



# 2019 -2020 Student Affairs Assessment Plan

Department: KU Student Housing

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## **Residential Curriculum – Yearly Assessment for First Year Educational Plan**

### **Division Mission**

To engage the KU community in services and programs that make learning possible.

### **Department Mission**

Building learning-centered communities through individual support and respect.

### **Department Student Learning Outcomes**

Students who utilize or interact with services and programs provided by [insert department name] will be able to...

1. Demonstrate personal responsibility for themselves and their actions.  
(Intrapersonal Development and Practical Competence)
2. Develop the skills (such as an awareness of how actions affect others and conflict management) necessary to make positive contributions to their community.  
(Interpersonal Competence)
3. Develop competencies necessary to connect to the ever-changing global community. (Humanitarianism & Civic Engagement).

### **Description of Service/Program**

KU Student Housing supports students as they develop into the best versions of themselves. Through intentional connections and crafted support, students living in Student Housing will gain competence in academic success, engaged civility, health & wellness, inclusion, and self & relational management. The residential curriculum is linked to KU's academic mission.

Residential Curriculum Educational Priority: As a result of living on campus at the University of Kansas, students will become responsible members of their current and future communities through engaged learning.

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### Service/Program Student Learning Outcome(s)

Students participating in the Residential Curriculum - First Year Educational Plan will be able to...

- Identify areas for academic growth (Departmental Outcomes #1, 3).
- Describe strategies for academic success (Departmental Outcomes #2, 3).
- Describe the value of being involved outside of the classroom (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Discuss how national or global events affect the campus/local community (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Define healthy habits regarding alcohol and other drugs (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2).
- Identify campus/local community resources regarding health and wellness (Departmental Outcomes #1, 3).
- Relate social justice and inclusion concepts to their personal and KU experiences (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Explain their social identities (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Express an increased confidence in ability to confront social identity based conflict (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Compare the congruence of their actions and their values/beliefs (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Recognize the importance of building and sustaining positive relationships with others (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2).

### Divisional Student Learning Outcomes: *Check all that apply*

- Knowledge Acquisition
- Cognitive Complexity
- Intrapersonal Development
- Interpersonal Competence
- Humanitarianism & Civic Engagement
- Practical Competence

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## Project Specifics

### **Project Title:**

Residential Curriculum – Yearly Assessment for First Year Educational Plan

### **Purpose of the project:**

This yearlong assessment plan will be implemented in order to gain a holistic understanding of the learning that is taking place for first year students living on campus. Various methods and questions asked will tie directly to the five Learning Goals identified: Academic Success, Engaged Civility, Health & Wellness, Inclusion, and Self & Relational Management. This is the second year of implementation for the newly revised Residential Curriculum, as well as the second year of the assessment plan, and the collection of this data along with last years data, will help inform future iterations of both.

### **Assessment method(s):**

Surveys, Rubrics for front desk responses, Student response survey through campus labs and Community card response collection and

### **Staff contact(s):**

Alan Jones

[aljones@ku.edu](mailto:aljones@ku.edu)

Assistant Director for  
Curriculum and Assessment

### **Timeline/frequency:**

The timeline of this assessment plan will take place throughout the 2019-2020 academic year. Frequency of some of the methods are based on when community meetings take place (approximately 4 times per year), as well as when events are hosted in each community (approximately 3 times per semester). 2 Survey will be sent to students that live on campus. One first semester and a second at the end of April.

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### **Population/Sample:**

The population being assessed will be all students that live with KU Student Housing, including residents of Apartment Living, Scholarship Halls, and Residence Halls. The focus for this year is on first-year students living on campus; however, there are some methods that will collect data for non-first year students. This will not include residents of the Sunflower Apartments.

### **Special challenges to this assessment:**

Two main challenges exist within this assessment plan. The first exists with the decentralized nature of some of the assessment methods. When assessments are administered by complex (rather than centrally), there may be differences in how an assessment is distributed or communicated, which can impact the number of responses or potentially the responses themselves. Additionally, the decentralized administration sometimes may take place over the course of a few days. In order to try and mitigate the impact of this, identical instructions will be given to each complex about how to administer the assessment, with a note that suggestions and changes should be noted for future iterations of the plan (but not to make changes during this version).

Secondly, there is potential for the sample to experience survey fatigue. The plan aims to utilize a wide variety of forms of assessment (some that intentionally may not even feel like assessment) to help avoid this, but there is high potential for respondent numbers to decrease over time. Only the final post-test at the end of the year will be incentivized, which is another way the team hopes to avoid too significant of a drop-off in responses.

### **Use to inform current practice:**

Results of the various components of the assessment plan will be used to inform current practices in two main ways. The first will be as aggregate data at the end of the year. Measurements of overall learning from this year's Residential Curriculum will inform what changes, edits, and updates need to be made to the next year's plan, as well as how results and information from the First-Year Educational Plan can inform the

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creation and implementation of plans created for other years of students. The second use for informing current practices will be as the results for each component come in. When opportunities exist to make immediate updates, mainly within individual complexes or buildings, the results can help inform Senior Staff on changes that may need to be made in order for students to have the opportunity to develop in the areas recently assessed.

### **Plans for reporting results:**

Overall results of the assessment plan will be shared via the Student Affairs Annual Report, as well as with KU Student Housing staff at the end of the year. Throughout the year, immediate results of each assessment component will be shared directly with the Complex Senior Staff so that they can be aware of what learning is taking place throughout the year. There may also be times throughout the year that a particular method's results may be shared with a specific group of staff (for example, the Residence Life team, Undergraduate Staff, or Front Desk Staff) depending on the impact that the specific group can have on student learning. This type of reporting will be based on what is learned as each component is completed, and if there are opportunities that exist to immediately impact learning positively by implementing a change. Results of this year's assessments will also be used in comparison to future years in order to establish a timeline of progress. We will also share a couple data points on our Housing website.

**CampusLabs Used:**  Yes  No