koury Business Center

Mary Grace: Welcome to the Koury Business Center, home to Elon's Love School of Business.

Noah: Thank you, Mary Grace, and hello! I'm Noah Orr, a senior here at Elon from Greensboro, North Carolina, majoring in Strategic Communications. I'd like to take a moment to speak with you about the business programs offered at Elon.

One of the things that makes the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business so special is the multitude of experiential learning opportunities available to our students. Just through the front doors, The William Garrard Reed Finance Center allows students to work with professional financial tools, such as the Bloomberg FactSet, Hedge Fund Research Database, and Wharton Research Database. Each year, senior Elon Business Fellows use these resources to invest \$250,000 of the university's endowment into the stock market. Historically, these students have always either made a profit or broken even on their investment recommendations, even during the 2008 recession.

The Love School of Business also offers a Dual-Enrollment program for business students wishing to spend two years abroad at one of our affiliate schools in France, Germany, Italy, or Spain. These students study International Business and earn degrees from both Elon and the school with which they study in Europe.

All business students are required to complete an internship before graduating to help grow their professional network and develop post-graduate employment opportunities. A branch of the Student Professional Development Center is housed within Koury Business Center to assist business students in preparing for professional opportunities or graduate school applications.

For students wishing to pursue advanced business degrees, The Love School of Business offers a 3 + 1 Accelerated Program that allows students to graduate with a Master's Degree in either Accounting or Business Analytics within the course of only four years.

The Love School of Business is AACSB Accredited and provides exceptional learning, both in and outside the classroom. Through a strategic and innovative curriculum, we produce students who are well-rounded, marketable, and poised for success in the professional world.

Mary Grace: I hope you enjoyed this overview of the Koury Business Center and learned more about the programming offered here.

Conclusion

Mary Grace: As we wrap up our tour of campus, I'd like to thank you for taking the time to learn more about the various programs offered at Elon. When I was exploring different schools as a prospective student, one of the things that really stood out to me at Elon was its endless opportunities for students in areas such as study abroad and professional development.

In considering your college decision, I encourage you to go where you can visualize yourself your happiest and most successful, both academically and socially, for the next four years.

I hope you enjoyed this audio tour and thank you again for visiting. Please have safe travels and reach out to our Admissions team, should we be able to provide any assistance. And as always, Go Elon!