LEARNING COMMUNITIES


Opportunities for First-Year Students 2013-2014

Establish Your Roots at Rutgers
A Learning Community is a self-selected group of students who share similar academic interests and explore them together through out of classroom experiences in either an exclusive learning community course or a cluster of courses.

Students in Learning Communities are afforded unique opportunities for academic and social success and networking. Students generally take at least one course in common and some Learning Communities offer the additional advantage of living and learning together in a designated residence hall. These communities are a wonderful opportunity for students who are undecided about their major or want to explore a particular academic topic.

Students in Learning Communities benefit from:
• Meeting other first-year students and making friends quickly
• Being enrolled in exclusive Learning Community courses and/or seminars in intimate class settings
• Exploring Rutgers and its resources within a smaller community of friends
• Creating a network of faculty, staff and student leaders right from the start
• Connecting with faculty and successful upper-class students who provide mentorship and networking opportunities
• Being enrolled in a guaranteed section of a First-Year Interest Group Seminar (FIGS) exploring your academic interest area (for select LCs)

Types of Learning Communities offered are:
• Living-Learning Communities: Students live together in a designated residence hall floor
• Non-Residential Learning Communities: Open to all students with no requirement for students to live on campus
• Commuter Learning Communities: Open only to commuting students

Communities are offered for the following academic areas:
• Broadcast Communications and Meteorology
• Broadcast Communications and TV Video Production
• Business
• Language and Culture
• Law and Political Science
• Psychology
• Marine Science/Oceanography
• Social Issues
• Science, Technology, Mathematics and Health Professions

Learning Communities provide a rich and rewarding experience and contribute to the overall success of students at Rutgers. Application and registration processes vary. Please visit our website, http://rulc.rutgers.edu, for more information on eligibility requirements and application details. For questions please e-mail the Learning Communities office at rulc@echo.rutgers.edu.

Top 10 Reasons Why Students Joined a Learning Community

1. “It connected me with other students who have an interest in the same field of study.”
2. “I made new friends easily with students who shared similar interests.”
3. “Since we shared classes together, it helped us form study groups.”
4. “It was good to have familiar faces in my large classes.”
5. “It helped me feel at home in my new home.”
6. “It made my transition from high school to college much easier.”
7. “It helped me explore the major I am interested in.”
8. “The peer mentors and peer instructors helped to answer informal questions about Rutgers.”
9. “It helped make Rutgers a smaller place.”
10. “I was able to have great relationships with faculty.”
RU-tv Weather Watcher Living-Learning Community
For SAS, SEBS, RBS, MGSA students (first-year and incoming transfer students)
Perry Hall, Cook Campus

If you are interested in weather and science communication, and/or video production, this is the community for you! This program offers you the opportunity to live and work with a group of students to produce daily weather forecasts and longer science journalism programs for the university’s television network. You will even have use of an in-hall professional television studio! Students are required to participate in a 1.5 credit course, focusing on media messages and scientific aspects of weather reporting, for both the fall and spring semesters during their first year of residence. Participants will also be co-enrolled in the 3-credit Elements of Meteorology course.

Application Process: Online RU-tv Learning Community Application and interview AND register RU-tv WeatherWatcher Living-Learning Community as your first choice as part of the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway. For more information contact Tasha Y. Coleman-Tharrington at ttharrington@rutgers.edu. For more information about the Rutgers Meteorology Program visit meteorology.rutgers.edu or contact Professor Alan Robock at meteorology@envsci.rutgers.edu.

RU-tv Broadcast Communications Living-Learning Community
For SAS, SEBS, RBS & MGSA students (all class years, including incoming transfer students)
Winkler Hall, Busch Campus

If you are interested in video production and broadcasting, this is the community for you! This community offers students the opportunity to work and learn in the field of broadcast communication while living with students who share common interests. You will even have use of an in-hall professional television studio! Students in this community will be co-enrolled for the fall semester in Introduction to Media Systems and Processes, offered through the School of Communication and Information (SC&I), during their first year of residence on the floor. This course focuses on the historical development of mass media institutions and the role of media in society. In the spring, students will be co-enrolled in a uniquely designed course that focuses on analyzing programming, regulation, changes to technology and exercises in script writing.

Application Process: Online RU-tv Learning Community Application and interview AND register RU-tv Broadcast Communications Living-Learning Community as your first choice as part of the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway. For more information contact Tasha Y. Coleman-Tharrington at ttharrington@rutgers.edu.
### Business

**Business Discovery House Living-Learning Community**  
For SAS, SEBS and RBS first-year students (first-year students only)  
Quad II, Livingston Campus

Discovery House students will enjoy the benefits of sharing common residential and academic experiences. Students considering studies in Business will live in Quad II, be enrolled together in three first-year courses required for the business program, benefit from special programs in the residence hall, have a peer mentor in residence to provide help in answering all those Rutgers questions, and have reduced bus travel because many classes are scheduled on Livingston campus! **Note:** In order to be eligible, you must have a math placement of Calculus or above. Students must take math placement exams by June 1.

**Application Process:** Online Discovery House application AND register Discovery Houses on Livingston Campus as your first choice on the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway [www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway](http://www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway). For more information contact [Dr. Rosanna Reyes at rulc@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:dr_rosanna_reyes@echo.rutgers.edu).

### Language and Culture

**French Language & Culture Living-Learning Community**  
For SAS, SEBS, RBS, and MGSA students (all class years, including incoming transfer students)  
Frelinghuysen Hall, College Avenue Campus

Students in this community are immersed in French language and culture through events and activities that take place in and outside the residence hall. Students are required to participate in the 1.5 credit French Cultural Experience course taught in residence every semester in the community. The prerequisite for the course includes successful completion of one year of college French or the equivalent level on the placement exam.

**Application Process:** Register as part of the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway [www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway](http://www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway) and contact [Mary Shaw at maryshaw@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:maryshaw@rci.rutgers.edu) for a Learning Community application.

**German Language & Culture Living-Learning Community**  
For SAS, SEBS, RBS, and MGSA students (first-year and incoming transfer students)  
Frelinghuysen Hall, College Avenue Campus

Students in this community are immersed in German language and culture through numerous events and activities that introduce students to contemporary German culture. Students are required to take a 1.5 credit course, Contemporary German Media and Society, taught in residence every semester in the community. The prerequisite for the course includes successful completion of German 102 or German 122, or the equivalent level on placement exam.

**Application Process:** Register as part of the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway [www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway](http://www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway) and contact [Professor Nicholas Rennie at nicholas.rennie@rutgers.edu](mailto:nicholas.rennie@rutgers.edu) for a Learning Community application.

### Law and Political Science

**Law and Political Science Discovery House Living-Learning Community**  
For SAS, SEBS and RBS first-year students (first-year students only)  
Quad II, Livingston Campus

Discovery House students will enjoy the benefits of sharing common residential and academic experiences. Students considering studies in Political Science/Law and Leadership will live in Quad II, be co-enrolled in three first-year courses required for a political science major, benefit from special programs in the residence hall, have a peer mentor in residence to provide help in answering all those Rutgers questions, and have reduced bus travel because many classes are scheduled on Livingston campus!

**Application Process:** Online Discovery House application AND register Discovery Houses on Livingston Campus as your first choice on the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway [www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway](http://www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway). For more information contact [Rosanna Reyes at rulc@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:rosanna_reyes@echo.rutgers.edu).
Marine Science

Oceanography Learning Community
For SAS, SEBS, RBS, and MGSA students (first-years and incoming transfer students)
Non-Residential Learning Community

This community is for students who are interested in being a scientific explorer of the world’s oceans. Rutgers is home to one of the most advanced ocean exploration networks on Earth. Its operations center is located in the Rutgers University Coastal Ocean Observation Lab on Cook Campus. The RU COOL room links scientists and students to underwater robots, satellites and radar networks that are collecting oceanographic data both locally on the Raritan Estuary and off the New Jersey Shore and globally from the Arctic, through the Islands of the Tropics, and south to the Antarctic. Enrolling in this Learning Community provides you exclusive opportunities to become introduced to the modern methods of robotic ocean exploration and be part of an active research team that builds and operates a global ocean observatory. You will meet weekly with professors and upper-class students planning and guiding scientific exploration and analyzing oceanographic data. The program will enroll you in a 1.5 credit Topics in Marine Science course during the fall semester of your first year at Rutgers. For the spring semester, students will be provided with optional courses for which to enroll. It is open to all majors, natural and social sciences, math, engineering, economics, history, all forms of communication, humanities, etc.

Application Process: Register as part of the academic advising and planning days for your respective school. This community can be combined with any Living-Learning or Commuter Learning Community program. For more information contact Ghada Endick, Director of Learning Communities at rulc@echo.rutgers.edu, Dr. Oscar Chofield at Oscar@marine.rutgers.edu or Dr. Scott Glenn at glenn@marine.rutgers.edu.

Psychology

Psychology Discovery House Living-Learning Community
For SAS, SEBS and RBS first-year students (first-year students only)
Quad II, Livingston Campus

Discovery House students will enjoy the benefits of sharing common residential and academic experiences. Students considering studies in Psychology will live in Quad II, be enrolled in three first-year courses required for a psychology major, benefit from special programs in the residence hall, have a peer mentor in residence to provide help in answering all those Rutgers questions, and have reduced bus travel because many classes are scheduled on Livingston campus!

Application Process: Online Discovery House application AND register Discovery Houses on Livingston Campus as your first choice on the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway. For more information contact Dr. Rosanna Reyes at rulc@echo.rutgers.edu.
Achievement in Math and Science (AIMS) Learning Communities
For SAS and SEBS first-year students (first-year students only)
Living-Learning and Commuter Program
Living-Learning Communities * Metzger Hall/ Busch Campus or Perry Hall/Cook Campus

Achievement in Math and Science (AIMS) Learning Communities are for first year students considering studies in science, math, or technology and who have received a math placement score at the Pre-Calculus level. AIMS is offered as a Living-Learning or commuter program. Students will enjoy the benefits of being enrolled in three first year courses required for science/math majors, STEM based programming focused on academic and professional success and a peer mentoring program to assist in answering questions and navigating Rutgers. Students in these communities have the option of receiving in residence academic support in math, chemistry and biology including academic coaching. To determine eligibility, students must take math placement exams by June 3.

Application Process: Online AIMS application/interview AND register AIMS Busch or Cook Campus as your first choice on the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway. For more information contact issata A. Saccoh for more information and application at stepup@rci.rutgers.edu.

Bunting-Cobb Math, Science and Engineering Hall for Women
Douglass Residential College
For SAS, SEBS, RBS, Engineering, Pharmacy, Nursing and MGSA students (Open to all class years)

Live among other women students pursuing majors in the sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics in the first residence hall in the nation to be dedicated to women in these fields. Located in the heart of Douglass Residential College on the Douglass Campus you will quickly become a part of this unique community for women in STEM. Three graduate student mentors live on site to help you achieve your goals by coordinating study groups, providing special advising and organizing tutoring. You’ll have opportunities to attend professional development seminars, workshops and faculty roundtable discussions. Bunting-Cobb Residence Hall is also equipped with a computer lab, printer and resource library. New female first-years or transfers and continuing female students pursuing a major in the S.T.E.M. fields are eligible to apply. First year students will be required to participate in a 1-credit house course, FIGS: Exploring Careers in the Sciences, offered in the Fall semester. For more information contact Beth Bors at bbors@echo.rutgers.edu.

Application Process: For more information on applying email Beth Bors at bbors@echo.rutgers.edu

Health and Medicine Discovery House Living-Learning Community
For SAS, SEBS and RBS first-year students (first-year students only)
Quad II, Livingston Campus

Discovery House students will enjoy the benefits of sharing common residential and academic experiences. Students considering studies in Health and Medicine will live in Quad II, be enrolled in three first-year courses required for a science major, benefit from special programs in the residence hall, have a peer mentor in residence to provide help in answering all those Rutgers questions, and have reduced bus travel because many classes are scheduled on Livingston campus! Note: In order to be eligible, you must have a math placement of Pre-Calculus or above, as well as placed into Expository Writing. Students must take math placement exams by June 3.

Application Process: Online Discovery House application AND register Discovery Houses on Livingston Campus as your first choice on the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway. For more information contact Dr. Rosanna Reyes at rulc@echo.rutgers.edu.
**Livingston Social Justice Learning Community**
For SAS, SEBS, RBS and MGSA students (first-year and incoming transfer students)
Living-Learning Community, Quad II, Livingston and Non-Residential Community

This community is a great opportunity to meet other students, faculty, and staff that are looking to make a change in the world and find solutions to societal inequalities. This community is offered as a residential and non-residential program. As a member of this community, you will be connected to fellow students who share your social justice interests, build a close community, and forge friendships. If you are a student living on campus, you will get the added benefit of living in Quad II on the vibrant Livingston campus. You will acquire a greater understanding of social justice movements, contemporary issues, and career options under the mentorship of distinguished faculty and staff. Participants will be co-enrolled in two courses, one in the fall and one in the spring, and will participate in an Alternative Spring Break Experience dedicated to social justice activism and community service where you will gain 1.5 credits, a unique opportunity offered only to students of this community. First-year students planning to live on campus have the option, and are highly encouraged, to live in the Living-Learning Community. Transfers planning to live on campus can select housing options as outlined in the online housing application.

**Application Process:** For first-year students ONLY if you want the option to be part of the Living-Learning Community, register as part of the online housing application on the Enrollment Pathway www.ugadmissions.rutgers.edu/pathway AND submit an online Learning Community application. Commuters are only required to submit an online application. For more information contact Zaneta Rago, at zr42@rci.rutgers.edu
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