

Class Level: 6	Topic: Community College Systems	Class Length: 3 hrs.	Date:
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**Lesson Objectives:**

- Use a Venn Diagram to organize ideas
- Become familiar with structure of community college systems
- Receive an online orientation of Wake Technical Community College
- Research and share information about a local resource

Language Skill Proficiency:

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing

Materials and Equipment:

- *Comparing Post-Secondary Education*
- *History: NC Community College System* (instructor reference)
- *Wake Tech Orientation Activity*
- Computers

**Activity Plan**

**Warm Up:** Draw a picture of a Venn Diagram on the board. Write “U.S.” below one circle and “Native Country” below the other. Ask Ss for an aspect of what they understand of post-secondary education in the U.S. (place example in the “U.S.” bubble). Also write one aspect of post-secondary education in a Ss’ native country (place that in the “Native Country” bubble) and one aspect of post-secondary education that is common between a Ss’ native country and the U.S. and write that in the center. Provide Ss with *Comparing Post-Secondary Education*. Ask Ss to continue individually comparing/contrasting the two education systems (U.S./native country) recording their ideas in the diagram. After several minutes, have Ss share their thoughts. Record ideas on board.

**Introduction:** Explain to Ss that today’s class will look at post-secondary education in the U.S., particularly the NC Community College System. Ask Ss if there are community colleges (or similar institutions) in their native countries. Provide Ss with several facts about the N.C. Community College System (See: *History: NC Community College System* for information).

**Presentation:** Ask Ss what they already know about Wake Tech. Possible guiding questions may include the following: *What types of programs does Wake Tech offer? Are there any programs of study you’re interested in learning more about? What are the costs associated with classes at Wake Tech? What are the education requirements for taking classes at Wake Tech? Who can you speak with about degree programs at Wake Tech?*

**Practice:** Provide Ss with *Wake Tech Orientation Activity*. In pairs or small groups, have Ss work together to research the answers found in the activity using the Wake Tech website ([www.waketech.edu](http://www.waketech.edu)). Go over answers as a class. NOTE: To make it more fun, you may choose to have groups race to see who can complete the activity first with the most correct answers!

**Practice:** Have each group choose one aspect of the community college system (ex. Continuing Education or Financial Aid) to report on to the class. Give each group additional time to research their subject area and organize their information.

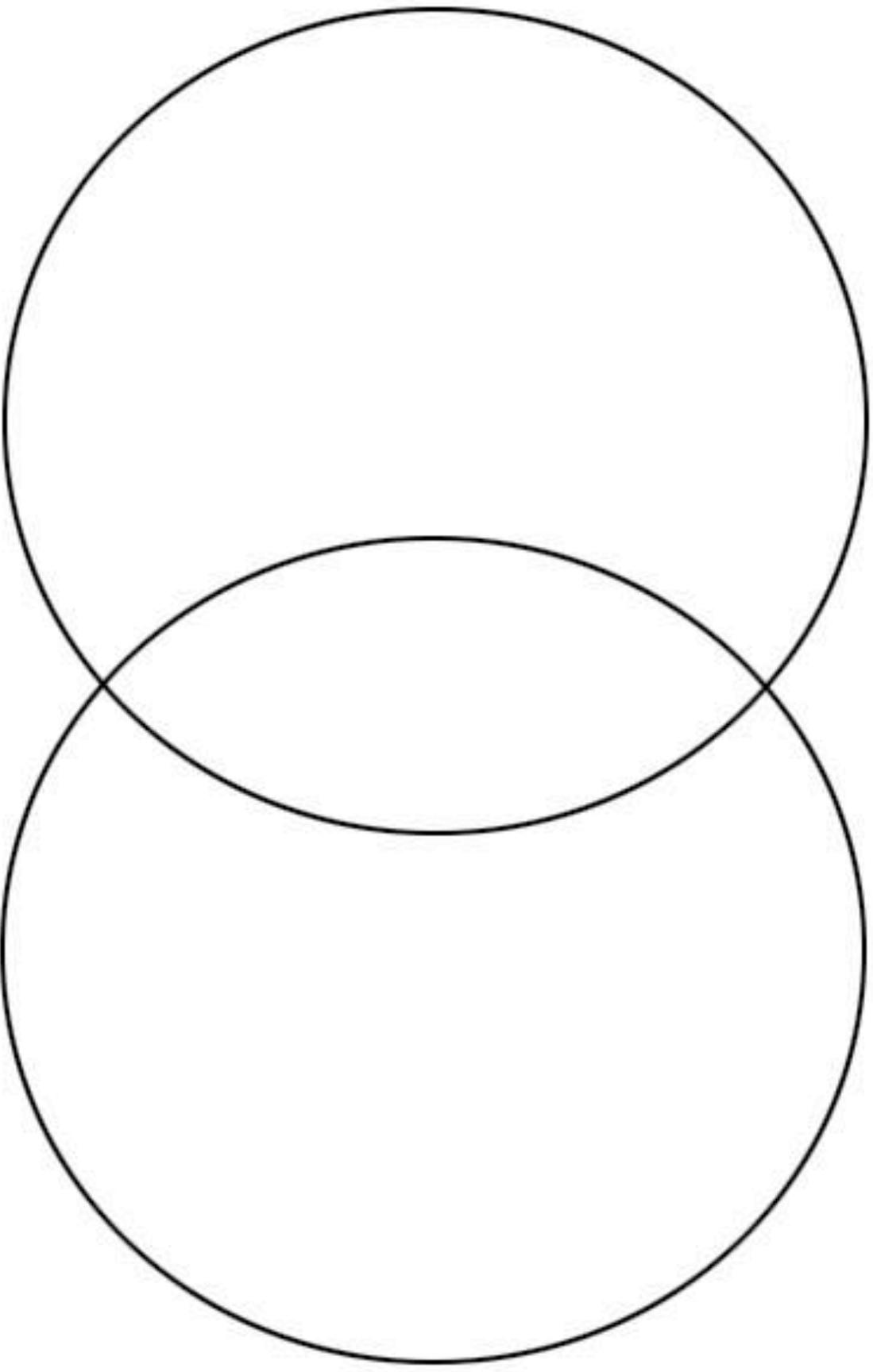
**Evaluation:** Have each group report back to the class sharing information about the different aspects of the community college system.

**Extension Activities:**

- Have Ss work in small groups to research another local college or university. Have Ss present information on the school to the class.
- Have Ss role play an interaction between a prospective student and an academic advisor at Wake Tech. Have Ss apply knowledge gained during orientation activity in the dialogues.

# Comparing Post-Secondary Education

Directions: Use the Venn Diagram to compare post-secondary education systems in the U.S. and your native country.



United States

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## HISTORY: NC Community College System

In the years following World War II, North Carolina began a rapid shift from an agricultural to an industrial economy. With that change came an awareness that a different kind of education was needed in the state. People who did not desire a four-year baccalaureate education nevertheless had the need for more than a high school diploma.

In 1950, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction authorized a study of the need for a system of tax-supported community colleges. The resulting report, by Dr. Allan S. Hurlburt, was published in 1952. It proposed a plan for development of state supported community colleges. In 1957, the General Assembly adopted the first Community College Act and provided funding for community colleges.

The same (1957) General Assembly also provided funding to initiate a statewide system of Industrial Education Centers. These centers were to train adults and selected high school students in skills needed by industry. By 1961, there were five public junior colleges emphasizing arts and sciences, and seven industrial education centers focusing on technical and vocational education.

The need to coordinate these two post-high school education systems led Governor Terry Sanford to appoint the Governor's Commission on Education Beyond the High School (Irving Carlyle, chair). In 1962, this commission recommended that the two types of institutions be brought into one administrative organization under the State Board of Education and local boards of trustees. The resulting unified community college system would provide comprehensive post-high school education. One of the system's most important early advocates was Dr. Dallas Herring of Rose Hill, then chair of the State Board of Education.

In May 1963, the General Assembly, in line with the Carlyle Commission report, enacted into law G.S. 115A (later changed to 115D), which provided for the establishment of a Department of Community Colleges under the State Board of Education and for the administration of institutions in the Community College System. There were then 20 industrial education centers, six community colleges (three of which became four year schools in 1963), and five extension units.

By 1966, there were 43 institutions with 28,250 full time equivalent (FTE) enrollments. In 1969, there were 54 institutions with 59,329 FTE. The system had grown very rapidly, exceeding ten percent annually nearly every year until the late 1970s. In 1974-75, growth reached the 33 percent mark. The system continues to grow in enrollments nearly every year, but by much more modest margins. The number of colleges has not increased since Brunswick Community College became the 58th in 1978. In 1991, the North Carolina Center for Applied Textile Technology became subject to the management of the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges. In July 2005, Gaston College, part of the North Carolina Community College System, absorbed the textile center.

The original legislation placed the community college system under the purview of the State Board of Education, and created a State Department of Community Colleges. In the early years of the system, the State Board of Education Chair was Dallas Herring; David Bruton succeeded him in 1977.

In 1979, the General Assembly changed the state control of the system. Provision was made for a separate State Board of Community Colleges. The Board was appointed and organized in 1980, and met several times with the State Board of Education. The new Board assumed full responsibility for the system on January 1, 1981. The Board's first chairperson was Duke Power Company Executive Carl Horn. He was succeeded in 1983 by John A. Forlines, president of Bank of Granite and then by William F. Simpson in 1989. Lt. Governor Dennis A. Wicker served as chair from 1993 until 1999. Dr. G. Herman Porter, former president of Wayne Community College, served from 1999 until 2001. Businessman James J.

Woody, Jr. of Roxboro served from 2001 until July 2005, when Progress Energy executive Hilda Pinnix-Ragland succeeded him as chair.

In 1988, the North Carolina Community College System celebrated its 25th anniversary, recognizing that in its first quarter century of service, the system had emerged as the nation's third largest community college network, educating millions of students during its 32-year history and employing thousands of faculty and staff.

The North Carolina Community College System has had seven presidents: I. E. Ready (1963-1970), Ben E. Fountain, Jr. (1971-1978), Larry J. Blake (1979-1982), Robert W. Scott (1983-1995), Lloyd V. Hackley (1995-1997); Martin Lancaster (1997-2008) and R. Scott Ralls (2008 - present). Charles R. Holloman served in an acting capacity from September, 1978 to July, 1979.

Source: [\*North Carolina Community College System Fact Book\*](#)



- c. What are the first two steps to entering the High School Credential Preparation Program?
  
8. Visit the *Cost and Paying for College* page of the Wake Tech website.
  - a. Go to *Costs, How to Pay*. What is cost of tuition for curriculum classes? What is the difference between out-of-state and in-state tuition? Who can you talk to about financial assistance?
  
  - b. Go to *Financial Aid, Financial Aid Overview*. Watch the short video. Define the following terms: *grants, work study* and *financial loans*.
  
9. Visit *Future Students, International Students, New Students*. Who is the contact person for prospective and current international students?