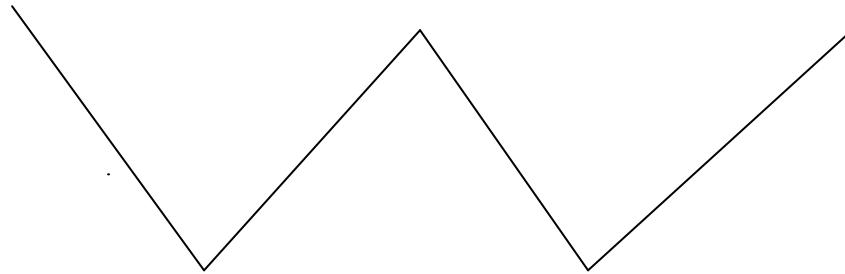


## The Gullahorn “W Curve” Transition Model

*Honeymoon*

*Initial Adjustment*

*Acceptance  
And Integration*



*Culture Shock*

*Mental Isolation*

### **The Honeymoon**

- Excitement of a new place
- Welcomed by staff and returning students
- Enjoy sense of freedom

### **Culture Shock**

- Classes and academic rigor begin
- Differing expectations and teaching styles of faculty
- New and confusing customs, rituals, myths, traditions, ceremonies and language
- Differing values of roommates, faculty, high school v.s. college
- Bureaucratic environment

### **Initial Adjustment**

- Developing comfort through transitional skills
- Confident to adjusting to new culture
- Gap between the customs and values of home and the customs and values of the university still exists.

### **Mental Isolation**

- May go home to feel close to old friends, values, etc
- New values and customs not yet integrated

### **Acceptance, Integration, and Connectedness**

- Finally connected to students, faculty and staff
- More integrated into university culture