



## **Theme Living Proposal Information**

### **Residential Education & Dining Services Stevenson-Griswold 440-775-8472**

Residential Education and Dining Services 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 the Area Coordinator for Theme and Identity-Based Communities 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 Area Coordinator 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 Residential Education Office or via email to Heather Shadle, Area Coordinator for Theme & Identity Based Communities, at [hshadle@oberlin.edu](mailto:hshadle@oberlin.edu) by 5:00pm on Friday, December 13th, 2019. Approval of the proposal will be determined by the Area Coordinator in consultation with the Office of Residential Education and Dining Services. Approval will be for the 2020-2021 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 persons in charge of theme that are not a Resident Assistant**).
3. Attached 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 floor
  - c. Describe what inspires your theme floor
5. What types of spaces (i.e. kitchen, lounge, computer lab) do you need to accomplish your theme goals? Why are these spaces needed and in what ways would they be used?
6. How will this living option foster interactions and discussion that might not happen without this dedicated setting?
7. 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 floor 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 floor?
  - c. Interested students must fill out the Theme Housing Commitment Form for the 2020-2021 academic year, attach these completed forms to your proposal.

**Please Note:**

- **New themes (if approved) must create an application for interested students and submit it to Res Ed by December 13, 2019 at 5pm. This will be posted on the Res Ed website and made available to residents after submission**
- **All necessary forms can be found on the Theme Page of the Res Ed website (<https://www.oberlin.edu/housing/options/theme>)**
- **A theme will need at least 10 interested students, who have submitted the Theme Housing Commitment Form, in order to be considered for approval**
- **If your proposal is accepted, all members who have filled out the Theme Housing Commitment Form will be placed on the floor for the 2020-2021 academic year, removing them from the housing selection process**
- **Your theme leader and proposed advisor must meet with Heather Shadle, Area Coordinator for Theme & Identity Based Communities, prior to the application deadline of December 13th, 2019**
- **If you have any questions, please contact Heather Shadle at [hshadle@oberlin.edu](mailto:hshadle@oberlin.edu)**