Communication is the single most important factor in building good relationships in your townhouse. Many residents assume that they know how everyone should feel and think about the expectations associated with living together. Because of this, they often do not discuss issues like the use of personal belongings, personal relational expectations, and how the living space will be used. The assumptions made are not always correct and can lead to conflict.

The Community Living Agreement will help you and your housemates begin the process of discussing these issues so as to avoid common pitfalls in the upcoming year. Your commitment to collaboration is necessary to help create a good foundation of agreements for you to live together in your townhouse.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** We have provided discussion points for you to have with your future housemates. Be sure to engage the points so as to discover differences, discuss the differences and reach an understanding on how issues will be managed. For each Townhouse that submits a signed outline of their Community Living Agreement describing your agreements in the areas outlined below, an additional 3 credits will be added to your credit average for townhouse selection.

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**Community Meetings**
- How often will we meet to review our community living agreement?
- How often do we want to intentionally get together?
- Who will be responsible for scheduling these meetings/get-togethers?

**Confrontation**
- When there is a problem in our townhouse (ie. noise, personal conflicts, bathroom cleanliness), how will we approach each other?
- When will we seek mediation from the R.A.?

**Noise and Quiet Hours**
- Are you okay with the college-established quiet hours or do you want them to be earlier in your house?
- In this area, you would discuss what you feel constitutes “quiet” and what constitutes “courtesy.”

**Opposite Gender Visitation**
- Is everyone in agreement with the following policy taken from the student guide or as a house will you decide to cut short the hours permitted?

**All shared living space opposite gender visitation:**
Sunday–Thursday from 12:00 p.m.–12:00 a.m., Friday from 12:00 p.m.–2:00 a.m., Saturday 12:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m.
Individual Open Room Visitation hours are:
Between 0–7 nights per week, 6:00 p.m.–12:00 a.m.

(Specific Times: To be decided by each townhouse. Townhouses must have a meeting to reach a consensus with your own house)

Use of each other’s belongings

You may use the following possessions of mine (this is not intended to be an exhaustive list):
Stereo/CDs, TV/DVDs, Clothes, Personal Care Items, Computer, Appliances, Furniture, Food, etc.

If items may be used, under what circumstances: Without asking, Only with asking first, By guests and visitors

If consumables are used, (ie. food, soap, paper, etc...): They must be replaced, They do not have to be replaced

Think of other items or issues, and how you will handle them.

How will we use our common area

Will we have our area open for socializing at all times? Will we set aside times for privacy when we can use our common area just for ourselves?

How will we use our room?

Hours for sleeping, hours for studying, hours for socializing?

Will we keep the door locked when not in the room?

How will we monitor the cleaning of our area?

Who will take responsibility for emptying the trash, vacuuming the common areas, dusting the common areas, cleaning the bathroom, cleaning the refrigerator?

How will you address the situation if the condition of the townhouse/flat becomes a concern for any resident?

What are our personal pet peeves?

Things that really bother me are...