Residence Education Model Overview

Students learn and develop as a direct result of living in the residence halls. Important aspects of that learning and development are influenced by the intentional efforts of our staff, campus colleagues, and the students themselves. This document articulates the learning and development that University Residences is intentionally trying to help every resident achieve.

University Residences Mission Statement

Students in University Residences enhance their Western Experience in diverse and inclusive communities that foster active learning, leadership, social responsibility, civic engagement, and effective citizenship: supported by a high quality, attractive and sustainable campus environment.

Residence Life’s Overarching Educational Goal

The goal of our Residence Education model is for students to learn about themselves and how to live and work with others. We do this by engaging students in reflection about their experiences in the following focus areas:

Learning About Self: Students will examine, develop and live according to their personal strengths, interests, goals, beliefs, feelings, values and identities.

Learning About Others: Students will explore and respect the similarities and differences in the personal strengths, interests, goals, beliefs, feelings, values and identities of others.

Learning About Relationships: Students will develop interpersonal skills to create and maintain healthy relationships with others.

Learning About Community: Students will explore their roles, responsibilities and the mutual impact within various communities.

Some examples of implementation include: intentionally structured conversations with student staff, roommate conversations, community development programming, leadership opportunities, and the disciplinary conduct process.
Residence Education Model Student Learning Outcomes

Students will learn about themselves and how to live and work with others.

Learning About Self: Students will examine and develop their personal identity.

- Students will describe their strengths, interests, goals, beliefs, feelings, values, and experiences.
- Students will articulate the unique aspects of their own social identity such as: race, class, gender, religion, etc.
- Students will identify resources and develop techniques to achieve personal wellness and academic success.
- Students will recognize when their decisions and actions are in line with their goals, values, and beliefs.

Learning About Others: Students will explore and respect the similarities and differences between themselves and others.

- Students will describe the diversity of social identities, beliefs, and backgrounds present within their living community.
- Students will recognize their assumptions and stereotypes about the social identities of others.

Learning About Relationships: Students will develop interpersonal skills to create and maintain healthy relationships with others.

- Students will describe the attributes of a variety of healthy relationships (e.g., parents, faculty, roommates, and peers).
- Students will demonstrate effective communication and conflict management skills.

Learning About Community: Students will explore their roles, responsibilities and the mutual impact within various communities.

- Students will describe their roles in- and the attributes of- healthy communities.
- Students will recognize how the decisions and actions of themselves and others impact them and their communities.