

Fall 2019 Alpha Omicron Pledge Syllabus

Pledge Requirements

Core Requirements

- 25 Service hours¹
- 4 Fellowship points²
- 4 Membership points³
- 3 Fundraising points⁴
- 2 Interchapter (IC) points⁵
- 2 Diversity and Inclusion points⁶
- 2 Philanthropy points⁷
- 2 Pledge Class events⁸
- 1 EBM meeting⁹

Leadership Requirements

- 5 Enrichment points¹⁰
- No more than 2.75 strikes¹¹
- Participate in Pledge Service, Fellowship, IC, and Fundraising efforts
- Wear your pledge pin and have your binder with you AT ALL TIMES, except during shower, sleep, sports, sex, and substances (5 S's)¹²
- Serve on at least 1 active committee for a minimum of 3 weeks (Service, Membership, IC, Fellowship, Fundraising or Communications Committee)
- Serve on at least 1 pledge committee (meets during pledge meetings)

Brotherhood Requirements

- Complete at least **60 interviews total**
- Interview at least **25 active or associate brothers**¹³
- Interview the entire pledge class
- Interview the President, Pledgemaster, and both of the Paunties
- Interview **2 additional Excomm Members**
- Interview at least **1 IC active brothers**
(Each extra interview = 1 enrichment point)

Mandatory Events

- Pledge Sleepover and Chapter Retreat:
October 4th – October 6th
- DTA: **Friday, October 11th**

- Pledge Reflection Nights¹⁴: **TBA**
- Initiation Ceremony: **December 7th or 8th**
(official date TBA)

Pledge Class Requirements

- Plan a large APO Service Event¹⁵
- Plan a large APO Fellowship Event¹⁶
- Plan an IC event¹⁷ with a pledge class from another chapter
- Fundraise **\$1000** for the chapter

Overall Evaluation

- You must score **at least 80%** on all 4 quizzes¹⁸
- You must have a certain number of interviews done by the dates specified in the syllabus
- Attend **Mid-Semester Review**
- Attend and pass (**80%**) the **Final Board Examination**²⁴
- Display a sincere desire to be part of this brotherhood and have good intentions towards fellow brothers

Other

- Participate in pledge mission¹⁹, pledge reflections²⁰ and funtivity²¹
- Attend **ALL** meetings: General Body Meeting (GBM), which begin each **Monday** evening at **7:45PM**, and Pledge Meeting immediately after.

Late Policy

- If you arrive 5 or more minutes late to an event but still participate, you will lose **1 enrichment point**. If you are **Lead**²², you will lose **two enrichment points**.
- If you do not show up for an event you are signed up for (also known as “**Flaking**”)²³ you will receive **1 strike**, **lose 2 enrichment points**, and **lose ½ service hours or the full event point**.

Note: The requirements during rush will count towards the Pledge Requirements.
The above requirements are detailed on the following pages.

Requirements (Detailed)

¹**25 Service Hours** | Up to 6 hours may be from service work done outside of APO, including JEP. In this case, please fill out the **Outside Service Hours Log** in the document section of the website and turn it in to Cameron Chu, VP of Service.

²**Fellowship Events** | These events can include workshops, dinners, movie nights, capture the flag, beach trips, and much more. Fellowship events are meant to cultivate meaningful relationships and a welcoming environment for all brothers. Katherine Zhang, VP of Fellowship, will organize fellowship events throughout the semester. You are also welcome to suggest your own fellowship event to the VP of Fellowship; to qualify the event must be at least an hour long and have at least 5 Brothers present.

³**Membership Events** | These events are focused on promoting good membership within the fraternity. This includes family events, alumni events, and bonding events between the chapter and pledges. Valerie Lo and Tyler Seto, Co-VPs of Membership, will organize membership events throughout the semester.

⁴**Fundraising Events** | There will be a fundraising auction at retreat during which you may sell or buy an item for a fundraising point (This will not count towards the pledge class fundraising goal). Other fundraising events can include APieO, APOker, and many more. Angela Chuang and Matthew Lee, Co-VPs of Finance, will organize fundraising events throughout the semester.

⁵**Interchapter Events** | With over 400,000 members and 375 chapters in the United States and internationally, APO extends far beyond our own chapter. Interchapter events are created to foster brotherhood with members from other chapters and can include IC PenPals, GBM visits, game nights, and many more. Tiffany Wang, Interchapter Chair, will organize IC events throughout the semester.

⁶**Diversity and Inclusion Events** | Diversity is a newer position within the chapter. These events are focused on creating open lines of discussion concerning sensitive topics including, but not limited to, racial, socioeconomic, and religious diversity.

Some event types are Visions and Voices events, coffee chats, and collaborative events with other campus based groups. Matthew Ayala, Diversity and Inclusion Chair, will organize these events throughout the semester.

⁷**Philanthropy Events** | These events are large-scale and focused on promoting our chapter's relationship with the community. Phil events are completely funded and run by the chapter (including overflow events). The flagship philanthropy event, KEDS, is held each semester. Arnold Chang and Samantha Lei, Philanthropy Co-Chairs, will organize these events throughout the semester.

⁸**Pledge Class Events** | Throughout the semester, the Pledgemaster, Pledge Aunt, and/or Pledge Uncle will host Pledge Class Events to encourage bonding among the pledge class. Events include, but are not limited to: pledge dinners, interview parties, pledge nights, etc. Mandatory events and pledge class requirements will not be considered pledge class events. For the required pledge class events (service, fellowship, IC), you are required to help plan at least one and attend at least two. You will choose a pledge class event to commit yourself to and help plan it.

⁹**Elected Board Meeting** | Every week before the General Body Meeting, all members of both the Elected Board and the Appointed Board, meet to update the Board, and any other Actives or Pledges that attend about what they have been to in regards to their position on behalf of our chapter. EBM's allow E-Board and A-Board members to go more in depth about their actions as well answer and ask any questions.

¹⁰**Enrichment Points** | Every pledge will need at least **5** enrichment points by the end of your pledging term. Enrichment points can be earned in a number of ways, but also lost in many ways. Attached at the end is a document highlighting the many ways to gain and lose these points.

¹¹**Strikes** | If you accumulate 3 strikes, your pledge membership in the fraternity will be terminated. Please see the separate document outlining the ways you can accumulate strikes. Individuals receiving 2 or more strikes will have a mandatory meeting with pledge team in order to create a plan for moving forward.

¹²**Pledge Pins and Binders** | Pledge pins must be on you at all times. Wearing your pin means displaying it on the right side of your outermost clothing, so that it is visible to everyone. If you are seen without a pledge pin, I will be notified and you will be given a quarter strike. Wearing your pin is a representation of your dedication to Alpha Phi Omega and a very important part of the pledge process. Pledge Binders should also be with you at all times.

¹³**Interviews** | You will conduct a total of **60 interviews** (all of your fellow pledge brothers and at least 25 actives or associates and 1 IC brothers). Interviews should be conducted for the purpose of getting to know active members and your pledge brothers. The written portion is more of a formality. You are to have **one-on-one** conversations with your brother (NO GROUP INTERVIEWS) for a minimum of **20 minutes, IN PERSON**. At the end, you should have learned enough about the brother to write several sentences/phrases about him/her. Each line on your interview sheet should be filled with interesting facts, and you should stay away from asking your brothers about their favorites (book, food, movie, etc.). After each interview, you must have the brother sign your interview sheet to verify that the interview took place. There are four executive board members who you must interview (Big 4): **President (Sharyse Watanabe), Pledgemaster (Elizabeth Coughlan), and Pledge Aunt (Haylie Wong) and Uncle (Vanessa Yang)**. At each of the four interview checks, you must have interviewed at least one of the big four (i.e. one by the first check, two by the second, etc.). Additionally, you must interview **at least two other Executive Committee members**. You are also required to conduct interviews with **1 IC active brother**. Each additional IC brother interview will earn you 1 enrichment point (capped at 2 points).

10 Interviews Due: Sept. 30th

25 Interviews Due: Oct. 14th

40 Interviews Due: Oct. 28th

55 Interviews Due Nov. 11th

All 60 Interviews Due: November 22nd

¹⁴**Pledge Reflection Nights** | There will be two Pledge Reflection Nights this semester. During this time, the pledge class will meet over a meal or some other activity planned by the Pledgemaster and Pledge Aunt and Uncle to discuss their thoughts on

the pledging process, and to evaluate the program as a whole. The first Pledge Reflection Night will be held on an evening in mid-October and the second on an evening in early December.

¹⁵**Pledge Service Event** | The pledge class will be responsible for creating and organizing a service project that can be attended by the majority of the chapter. The VP of Service, Cameron Chu, will provide assistance.

¹⁶**Pledge Fellowship Event** | The pledge class will organize and facilitate a large-scale APO Fellowship event. More details will be provided regarding this event later in the semester. The VP of Fellowship, Katherine Zhang will provide some assistance.

¹⁷**Pledge IC Event** | The pledge class will be responsible for working with another chapter and organizing a large-scale event where brothers from both chapters can attend. The Interchapter chair, Tiffany Wang, will provide assistance.

¹⁸**Quizzes** | Quizzes will be administered 4 times this semester to ensure you are learning the required material regarding Alpha Phi Omega. You will be given study guides and notice of each quiz at least one week in advance. If any single person scores below 80% on a quiz, the whole pledge class will have to retake the quiz the following week. This challenge for the Alpha Omicron Class will encourage everyone to study well and hold each other accountable in preparedness.

Quiz 1: October 7th

Quiz 2: October 21st

Quiz 3: November 4th

Quiz 4: November 18th

¹⁹**Pledge Mission** | There will be one pledge mission during the semester. The entire pledge class is required to participate in order to complete the mission by its due date: **Oct 20th at 11:59 PM**. The results of this pledge mission will be presented to the active body once completed.

²⁰**Pledge Reflections** | There will be three individual pledge reflections during the semester. Each pledge is responsible for completing 3, page long reflections. One will be assigned at the beginning, middle, and end of pledging.

²¹**Funtivity** | There will be 1 funtivity this semester. Pledges will be split into groups where they will join a group of actives to complete specific quests. The first funtivity will be assigned on **Oct 21st**. You need to complete the funtivity by **Nov 18th** and photographic proof or video needs to be sent by email to pledgemaster.apousc@gmail.com.

²²**Taking Lead** | If you are taking lead, then your responsibilities include: checking people in, marking down the names of people who were more than 5 minutes late, those who flaked, and providing directions for the driver. Lead is also responsible for taking and posting pictures that highlight the brothers who took part in the event as well as the event itself. We ask that you submit photographic evidence of every event you attend to historian to receive your lead point. You will only need to post service event photos to Facebook. Please include a comment detailing what you did, what you learned, and tagging #apousc. Lead forms are due within 24 hours of the event and can be found on the APO website under the document section. Failure to do so will inhibit the pledge from receiving their lead enrichment point.

²³**Flake Policy** | If you are signed up for an event and realize you cannot make it, you will be able to remove yourself from the signup list on the website up until 72 hours prior to the event start time. If you must cancel your signup within the 72-hour time frame, you must contact the VP in charge **at least 24 hours before the event** in order to avoid being flaked. Failure to do so will result in **1 strike**, a **deduction of hours/events**, and a **loss of 1 enrichment points**, and a **loss of 2 enrichment points** if you were lead for the event and found no replacement.

²⁴**Final Board Examination** | This will be your final test before crossing to become an active brother at Initiation. You will be expected to know all materials from previous quizzes, as well as information about your fellow pledges and active brothers. **FAILURE TO PASS FINAL BOARDS WITH AT LEAST AN EIGHTY PERCENT, REGARDLESS OF REQUIREMENT COMPLETION, WILL PREVENT YOU FROM BECOMING AN ACTIVE MEMBER.** You will be provided with a study guide before final boards, which are scheduled for the weekend of **November 22nd-24th**.

****Although your Final Board Examination may be scheduled on the weekend of November 22nd-24th, all pledges must have ALL requirements and interviews completed by Thursday, November 21st at 11:59pm.**

This pledge syllabus is your guideline for this pledging semester. While you must complete all the requirements listed previously, it is highly recommended that you perform above and beyond what is expected of you in order to get the most out of your pledging semester. The pledging process is not meant to be difficult, but will require commitment and dedication. Take solace in the fact that all the Active Brothers that came before you made it through, and you can too! By pledging Alpha Phi Omega, you will learn more about our Cardinal Principles of Leadership, Friendship and Service, and have a unique experience that will shape your college life. Finally you will have a riveting semester where you will meet incredible people, discover things about yourself and participate in a variety of service opportunities.

If at any time during the pledging process you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me! The Pledge Aunts, Co-VPs of Membership and Chapter President will also be here to help you, as well as the general body. I am so excited to be your Pledgemaster and cannot wait to see all the amazing feats we will accomplish this semester. Get ready for an unforgettable 10 weeks of pledging, and welcome to the Alpha Omicron Class!

In LFS,
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