LIVING-LEARNING COMMUNITY

unit one
Welcome to Unit One/Allen Hall!

Unit One/Allen Hall is a Living-Learning Community on the Urbana-Champaign campus of the University of Illinois. The Unit One program provides residents of Allen Hall with a small college atmosphere in a large university. All residents of Allen Hall are Unit One students. Unit One students come from all majors and colleges at the University of Illinois.

Unit One promotes intellectual and social engagement with a focus on creativity and a spirit of community interaction through our academic courses; music lessons; a Guest-in-Residence program; arts and music studios; lectures and performances; field trips; and other educational activities, groups, and events.

Students often perceive university education as a checklist of requirements. At Unit One, we encourage students to actively participate in defining and constructing their education.
Academic Courses

Classes at Unit One/Allen Hall are all accredited courses offered by academic departments. Many of the courses fulfill general education requirements. The distinctive features of Unit One classes compared to other sections of the same course are the convenient location in the residence hall; smaller, more interactive sections; and resources available to instructors for informal meetings and field trips. Unit One/Allen Hall residents get priority for enrollment in courses. Classmates tend to be hall mates, which facilitates forming study groups and enhances the educational experience overall.

Our art and music courses are open to all Unit One/Allen Hall students regardless of major and they have studios in the hall dedicated to the classes. Art courses may be considered as approved studio courses for the minor in the School of Art and Design. We offer courses in ceramics, drawing, darkroom photography, digital photography, digital video production, graphic design, electronic music composition, and contemporary music history.
Guest-in-Residence Program

The Guest-in-Residence Program at Unit One brings a diverse group of people to live in Allen Hall for one to two weeks. Guests include artists, authors, filmmakers, musicians, journalists, educators, performers, inventors, makers, and activists. During their residency, guests interact with students in a variety of formats including workshops, performances, lectures, and informal discussions. Guests motivate students to become critical and creative thinkers in the process of discussing their lives and work.
Facilities

**Studios:** Black and white film photography, ceramics, electronic music, digital video editing.

**Music Practice Rooms:** Three music practice rooms with pianos and 24-hour availability, a drum practice room, plus additional acoustic and electric pianos available to all Allen Hall residents.

**Library:** Features a variety of reading resources for reference and pleasure, including many popular magazines and DVDs.

**Classrooms:** Available to residents for studying, student group meetings, and workshops.

**Computer lab:** Open 24/7 with PCs, Macs, a scanner, and laser printer.
**Music Lessons**
Allen Hall residents can participate in a lottery to receive private music lessons for a semester. There is no additional fee for those who take lessons. Between 120-170 residents are placed each semester. Lessons are offered for any skill level and in any style. Most students study piano, voice, guitar, or drums, but we try to find teachers for all instruments. We also offer songwriting lessons as an option.

**Guest Speakers & Performers**
In addition to our Guests-in-Residence, we offer many guest presentations, faculty speakers, topical films, workshops, and performances.

**Student Performances & Showcases**
Students are given the opportunity to showcase their talents during a monthly open-mic Coffeehouse, recitals, original film festivals, and art exhibits.

**Student-Designed Programs**
Three undergraduate Program Advisors (PAs) act as facilitators for special programs and assist students in developing activities based on their ideas. They also publish Allenotes, a weekly newsletter of events in the hall.

**Pizza FM**
Student-run, online streaming radio station in Allen Hall.
Student Groups

Allen Hall is home to more than twenty student groups and organizations. These vary from year to year based on residents’ interests, but typically include groups for LGBTQ students, African-American, and Latino/a students. Groups also organize around interests in environmentalism, writing, theater, a cappella singing, games, social and cultural issues, science, yoga and meditation, cooking, and sports.
Orientation

In August Unit One/Allen Hall offers a three-day orientation for our 300+ students who are new to the hall. The orientation is planned and implemented by residents from the previous year.

If you are interested in living in Unit One/Allen Hall or have further questions, please call or write us at:

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