



Office Of Residence Life: House/Community Agreement

2 0 1 3 - 2 0 1 4

Fill out the following pages then sign here



Community: _____

We, as housemates, agree to uphold the mutual decisions outlined in this document. We will let our Gryphon or Assistant Director know if there are any significant revisions. In addition, we understand that any violation of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action.

Resident Signatures:

Gryphon Print Name and Date: _____

Dear UMOJA House and Warren Square residents,

Living in a residence hall can be one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences that will occur during your college years. It is also a learning environment where you are stretched outside of your comfort zone to have difficult conversations and compromise with your housemates.

The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate the process of getting to know your housemates and establish guidelines to maintain open communication. In addition, the House/Community Agreement creates a mutual understanding for how you and housemates will divide cleaning and upkeep of the common areas. Taking the time to address your expectations for topics that may cause disagreements, such as cleanliness and noise levels, will assist you later in the academic year as concerns may arise.

Please take the time during your first hall meeting of the Fall semester to thoroughly complete and discuss this House/Community Agreement. You and your housemates will have an opportunity to discuss your habits, interest sand needs. The goal of this agreement is to work together to create an inviting and inclusive environment in which all parties can feel comfortable and safe.

There are many important issues discussed throughout this document. It is imperative that all participating parties completing this document agree to listen respectfully, attentively and openly to each other's needs. Please note that all Residence Hall policies were acknowledged when creating this agreement. In addition, agreements noted here do not replace or override Residence Hall policies, the General Provisions of Occupancy, or the Lehigh University Student Code of Conduct.

Please feel free to contact your Gryphon or Assistant Director of Residence Life if you need any assistance with completing this document, or if you would like to revise a portion of this document after it has been completed.

Sincerely,
The Office of Residence Life

Golden Rules:

- Treat your housemates with courtesy, understanding and consideration.
- Respect your housemates as people.
- Be honest about your needs.
- Share your concerns early.
- Be willing to compromise.

Rights and Responsibilities:

- The right to study and sleep without interference
- The right to know your feelings will be respected
- The right to live in a clean living environment
- The right to respectfully and openly discuss disagreements
- The right to host guests in line with the GPO

Available Resources:

We encourage residents to speak with each other first should an issue occur within their space.

- **Gryphons** are the first line of assistance for residents when there is a roommate or house community disagreement. They are responsible for facilitating difficult conversations between roommates. If the Gryphon is unable to assist in the mediation process they will bring the conflict to the attention of the Assistant Director.
- **Assistant Directors** oversee the residence hall to assist students in creating an environment for dialogue in which disagreements and differences can be discussed.

Community Questionnaire

Common Area Cleanliness

When common areas in the community are not clean, we agree to resolve the conflict in the following way:

The bathroom gender designations for the community will be as follows:

What personal items can be left in the common areas? Will they be stored there in an organized manner or will we agree to bring items that are not being used back to our personal rooms once we vacate the common area?

We will share:

Everything Condiments / Basics Nothing

Who will be responsible for making sure the following areas are organized?

The Kitchen (includes making sure oven, microwave and refrigerator are clean): _____

The Living Room: _____

The Bathroom: _____

We will use the Residential House Task List included on page 3

Cleaning includes:

Tidying Dusting Vacuuming Throwing out Trash

Washing dishes Other(s): _____

Notes:

Reminder: ABM handles cleaning of all exterior surfaces. Please see page 3 for more details regarding cleaning of residential houses.

The community members will share the following:

Please circle all that apply

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MP3 Player | <input type="checkbox"/> Dishes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TV/DVD Player | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen Utensils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Video Game Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Pots / Pans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Movies | <input type="checkbox"/> Refrigerator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appliances | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food | _____ |

Housemate Relationship:

Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco:

How do you feel about your housemates using any substances prohibited in the GPO within the common areas? How do you feel if these substance that are prohibited by the GPO are left in the common areas?

Visitation/Safety

Reasonable duration of a visit to the house:

2 hours 4 hours Doesn't Matter Ask First

If allowed, overnight guests will be allowed to sleep:

In the Common Area In someone's bedroom Either

Reminder: Overnight guests are allowed to stay over consecutively for a maximum of three nights.

We will lock our room doors every time we leave the house/community area.
Initial here: _____

Study Habits:

What type of environment do you need to study effectively (i.e., without distractions such as television and/or music)? How will music or television be listened to when a housemate that is studying is present? What areas will be designated for studying and which will be designated for leisure?

Communication:

If a problem arises, we will approach each other by...

Other important considerations:
