



## Roommate Agreement

### Why do we need one?

Setting clear expectations and having healthy communication are important in building a strong relationship between roommates. To encourage these important conversations and provide a building block for discussions down the road, residents are asked to complete a roommate agreement. The roommate agreement is kept for review and changes as needed by the roommates throughout the year. Residential Life staff are available to assist with any roommate disagreements or to help process situations that may come up in a room throughout the year.

Within the first week or so of classes, please talk about the following areas together and write your thoughts in the spaces provided. Please be thoughtful and specific about your feelings and what you have agreed upon. If you feel that you need assistance in filling out this agreement, please talk to your RA or RD. Residential Life staff encourage each resident to be as honest as possible, (not just what you think your roommate(s) wants to hear) as this will help prevent issues from occurring. Your RA will collect all roommate agreements.

### Communication

How do we agree to communicate with each other when there is a problem or concern in the room? What do we feel comfortable talking about or not talking about? If someone calls or stops by, how will we take messages? How late or early is appropriate for others to call our room? Any other thoughts?

### Sleeping Environment

How much sleep do we need on a nightly basis? What are our class schedules? When do we think we will get up/go to bed? How do we think our schedules will affect our sleep habits? How do we feel about noise, lights, typing, etc, while sleeping? Any other thoughts?

### Studying Environment

What are our schedules like? What are noise tolerances when studying? How much do we anticipate studying in the room? Any other thoughts?

**Cleaning, Cleanliness, and Use of Space**

How often and how thoroughly will we clean the room? Who will do what to clean? What are our expectations with general cleanliness of the room and personal belongings (messy, casual, spotless, etc)? How often will we remove trash? How do we divide the storage space or floor space? Any other thoughts?

**Use of Personal Items/Security**

What items can be shared with/without permission? What items may not be used by the roommate(s)? What will we do with items bought together for the room? What is our stance on other's access to our room and items? Do we agree/disagree about locking our doors during the day/night? **Please note: the College STRONGLY encourages all residents to lock room doors when not in the room during the day/evening or when in the room sleeping at night – please carry your room key when you are out of the room!** Communication between roommates can prevent lockouts from occurring (e.g. if you or your roommate is showering, what do you agree to do – leave the room unlocked, or carry keys to bathroom, etc?) Any other thoughts?

**Guests and Visitation Hours**

How often can guests come over/be in the room? When are good/bad times for guests? Does it need to be advance warning or discussion? What are expectations about guests of the opposite gender? Please note Hope College policy is that the opposite sex is allowed between 10am-12am on weeknights, and 10am-2am on weekends. Any other thoughts?

We, the residents of room \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Hall/Apartment/Cottage agree that we have completed the above Roommate Agreement honestly and sincerely. We agree to seek out assistance from Residential Life staff if we have tried to address a situation on our own but need further help. We agree not to ignore issues or concerns in the room which could escalate the situation rather than solve it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Resident  
Resident (as applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Resident

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of

Signature of RA \_\_\_\_\_

*RA's will collect all Roommate Agreements and keep them for residents to reference throughout the year. If you would like a copy of your roommate agreement, please make one prior to giving this to your RA. Thank you.*