



WELCOME TO RESIDENTIAL LIVING...

Housing programs from college to college are almost always indistinguishable. At Whittier College, however, you will find a living environment quite different from the ordinary dormitory.

Whittier College is one of a handful of prestigious institutions which integrate living and learning in a unique residential system. At the heart of this structure are the distinguished senior professors who live on campus with their families. They open their campus homes to students for a wide variety of social and cultural events that extend education beyond the formal classroom and enrich the intellectual content of campus culture.

Why has Whittier adopted the “House System?” Recent decades have seen faculties at American colleges gradually withdraw from a significant role in a student’s life outside the classroom. At all but a few fine colleges, professors rarely enter the environment where students live. The result is a living environment that often appears separate from, or even in opposition to, the learning environment.

Fortunately, this national trend has not characterized Whittier College. Our faculty has always taken the time to help shape students’ college experiences both in and outside the classroom. Whittier’s house system is one of the ways our faculty members demonstrate their commitment. The system has received national attention, as well as applause from both students and parents for its creative learning atmosphere. It is designed to integrate the involvement of faculty, staff and students into a comprehensive residential community that can impact virtually every facet of a student’s education at the College.

How does the Whittier house system work? Pivotal to the success of the house system is the Faculty Master, a highly respected scholar and tenured member of the faculty who lives next to a cluster of residence halls and gives considerable guidance to their direction. Whittier’s Faculty Masters

open their on-campus homes to students who choose to join in any or all of the many planned activities. Faculty Masters provide a remarkable array of educational, cultural and social gatherings within their homes throughout the academic year. Our Masters and their families host piano recitals, cooking classes, dinners, lectures by visiting scholars, trips to cultural events in Los Angeles and Orange County and other events in which students express an interest.

We realize that learning to live away from home and family is an important part of the transition to college life. We believe that the Faculty Masters will help support that transition, and make it worthwhile and fulfilling.

COMMUNITY. Each of our residence halls fosters a unique sense of community. Members become an integral part of the process of shaping the environment on the residence hall floor. In addition to your Faculty Master, you will be joined by fellow students, a full-time Student Affairs professional known as an Area Coordinator, and a specially selected upperclass student called a Resident Advisor.

This residential team will work together to create this sense of community. Our goal is an environment that fosters the development of a common purpose, and a dependence upon one another for needs such as friendship, acceptance and personal safety. Living in the residence halls means living together, developing a respect for one’s roommate and all members of the living/learning community. It is an overall appreciation for the rich diversity that exists at the College.

Based on our strong beliefs in the educational and social benefits of living in this community, Whittier College requires all students under the age of 22 to live on campus. Exceptions are made for those students who are married, seniors, or those who choose to reside with their parents within 25 miles of campus. To benefit fully from a liberal arts education, students must become full members of the college community.

FACILITIES. Seven residence halls comprise Whittier College's house system. Whittier College offers a variety of facilities and services to meet individual needs and lifestyle preferences. All residence halls have study areas in addition to television lounges and recreational facilities. There are also card-operated laundry facilities, vending machines, and small kitchens.

Freshmen will be assigned to a residence hall based on the linked course information they submitted over the summer. This will place you in a living/learning community that reflects your interests.

Housing is guaranteed for entering freshmen, and we anticipate no problem in accommodating requests from transfer students.

TO REQUEST ON-CAMPUS HOUSING, complete the enclosed Room Reservation Request and mail it to the Office of Admission with a \$200 room reservation deposit. You may send one check for your combined enrollment and housing deposits. The Request allows you to specify wants and needs for living arrangements, such as study habits and personal habits. Individual room assignments are based upon the students' preferences and the availability of space. Roommate assignments are based on the personal information on the Room Reservation Request, so it is important that all information is accurate and complete.

The Office of Residential Life will begin sending room assignment notifications in early August to new students who have submitted the Room Reservation Request, the room reservation deposit, and their enrollment deposit. Your assignment packet will notify you of your new roommate in addition to the location of your new home. We will also include a Residence Living License Agreement which must be completed and returned to confirm your reservation. The room reservation deposit will appear as a credit on your first semester bill. The deposit is not refundable should you cancel the housing reservation for any reason.

Please note: There will be a \$100 room damage deposit which will be reflected on your bill. This deposit is refundable at the time of graduation, minus any deductions that may be warranted.

PREPARING FOR THE MOVE... You will be receiving additional information to prepare you for your transition to Whittier over the course of the summer. In the meantime, we recommend that students contact their roommates to become acquainted and discuss issues of mutual concern before moving in.

Each room comes furnished with a desk, dresser, and an extra-long twin bed. Rooms are wireless for internet connection and have telephone and cable hookups. Students can bring pillows, sheets, blankets, towels, wastepaper baskets and study lamps as well as telephones, televisions and computers. Pets are not allowed in campus housing.

If you have any additional questions concerning our residential life program or facilities, please feel free to contact the Office of Residential Life directly at (562) 907-4223.



ROOM RESERVATION REQUEST

Please complete and return this form to the Office of Admission with your \$200 room reservation deposit to receive your housing assignment. You may send one check for \$500 (\$2,200 total for international students) to cover both your enrollment and room reservation deposits. Be sure that the information is accurate as it will assist staff members from the Office of Residential Life in making room assignments and selecting roommates. Please note: students will be assigned to double, triple or quad rooms depending on availability.

Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Date of Birth _____ Class Standing: ☐ Freshman ☐ Transfer

Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male Semester you will be entering: ☐ Fall 2011 ☐ Spring 2012

HOUSING PROFILE

Please answer these questions honestly using the following scale.

DO YOU...	ALWAYS	FREQUENTLY	SOMETIMES	ALMOST NEVER	NEVER
Stay up late?	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Wake up early?	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Prefer your room neat?	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Study with music?	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Study in your room?	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Study in the library?	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]

Do you smoke? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you mind living with a smoker? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please list any physical disabilities you would like us to consider in making your housing assignment. _____

To assist us in making the best match possible, please tell us a little about yourself (hobbies, habits, etc.). _____

Please provide the name of the student you would like as a roommate _____

(Please note: Roommate request cannot be guaranteed. To room with a specific person, each student must sign up for the same linked class.)

Signature _____

Date _____

(2011-2012)

Whittier College
Office of Admission
13406 E. Philadelphia Street
P.O. Box 634
Whittier, CA 90608
(562) 907-4238
Fax (562) 907-4870