
Student Life

Residence Life and Housing

As a residential college, much of campus life at Holy Cross is centered in the 11 residence halls. The residential experience is designed to complement and enhance in-class learning. Building positive communities within the residence halls is essential for personal growth and development. By living and learning with other students in shared residence, it is our hope students will develop a sense of identity and purpose, allowing for meaningful interactions with others. Opportunities and responsibilities associated with citizenship exist in the residence halls and other campus communities. With these goals in mind, a dedicated staff of Residence Life professionals and upper-class student leaders live in the halls. Resident Assistants (RAs) are student leaders who help build community, respond to concerns and provide guidance. These students are selected for their maturity, responsibility and leadership qualities. They are trained to respond to the needs of students. They are supported by Head Resident Assistants (HRAs), Student Resident Directors (SRDs) and professional staff.

Every residence hall has a live-in professional staff member. Community Development Coordinators (CDCs) typically have earned Masters Degrees and have experience in higher education and student development. Some have spouses and children who also live in the residence halls.

Student Involvement

Holy Cross offers a wide variety of student activities, recreational programs, leadership experiences, cultural events, and formal and informal entertainment that not only provides a respite from the rigors of academic life, but also encourages individual creativity, intellectual development, and an awareness of issues confronting society. Cocurricular involvement has long been considered an integral part of the College and all students are encouraged to participate in the wide range of clubs, organizations, events and activities available.

There are more than 120 student clubs and organizations devoted to academic pursuits, special interest activities, recreation, service, print and broadcast media and performing arts. Most student activities are financed through the student activities fee, which is allocated by the Student Government Association (SGA). The central representative body of Holy Cross students, SGA consists of elected officers and students who are appointed to serve on various faculty, student and campus-wide committees.

New students and parents are introduced to the College at our Summer Gateways Orientation program in June. Students have the chance to meet classmates, their Class Dean, faculty, and administrators. They meet with an advisor regarding course selection and become acquainted with many resources. A separate program for parents includes introductions as well as topic presentations.

Students return to campus on move-in day and participate in a comprehensive three-and-a-half day orientation that addresses academic and cocurricular interests.

Leadership is a significant component of the student life experience. Opportunities for skill enhancement, self reflection, and competency development are offered throughout the year in cooperation with faculty and other administrative offices.

Events

Many organizations and departments coordinate events, including distinguished speakers, musical performances, social engagements, cultural programs and other activities ranging from intellectually stimulating to purely entertaining. With more than 120 Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) planning approximately 250 events per year, there is always something to do on “the Hill.”

In light of demanding academic schedules, the College recognizes the necessity of having positive social outlets for students. When it comes to late night activities, a variety of Friday night programs

can be found. These events include comedians, singer-songwriters and cultural performances. On Saturday nights, RSOs cosponsor The Edge, a weekly late night dance party. During afternoons and evenings the SGA provides shuttles to the Blackstone Valley Shopping Center and on the weekends to Providence and Boston so students can enjoy shopping and entertainment opportunities in local and metropolitan areas.

Recreation, Intramurals, and Club Sports

The College promotes a wide range of recreational activities and organizations that provide students with on- and off-campus opportunities to participate, compete, lead, learn and grow in accord with the Jesuit ideal of *Cura Personalis* (Care of Self & Others-Mind, Body, Spirit). Holy Cross currently has 24 club sports that are student-led Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs), which arrange activities around a common interest in a particular sport, vary in competition level and intensity, and are eligible to compete against other colleges and universities. The Intramurals program includes several on-campus sports leagues and events such as soccer, volleyball, flag football, floor hockey, basketball, and softball, which are open to all members of the Holy Cross community. Intramural participants have the opportunity to play against other Holy Cross teams in weekly league play, culminating in an Intramural League Championship. The Office of Recreation, Intramurals and Club Sports (RICS) supports on- and off-campus recreational activities including the Family Fun Run/Jesuit Jaunt, Dodgeball, Broomball, Indoor Soccer Tournaments, “Get off the Hill” skiing, canoeing and hiking excursions, triathlons, as well as collaborative recreational programming with student-run organizations focused on the concept of service for and with others. RICS advises the Holy Cross Marching Band, which also serves as the Crusader Pep Band and performs at football, basketball, and hockey games, as well as at other campus events.