Student Affairs and Student Life

The Offices of Student Affairs and Student Life are dedicated to making each university student’s undergraduate experience as positive and productive as possible. The office is located in Rubin Hall, ground floor, and can be reached by phone at 212-960-5411. Student Affairs professionals are available to meet with students on a drop-in basis as well as by appointment.

Each student’s present well-being and plans for the future are primary concerns of the Student Affairs staff at Yeshiva University. Counseling and advisement services are designed to assist students in exploring personal concerns, fulfilling their potential, and achieving a close relationship with members of the university family. Orientation programs help incoming students acclimate to college life and develop skills needed for maximum achievement.

THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

Residential life is an essential component of the YU experience. Friendships forged in the residence halls lend a richness to the college experience that transcends classroom learning. University Housing & Residence Life encompasses residential life programming, counseling, and the selections, training and supervision of the resident advisors (RAs). Staff members help create a community within the university for students by offering educational and social programming. Each residence floor and building constitutes a unique community. Staff members are available to help you navigate college life and dormitory living and are accessible to meet with students individually as needed. The students’ growth and development are important to staff members of the Office of University Housing & Residence Life.

Undergraduate men are housed in Leah and Joseph Rubin Residence Hall (2501 Amsterdam Avenue); Morris and Celia Morgenstern Residence Hall (2525 Amsterdam Avenue), which borders the Danciger Quadrangle; Ruth and Hyman Muss Residence Hall (526 West 187th Street), which is a renovated wing of the institution’s historic main building, Zysman Hall. The three residence halls are within a few blocks of Wilf’s main academic buildings and offer common lounge space, study halls, laundry rooms, TV lounges, convenience stores, snack vending machines, student mailboxes, Wi-Fi internet access, and 24-hour security. All three residence halls are within a short walk of a campus shuttle stop.

The Furman Dining Hall, located in the Leah and Joseph Rubin Residence Hall (2501 Amsterdam Avenue), serves meals cafeteria style. All residential students are enrolled in the University Dining Club. The dining hall is generally open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner seven days a week when college is in session. They are closed during holidays, the summer, and intersession. Food vending machines and convenience stores also are available at various locations on campus.
Throughout the year, the Office of University Housing & Residence Life plans various events on campus. Some of our past events include the nationally acclaimed Cholent Cook-off, YU Mini Open (mini golf tournament), and Midnight Madness (a healthy outlet for students to relax and enjoy hanging out with one another during finals week).

Resident Advisers (RAs) are available for support in the res halls. RAs regularly plan floor programming, events and parties, always with an eye towards enhancing the residential experience, educational benefits, community needs, and health awareness -- whether watching a movie in the lounge, listening to a shiur given by our roshei yeshiva or a lecture/discussion led by a professor, to ensure students receive a rich, fun-filled, res life experience.

In an effort to support our first time on campus students, we established a nurturing living learning community in Rubin Hall, where our first time on campus students reside. The advantage of residing on campus and being a part of our living learning community is that helpful campus supports will be available to students in the res hall. RAs will also regularly plan events and programs geared especially for our first time on campus students.

The Office of University Housing & Residence Life also coordinates the H2h (here to help) peer mentorship program. First-year on campus students are paired up with upper-class students based on their intended academic major, in an effort to assist the first-year student adjust to college life. The H2h mentors are available to assist first-year students with determining proper campus support services, should they be required. Throughout the year there are several H2h events aimed at creating a close bond between the mentors and mentees. Past events include, movie night, make your own ice cream sundae, dodgeball, and make your own pizza. For more info, please contact H2h@yu.edu.

Housing applications are available online for all incoming and returning students. After submitting the required registration materials/fees, incoming students can access the application by going to www.yu.edu/myyu and clicking on “Faculty, Students and Staff.” Each student can login using his Banner ID and pin number, then click on “Undergraduate Housing Application.” Returning students can apply for the following academic year during the middle of the spring semester.

The Office of University Housing & Residence Life is located in the Leah and Joseph Rubin Residence Hall (2501 Amsterdam Avenue) and is staffed by the director and assistant director of university housing and residence life.

Should you have any questions about living on campus at YU, or the RAs and H2h program, please don’t hesitate to stop by (Rubin Hall, Suite 106), call us (212-960-5249), or e-mail us (wilfhousing@yu.edu).
SHABBAT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Shabbat on campus is not to be missed. The Shabbat Enhancement Program is sponsored by the Office of Student Life. Prominent Roshei Yeshiva, scholars, YU administrators, and faculty, often with their families, join students for Shabbat on campus—sharing meals, delivering divrei torah, and creating a warm Shabbat atmosphere. For more information please see www.yu.edu/student-Life/living-at-YU/shabbat-programming/wilf/.

ADVISEMENT

International Student Advisement
The Office of International Student Advisement prepares and issues documents necessary for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and helps in interpreting federal rules and regulations. The office also offers guidance to international students in matters such as adjustment and cultural issues. The office is located at 116 Laurel Hill Terrace and can be contacted by phone at 646-592-4203 or by email at oiss@yu.edu.

Mashgichim
Our mashgichim wear many hats based on their primary goal of developing meaningful relationships with students. They arrange chavrusot, give chaburot on a range of topics depending on students’ interests, and initiate programs that enhance students’ religious experience.

In addition, they help students adjust to our challenging curriculum, support them in achieving balance in their busy schedules, and engage them in dialogue about personal and religious growth.

There is a mashgiach assigned to each Bait Midrash where the mashgaich can be found throughout the morning. Mashgichim maintain office hours by appointment in the afternoons and evenings.

To contact a mashgiach email mashgichim@yu.edu and for the Senior Mashgiach Ruchani, Rabbi Yosef Blau, call 212-960-5400 x5719 or 646-530-1482 or email yoblau@yu.edu.

On the web: http://yu.edu/riets/faculty/mashgichim/

COUNSELING CENTER—WILF CAMPUS

The college years are exciting, challenging, and may also be stressful at times. The Yeshiva University Counseling Center is committed to supporting our students academically, religiously, and emotionally.
The Counseling Center provides undergraduates with a wide range of services, including short-term individual psychotherapy and medication management, crisis intervention, referrals and psycho-education workshops. Students dealing with adjustment problems, loneliness, depression, anxiety, or who just want to talk are encouraged to make an appointment. All services at the Counseling Center are free of charge and confidential.

The Counseling Center is located at 116 Laurel Hill Terrace. To make an appointment, please call 646-685-0112 or email counseling@yu.edu. For more information, visit online at http://yu.edu/student-life/counseling/.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Beth Israel Medical Center administers the Undergraduate Student Health Program and offers care for episodic illnesses and minor injuries on campus at no cost to the student. Should a student require emergency department services, specialist physician services or diagnostic testing, he will be referred through the Beth Israel Medical Center Student Health Services network of providers.

The Health Center staff reviews the health forms of entering students. When necessary, corrective measures are taken through the student’s family physician. The professionally staffed Student Health Center is located at 116 Laurel Hill Terrace, and can be reached at 646-685-0391.

All injuries and accidents to students taking part in an educational or extracurricular activity are reported to the Health Center by the staff member in charge of the activity. Students are required to immediately report any other injury suffered on university premises to the Security Office. A detailed description of the procedure to be followed in case of accident or illness is found in the Resident Handbook, distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

The Office of Disability Services coordinates reasonable accommodations and support services for documented and eligible students. Some of the disabilities accommodated include physical, emotional, LD, ADHD, hearing impairments and visual impairments. If you have a documented disability, or suspect that you may have a disability, we welcome you to come in and discuss it confidentially with ODS staff members. Please contact Abby Kelsen at 646-685-0118 or akelsen@yu.edu to schedule an appointment.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The academic transition to college may be challenging for some students. The Office of Academic Support is available to help students improve study skills that are necessary for academic success. Students who would like to improve time management, reading comprehension, note taking, test preparation and other skills are encouraged to
schedule an appointment. Individual consultations are available and group workshops are offered each semester.

The Office of Academic Support is located at 116 Laurel Hill Terrace and can be reached at 646-685-0109 or by emailing academicsupport.wilf@yu.edu. For additional information, visit our website at www.yu.edu/academic-support.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The Yeshiva Student Union is the governing body which deals with events and clubs which are not specific to an individual school. Both Yeshiva College and Sy Syms School of Business have a Student Council, the chief body dealing with student, faculty, and administrative matters as well as the planning of extracurricular activities on campus. Each Torah studies morning program has a student council which plans lectures, volunteer activities, holiday events, and outreach programs. The Student Life Committee works to enhance student experience on campus. This committee comprises student leaders, college administration, and supporting service administration.

In addition, Sy Syms School of Business and Yeshiva College have student faculty senates that discuss issues of academic concern.

Students in all schools are represented on important school and departmental committees and actively participate in decisions regarding the educational and administrative aspects of their schools.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Despite the heavy undergraduate course load, extracurricular activities are an important aspect of college life and encourage the integration of all aspects of the student’s education. All full-time students who are not on probation are eligible to participate in these activities. The university encourages students to take advantage of the unequaled cultural and recreational facilities of New York to further their particular interests, whether in the theater, music, art, sports, etc.

Athletics

Yeshiva University affords undergraduate students extensive opportunities to participate in intercollegiate, intramural, and recreational athletic programs. The university sponsors nine intercollegiate athletic teams that participate in Division III of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Colleges that belong to Division III, the largest division of the NCAA, offer no athletic scholarships and focus on providing the best possible experience for participants rather than for spectators.

The university sponsors intercollegiate teams in basketball, baseball, cross-country, fencing, golf, soccer, tennis, volleyball, and wrestling. Teams compete in various conferences, including the Eastern College Athletic Conference, the Skyline Conference, the Northeastern Collegiate Volleyball Association, and the Middle Atlantic Collegiate
Fencing Association. Teams and individuals have excelled in local, regional, and national competitions. No athletic events are scheduled on Shabbat or Jewish holidays.

Yeshiva also offers an exciting array of intramural athletic events and tournaments, in which students compete against other Yeshiva University students. Generally held during the evenings, intramural activities include basketball, three-man basketball, softball, flag football, table tennis, swimming, roller hockey, soccer, and volleyball. All athletic facilities are available to students for recreational use on a scheduled basis.

The Athletics Office can be reached by phone at 212-960-5211 and by email at jbednrsh@yu.edu.

**Clubs**

A number of clubs, some inspired by classroom work, meet regularly at each undergraduate location during the school year. A number of national honor societies have chapters at the undergraduate colleges. These include the Gamma Delta chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, in the classical languages; the Alpha Omega chapter of Pi Delta Phi, in French; the Psi Iota chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, in English; Psi Chi’s chapter, in psychology; Delta Sigma Rho, Tau Kappa Alpha’s chapter, in debating; Pi Mu Epsilon’s chapter, in mathematics; Pi Gamma Mu’s chapter, in the social sciences; New York Zeta chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta, in pre-medical studies; Sigma Delta Rho, in scientific research; and Chi Pi Chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, in dramatics. Additionally, the Dramatics Society's presentations afford ample opportunities for onstage expression.

Departmental clubs feature speakers and symposia on topics of interest in various fields. Student councils, individual classes, and clubs co-sponsor social events. The Dr. Joseph Dunner Memorial Political Science Society holds regular forums and participates annually in the Model United Nations Assembly at Harvard University. Radio Station WYUR, a student-operated member of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, transmits programs of interest to dormitory residents on both campuses.

At Sy Syms School of Business, the Mildred Schlessberg Accounting Society, American Marketing Association, International Business Club, Max Investment Club, and Information Systems Society offer a full range of activities, including social affairs, forums with guest speakers, and tutoring services.

**Publications**

There are student newspapers at each campus. At the Wilf Campus, students publish *The Commentator*, with emphasis on general issues, and co-publish *Hamevaser*, with emphasis on Jewish studies. The Yeshiva University’s undergraduate men’s yearbook is the *Masmid*.

In addition, several clubs issue publications. All publications are edited and published by the students themselves.