

Roommate Agreement

As a rule, make rules before you need to make rules.

On your own, consider each of the following questions as if your roommate were asking you to answer them. At the end of each section, talk about your answers with your roommate. Come up with a shared understanding in the 'Agreement' section where there is potential for conflict.

• Room Environment

- What is your attitude about grades? Some possible answers: *extremely important* (4.0 GPA only, please), *important* (I'm here to learn, after all), *sort of important* (I'll study when I have to...)
- What time of day do you study most? Do you study mostly in the room?
- What kind of environment do you need when studying? *Complete quiet, music, TV?*
- What time do you usually go to bed and wake up? Consider weeknights *and* weekends.
- Does light, music, TV, or having guests over bother you if you're trying to sleep/study?
- If our sleep schedules are different, can we make a compromise about what lights stay on, noise levels, etc.? *Desk lights only? Laptop light? TV on low volume? Headphones?*
- How cold or hot do you like to keep the room during the day? How about while you sleep?
- Do you prefer to have the windows open or closed? (If you live in Moore, 'closed' is your answer.)
- How often do you make phone calls? (room phone, cell phone, Skype) *My parents are lucky if I text them? Call home a few times a week, quick conversations? I talk to my mom/sister/boyfriend/girlfriend/bestfriend every day?*
- Will it distract you if I am talking on the phone or Skyping in the room?
- Typically, how clean do you keep your room? *Chaotic/Messy, Casual, Neat/Tidy*
- What are your standards of cleanliness?
- What messes will you not tolerate?

Agreement:

• Shared Space, Shared Stuff

- Is it alright if I borrow your food?
- How soon should it be replaced or paid for?
- Will you let me know if there's something I shouldn't eat? (Mom's cookies, maybe?)
- Can I use your fridge? Microwave?
- How do you feel about me borrowing items like clothing, jewelry, DVDs?
- Are things like your computer, printer, TV, or other electronics for mutual use? Are any of them off-limits?
- Do I need to ask first? (For all items or just certain ones?)
- Do you want me to answer the room phone to take a message for you if you aren't there?
- Where should we leave messages for each other? Desk? Tape to back of door? Whiteboard?
- Is it alright if I bring up your mail as well as mine? Where should mail be left?

Agreement:

- **Guests and Visitors**

- Are you alright with having visitors in the room?
- Are you comfortable with opposite sex visitors during visitation hours?
- How late can guests stay?
- Are you comfortable with someone spending the night? (same sex only, of course! Limited to 3 nights within a 10-day period) Where will your visitors sleep?
- How many people do you think our room **comfortably** holds?
- How can we make arrangements if you don't like my friends (or vise-versa)?

Agreement:

- **Background, Values, Modesty: Getting Comfortable with the [possibly] Uncomfortable**

- How important are your religious/spiritual beliefs to you?
- How important are your political beliefs to you?
- Are you offended by swearing? Drinking? (No partying in your room!)
- Does the smell of cigarettes bother you?
- What is your comfort level with human bodies? (Sounds weird, right? But seriously, this stuff will come up.) Your comfort level with your own body? Accidental/intentional nakedness? Bodily functions (ahem, farting)? Public displays of affection?
- Are there any behaviors you will not tolerate in your room? Anything that annoys you?

Agreement

We Talked About This?!

How are we going to handle a situation if one of us does not follow our agreement?

Roommates who want to get along will find a way to get along.

I believe this Roommate Agreement is fair, and I agree to uphold it. I will strive to practice respect for my roommate. When something is a problem, I promise to bring it up to my roommate before whatever it is gets out of control.

We understand that we may renegotiate this Agreement at any time during the year by contacting our RA.

My Signature _____ Roommate's Signature _____

Date _____

Date _____