Residential Learning Communities

Syracuse University is committed to promoting a culturally and socially diverse climate that supports the academic and personal development of each member of our residential community. You are invited to become involved in one of the living and learning opportunities designed to complement and enhance your educational experience at Syracuse University. Many students find that these special opportunities help ease the transition to college life, providing them with a group of peers and friends who become like a family away from home.

A note to honors students: Students who have been invited to participate in the Renée Crown University Honors Program are encouraged to enroll in a learning community. Honors students who do not select a learning community will be housed in proximity to other honors students (“Honors Clusters”) within the standard residence halls.

Learning communities allow you to live and take classes with a group of students who all are joined by a common interest or academic major. Participation in a learning community allows you to develop skills and attitudes that support academic achievement, improved quality of thinking and communications, a better understanding of yourself and others, and a greater ability to balance your academic and social lives.

Because many of our learning communities include one or more academic courses, you may want to consult an academic advisor in your home college to discuss how the academic component fits with your particular curriculum and the effect of transfer or advanced placement credits before making a selection. Your college will be evaluating your transfer and AP credits. These credits may affect your eligibility to enroll in certain learning communities. Interest housing provides you with an opportunity to live with students who share similar interests. There is no academic component associated with interest housing.

Our learning communities can be grouped under broad categories, including arts and expression; cultural exploration and diversity; health and wellness; leadership and citizenship; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); and learning communities organized around an academic major or minor. Read through the following descriptions and think about which option(s) might suit you best.

Army ROTC

The Army ROTC Learning Community develops a student’s leadership potential, academic confidence, and teamwork skills through participation in a variety of campus, ROTC, and community service events in fun and interactive ways. Best of all, no Army or other military service experience is required.

- Open to first- and second-year SU students.
- First-year students must enroll in Army ROTC and MSL 101/2; Second-year students must register for MSL 201/2 Foundations in Leadership.

Arts Adventure

The arts are an essential part of a college experience. Students participating in the Arts Adventure Learning Community (AALC) share their love of the arts by attending plays, concerts, gallery shows, dance performances, and other types of artistic events together.

- Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.
- Students register for WRT 105 Practices of Academic Writing (3 credits).

Barbara Glazer Weinstein and Jerome S. Glazer Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship

Every student is rich in creative, innovative, and entrepreneurial potential. The Barbara Glazer Weinstein and Jerome S. Glazer Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (CIE) Learning Community helps students recognize and exploit that potential. The focus is on approaches within all academic disciplines and all walks of life, emphasizing the need for imagination in commercial, noncommercial, nonprofit, and public sector contexts.

- Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.
- The CIE Learning Community has both fall and spring semester course requirements. All students register for fall semester: EEE 110/PAF 110 Creativity: Discovering the Entrepreneur Within (1 credit). All students register for spring semester: EEE 110/PAF 110 Innovation: Discovering the Entrepreneur Within (1 credit).
The Education Living-Learning Community (ELLC) brings first-year education students together with faculty and staff members to ease the transition into the University community and contribute to their success within the School of Education and beyond.

• Open to first-year undergraduate SU students only (including dually enrolled students with arts and sciences and visual and performing arts).

• Students register for two required first-year courses: WRT 105 Practices of Academic Writing (3 credits) and EDU 101 First Year Forum (1 credit).

Fashion Communications
Students interested in exploring fashion communications will find that this learning community provides numerous fun and intellectually engaging activities. These activities may include creating display boards, watching Project Runway, evaluating fashion advertising, or attending panel discussions and guest lectures.

• Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.

• There is no course requirement for this learning community.

Health and Exercise Science
The Health and Exercise Science Learning Community is designed to provide an environment where first-year students in health and exercise science can explore issues related to health, exercise, and performance. A variety of experiences in the health and exercise science labs will allow you to get hands-on knowledge of the labs, discover how your body performs on some tests, and find out about ongoing research.

• Open to first-year undergraduate health and exercise science major students only.

• Students register for PPE 295 Introduction to Exercise Science (3 credits).

Health Studies
The Health Studies Learning Community was designed for students who might be considering a range of opportunities relating to health care, from working as a health care provider or medical researcher to pursuing a career in economics, journalism, politics, or law with an emphasis on health care. The Health Studies Learning Community is the place where students in health-related majors share their interests in the field, and learn and explore together.

• Open to first-year undergraduate SU students who intend to major in a health-related area.

• There is no course requirement for this learning community.

International Relations
Students in the International Relations Learning Community (IRLC) develop increased awareness of international issues through focused discussions, lectures, cross-cultural workshops, trips, and other special activities linked to co-curricular residence hall programming and experiences. This learning community is designed for students who intend to pursue international relations as part of their academic program.

• Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.

• Students register in the fall semester for PSC 124 International Relations (3 credits), taught by the undergraduate director for international relations. In the spring semester, students have the option to register for MAX 132 Global Community (3 credits).
Languages, Cultures, and Arts
Students with a passion for exploring different cultures through language and the arts will focus on language learning through conversation, cultural events, and a foreign film series, and through sharing from their own unique cultural heritage. Students attend special events, including theater, musical performances, dinners, and art exhibitions, many of them in the diverse ethnic communities in the City of Syracuse, New York City, and the surrounding areas.
· Open to first-year undergraduate College of Arts & Sciences students only.
· Students register for the appropriate level language course.

L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science (LCS)
Imagine a place where you live and learn alongside peers who share your interest in, and enthusiasm for, engineering, computer science, and technology. Imagine the fun and interesting experiences you will have meeting, interacting, and bonding with other students who will share with you the same adventures, challenges, and opportunities of an undergraduate program in engineering and computer science. In the LCS Learning Community, you will find classmates and peers who also want to establish the friendships and team-building skills so critical for success.
· Open to first-year LCS students and arts and sciences students enrolled in the dual A&S/ LCS program.
· Students are required to register for ECS 101 Introduction to Engineering and Computer Science (3 credits) and an Academic Excellence Workshop (1 credit) in support of their fall Mathematics course.

Leaders Emerging and Developing
The Leaders Emerging and Developing (LEAD) Learning Community provides students with the unique opportunity to explore various elements of leadership and ultimately discover their own personal leadership style. LEAD challenges participants to be active social change agents in society and fosters an environment that encourages students to explore and learn about themselves in fun and interactive ways.
· Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.
· Students register for PAF 121 Leadership Practicum (1 credit).
· Students are encouraged to utilize the opportunity to participate in the pre-orientation program “Leadership Outdoor Orientation Program” (LOOP).

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Allies Studies
The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Allies (LGBTA) Studies Learning Community brings together students who are interested in exploring questions about sexuality, gender, and the body—questions that are fundamental to a sense of identity, selfhood, and community. These concepts intersect with race, class, ability, nationality, and age. Learning opportunities include a retreat as well as participation in cultural events both within and outside of the university environment.
· Open to all undergraduate SU students.
· Students are encouraged to register for QSX 112 Sexualities, Genders, and Bodies (3 credits).
· Students who have already taken QSX 112 or any other course in the LGBT studies minor can still join the learning community.

Maxwell Citizenship
Students in the Maxwell Citizenship Learning Community will find good times and lifelong friends in a community of first-year students destined to become leaders through community service and good citizenship.
· Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.
· Students register for NAT 105 Introduction to Native American Studies (3 credits).

Multicultural Living
The Multicultural Living Learning Community (MLLC) is a unique learning community at Syracuse University where racially and ethnically diverse students build community together. Students participate in academic and co-curricular experiences that raise awareness about the impact of race and racism on individual identities, develop cross cultural communication skills, and promote positive citizenship, social justice, and community activism.
· Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.
· Enroll in LAS 300: Living in a Diverse Society (3 credits, fall semester) and participate in the six-week Conversation about Race and Ethnicity (C.A.R.E.) Dialogue Circle (spring semester).
· Students in the MLLC will also attend community-building events, join and participate in a MLLC Committee, and participate in college transition workshops, Office of Multicultural Affairs, and MLLC committee-sponsored programs, and affinity group trips.

Native American Studies
The Native American Studies Learning Community is for all students who want to become part of a community that focuses on the intellectual, religious, historical, aesthetic, and political traditions of Native peoples. Located in the heart of Haudenosaunee country, this area provides a valuable resource for such activities as field trips to local Native festivals and museums and campus lectures by distinguished Native scholars. The community advances student learning through a faculty- enhanced residential experience.
· Open to all undergraduate SU students.
· Students register for NAT 105 Introduction to Native American Studies (3 credits).

Outdoor Pursuits
The Outdoor Pursuits Learning Community is a place for people who enjoy outdoor recreation. Students will take part in shared outdoor adventure trip experiences, discuss various aspects of the outdoor pursuits with faculty and staff, and engage in outdoor recreation opportunities with their floor.
· Open to all undergraduate SU students.
· Students are encouraged to register for PED 289: Backpacking (1 credit). Note: there is a $65 fee associated with this class.
· Students are encouraged to utilize the opportunity to participate in the pre-orientation program “Leadership Outdoor Orientation Program” (LOOP).

continued
Learning Communities & Interest Housing continued

Pathways (Career Preparation)
The Pathways Learning Community gives students an opportunity to jumpstart their career plans and maximize the quality of their time at SU. Pathways is the ideal learning community for an incoming first-year student who wants to become a fully engaged student by taking advantage of the variety of opportunities SU has to offer, all the while exploring careers and preparing for the future.

- Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.
- Students register for HSH 200 Career Development (1 credit).

Poets
The Poets Learning Community brings together first-year students interested in writing and performing their diverse stories through spoken word poetry at SU. Through a series of Verbal Blend workshops, special events, and interactions with other poets, students build a supportive community for writing, public speaking, and artistic expression through spoken word and hip hop. Additionally, students in the learning community will be mentored by upper-class student poets known as Poets Achieving Leadership (PAL).

- Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.
- There is no course requirement for this learning community.

Psychology in Action
Psychology in Action provides students with an up-close look at the world of psychology. Students will explore together the intriguing domain of human behavior by visiting a psychology lab, chatting with faculty about their experiences, and meeting with professionals who use their expertise in school, business, and human service settings.

- Open to first-year undergraduate College of Arts and Sciences students.
- Students register for WRT 105 Practices of Academic Writing (3 credits) and PSY 205: Foundations of Human Behavior (3 credits). Students who are receiving credit for PSY 205, register for PSY 274: Social Psychology (3 credits).

Science, Technology, and Math
Students in the Science, Technology, and Math Learning Community will be part of a vibrant community with strong academic support and a multitude of opportunities to develop lifelong friendships. Students receive support navigating challenging first-year courses in science, technology, and math disciplines through advising, tutoring, and study groups while living in close proximity to their classrooms and laboratories. However, this community is far from “all work and no play” as it also creates lasting connections between community members through fun and engaging field trips, leadership development activities, and floor programs.

- Open to first-year undergraduate College of Arts and Sciences students.
- Although students will be taking a number of courses in common, there is no course requirement for this learning community.

Sport Management
The Sport Management Living-Learning Community provides a collaborative learning environment where students with a passion for sports live and work together and enjoy a unique opportunity to develop academic and professional skills through coursework, experiential learning opportunities at a Division 1 university, and community engagement activities that will lead to a career in sports.

- Open to first-year undergraduate sport management students only.
- Students are automatically enrolled in three required courses: SPM 205 Introduction to Sport Management (3 credits); HSH 101 Gateway (1 credit), WRT 105 Practices of Academic Writing (3 credits).

Wellness
The Wellness Learning Community provides students with opportunities to experience personal growth while focusing on the seven dimensions of wellness—physical, social, occupational, intellectual, emotional, environmental, and spiritual. As a member of the Wellness Learning Community, you will be
supported in making healthy lifestyle choices and leading a balanced life.

- Open to first-year undergraduate SU students.
- Students are strongly encouraged to register for WRT 105 Practices of Academic Writing (3 credits).

**Whitman School of Management**
The Whitman School of Management (WSM) Learning Community is an exciting opportunity for first-year management students to enrich their academic and social lives as they live and take courses together and participate in activities designed to prepare them for a career in management.

- Open to first-year undergraduate management students only.
- Students register for SOM 122 Perspectives of Business and Management (required management gateway course, 3 credits), WRT 105 Practices of Academic Writing (required first-year writing course, 3 credits), and SOM 110 Learning Community Seminar (1 credit). Due to the integrated structure of these required courses, students who have received a qualifying score in AP English (Language and Composition or Literature) will not receive AP credit for WRT 105. Students must take WRT 105 to participate in this learning community.

**Women in Science and Engineering**
The Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) Learning Community is designed to support women science and engineering students at SU and to celebrate the achievements of women in science and engineering. The program focuses on developing mentoring and advising relationships with faculty and creating strong connections with peers.

- Open to first-year undergraduate SU women in science and engineering disciplines.

**NON-RESIDENTIAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES**

**Whitman School of Management and Service**
In the Whitman School of Management and Service Learning Community, students will learn about the community and meet interesting people while fulfilling graduation requirements. Focusing on the relationship between management, writing, and community service, students in this non-residential learning community integrate the ideas and theories from the two required management first-year classes with their observations from a service placement.

- Open to first-year undergraduate management students only.
- Students register for SOM 122 Perspectives of Business and Management (required management gateway course, 3 credits) and WRT 105 Practices of Academic Writing (required first-year writing course, 3 credits); both fulfill first-year requirements.

**LIFE (Living In a Free Environment)**
The LIFE Program is a housing option for those students looking for a community where neighbors choose not to use alcohol, drugs, and tobacco. It is a community of students who promote the philosophy of a substance-free lifestyle through programs, discussions, and peer support.

- Open to all undergraduate SU students.

**Transfer Student**
Transfer Student Interest Housing is a great place for new transfer students to interact and share experiences with other transfer students. The offices of Residence Life and First-Year and Transfer Programs offers programming designed specifically for transfer students in order to meet their needs.

- Open to non-first-year SU transfer students.

**HOW TO REQUEST ENROLLMENT**
Indicate your learning community choice(s) on the online Housing and Meal Plan Application. If you are interested in more than one, rank your choices to a maximum of three. If you are also making a mutual roommate request, each of you must make identical rankings.

Learning communities and interest housing opportunities fill up quickly. All enrollment requests are granted on a space-available basis. Therefore, if you plan to enroll in one of these groups, please submit your completed Admission Acceptance Form (AAF) and payments as soon as possible, so you may gain access to the online Housing and Meal Plan Application. For more information about learning communities or interest housing, please contact the Office of Learning Communities at 315-443-2079, visit our web page at lc.syr.edu, or e-mail us at lcs@syr.edu.