

**Theme Living Proposal Information**

**The Office of Residence Life  
440-775-8472**

The Office of Residence Life offers students a unique housing opportunity called Theme-Living.

Space may be allocated on a floor or in a section of a residence hall for groups of students who would like to form a living arrangement based on, but not limited to, broadly conceived interdisciplinary intellectual interests beyond the classroom in the arts and sciences; local or national community service; salient identity; and/or social or political interests of a wide variety (including international affairs, gender, or sexuality).

Groups are required to have an Oberlin College Faculty and/or Staff member as an official advisor. The advisor is expected to:

1. Plan and implement with students at least one program or event per semester
2. Collaborate with other themes (where applicable) to organize an event that would further engage the community at large, academically, socially, and professionally
3. Assist the group if a conflict arises between the group and larger community
4. Meet with a professional staff member in ResLife before the application is submitted and once each semester
5. Provide guidance to the student leadership for the theme on programming, training, and reflection
6. Attend at least one theme community meeting a semester with the floor
7. Meet with theme student leadership at least once a semester

The responsibilities of the ResLife professional staff member overseeing the process will be to:

1. Assist the group through the application process, including reviewing applications before the deadline for clarity
2. Work with the theme living group to set goals for each semester
3. Recommend whether the group is approved for reapplication
4. Participate in a renewal application process
5. Attend at least one theme community program or event a semester

Groups should submit the proposal application to the Office of Residence Life or via email at [reslife@oberlin.edu](mailto:reslife@oberlin.edu) by 5:00pm on Friday, December 15th, 2023. Approval of the proposal will be determined by professional staff in the Office of Residence Life. Approval will be for the 2024-2025 academic year only.

**Theme Living Proposal Application**

On a separate sheet, please address each of the following in your Theme Living Application:

1. Title of Proposed Theme Living
2. Name, cell number, and email of Theme Leader (**the student(s) in charge of theme that are not a Resident Assistant**)
3. Attach the signed Advisor Agreement Form
4. Provide a general description of your theme living community and include the following:
  - a. What would you like to accomplish in the next academic year?
  - b. Give at least three (3) examples of activities you will conduct with your members and how these activities will contribute to your overall goals for the community
  - c. Describe what inspires your theme community
5. How will this living option foster interactions and discussion that might not happen without this dedicated setting?
6. Describe the selection criteria and process you will use for selecting students for this proposed theme.
  - a. Outline how you will designate a leadership council within your **community** and what they would be responsible for
  - b. What are the 3-5 short-answer questions you want used in the application for the theme during housing selection to determine who will be placed on the **community**?

**Please Note:**

- **New themes (if approved) must create an application for interested students and submit it to ResLife by December 15, 2023 at 5pm. This information will be posted on the ResLife website and made available to residents after submission**
- **All necessary forms can be found on the Theme Page of the ResLife website (TBD)**
- **A theme will need at least 20 interested students, who have submitted the Theme Housing Commitment Form, in order to be considered for approval**
- **Your theme leader and proposed advisor must meet with a professional staff member in the Office of Residence Life, prior to the application deadline of December 15th, 2023.**