

Community Living Agreement

Housing & Residence Life



COMMUNITY STANDARDS PROMOTE SAFE, INCLUSIVE & AFFIRMING COMMUNITIES!

What is a residential community?

Residential community living is a unique experience. Your community is a place where you will find opportunities to grow as a person, test new ideas, learn new skills and learn the importance of being part of the community where you reside. You will probably see yourself differently when the year is over. You will make new friends, rediscover old ones and hopefully realize that life holds many possibilities. It is our hope that the changes and experiences you have in the residential communities will be positive ones, which will enhance your self-confidence and help you achieve independence.

As part of that independence, each community will be working together to establish community living standards. Residents of each community will help determine how each community will manage itself. Each community will meet on a monthly basis to discuss issues, community standards and any problems that might arise.

Is a Residential Community Living Agreement necessary?

To ensure a safe, inclusive and affirming residential community, you and your fellow residents must be accountable and responsible to each other. If there are things on your floor or within your community that you would like to see handled differently or you think that other members of your floor or community are not upholding the standards you set, it will be your responsibility as a community to discuss these issues.

Community living standards will not replace the University Student Code of Conduct or the Guide to Residential Living Handbook but will instead, work in conjunction with them to help make sure each community is a transformative environment conducive to living and learning for the students who live there. There are live-in staff in each building to assist you and help facilitate positive change. This staff is made up of a Resident Director (RD) and Resident Assistants (RAs). Additionally, each community has a designated Graduate Assistant (GA) and Front Desk Staff who will work with you to ensure your community is a good place to study, rest and socialize. RAs are students like you, who live on each floor and will act as facilitators as each community develops its own community living standards.

Am I responsible for being aware of community standards?

You and your fellow students will be responsible for the quality of life in your residential community during the coming year. You are expected to be familiar with policies and procedures, which have been established to guide student conduct. Remember, you are part of a community in an academic environment and being part of any community brings with it responsibilities, including courtesy, consideration and empathy.

COMMUNITY LIVING STANDARDS & CONDITIONS

Each community member must agree to live by the community standards set forth in order to ensure there are adequate measures in place to create and maintain a quality living and learning environment. Each resident must respect the community as a whole and abide by community standards when visiting other residents and/or when utilizing common area space.

In the event a community member is found in violation of the community standards, the resident will be subject to disciplinary action by Housing & Residence Life or if more serious in nature, will be subject to additional action being taken by University Police and the Dean of Students Office. Additional sanctions can include but are not limited to: expulsion, suspension, removal from housing and/or legal or criminal action.

I have read and understand the living and learning community principles and information and will abide by it during the 2017-2018 academic year.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

Photo/Videotape Release and Consent Form

I, (Print Name), _____ certify that my signature being affixed below on this release and consent form gives permission to officials employed in the **Offices of Communications and Marketing** and/or **Creative Services** at Norfolk State University the full right to use my photograph(s) and/or videotaped image(s) and sound byte(s) in its recruitment, public relations, and promotional efforts. I willingly agreed to have my photograph(s), videotaped image(s), sound byte(s) taken knowing that it could be used in various publications and/or broadcasts in the Commonwealth of Virginia and/or throughout the United States.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

I further agree that my signature below on this form, acknowledges that I am aware that there are certain infractions that will render an immediate decision to remove me from my room or residence hall immediately. I further acknowledge that such infractions are not limited to those described below and that I am also responsible for being aware of the Guide to Residential Living Handbook and residential policies, the Spartan Student Code of Ethics, and the Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook.

1. Initiating a false fire alarm, improper discharge of a fire extinguisher or vandalism and/or unauthorized use of fire/safety equipment. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
2. Repeated warnings of unsanitary living conditions (upon violation of final written warning notification). Initials _____
3. Conduct which is deemed to threaten the safety of self or others (weapon, throwing objects from windows, threat/intimidation...). Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
4. Repeated warnings of noise infractions (upon violation of final written warning notification). Initials _____
5. Disrespect of residential hall staff that is deemed hostile or intimidating. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
6. Drug and/or alcohol violations. Drugs, alcohol and smoking are prohibited. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions such as expulsion, suspension, removal from housing, etc.. Initials _____
7. Discrimination and/or harassment practices to any community or hall member or residential staff based on factors such as race, sexual orientation, religion, or political affiliations. A community is made of individuals from various backgrounds and beliefs. It is an environment where residents are strongly encouraged to learn about their similarities and differences and to challenge their viewpoints to foster a learning environment that extends beyond the classroom. Behavior or acts that may be deemed inappropriate may result in allegations of a hate crime. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
8. Pranks are prohibited. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
9. Stealing, entering an individual's room without knowledge or permission is prohibited. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University's sanctions. Theft of property is often the number one incident on college campuses. NSU is not responsible or liable for theft of items for any reason. Students are strongly encouraged to keep their doors locked at all times and to obtain renter's insurance. Initials _____
10. Repeated warnings and/or counseling on display of behavior, actions, conduct and/or attitude deemed unsatisfactory in a community environment. (Removal from residential community living upon violation of final written warning notification). Initials _____
11. Students who fail to follow treatment and/or orders prescribed by medical personnel may be subject to removal from campus housing. NSU reserves the right to refuse housing to any student who refuses to abide by medical procedures identified to be in the best interest of the resident and/or campus community. Initials _____
12. Fighting is prohibited. Students will be subject to expulsion, suspension, criminal and legal action.

STUDENT NAME (printed): _____ DATE _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE _____

We appreciate your taking the time to help us ensure your SPARTAN RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCE is rewarding and that you will be able to live in an environment which promotes academic excellence!