

The Park University Residence Life Experience

In 2004, a team of student affairs professionals presented seven broad categories of learning outcomes in *Learning Reconsidered: A Campus-Wide Focus on the Student Experience* (NASPA/ACPA).

During the Residence Life staff training in Fall Of 2007 all staff members including professional staff, graduate assistants, and undergraduate resident assistants discussed ways to enhance the learning opportunities in the Park University residence halls. By providing a learning environment in the residence halls students can expect to be engaged in the following learning outcomes in the seven categories established in *Learning Reconsidered*.

Park University Residence Life Learning Outcomes

Cognitive Complexity: *Students will learn to...*

- understand there are consequences to their actions, both positive and negative
- express their ideas and values while respecting alternative ones
- think independently and make decisions for themselves

Knowledge Acquisition, Integration, and Application: *Students will learn to...*

- integrate the knowledge they gain in the classroom and from cocurricular activities into their residential community
- identify and make use of appropriate campus resources
- understand and follow policies and procedures
- recognize the importance of health and wellness with respect to leading a well balanced life

Humanitarianism: *Students will learn to...*

- respect, value, and appreciate diversity
- recognize their personal identity and how it relates to their community
- respectfully engage in discussions and process information surrounding sensitive topics
- recognize how previous experiences affect personal views and perspectives

Civic Engagement: *Students will learn to...*

- recognize their personal impact on both individual Park community members and the larger Park community as a whole
- recognize the importance of community standards
- formulate strategies for coexisting and interacting with others in a group setting
- connect to communities outside their residence hall

Interpersonal and Intrapersonal Competence: *Students will learn to...*

- effectively communicate thoughts and feelings
- recognize the source of conflict and effectively resolve conflict

- value collaboration and interdependence in group settings
- set boundaries and understand the importance of having boundaries in living environments
- navigate mature relationships

Practical Competence: *Students will learn to...*

- make healthy lifestyle choices
- manage priorities and balance commitments
- perform basic life skills (i.e. laundry, cleaning, etc.)
- understand the importance of safety and follow safety procedures

Persistence and Academic Achievement: *Students will learn to...*

- to set goals and discover ways to achieve them
- the importance of residential living in a liberal arts education
- to prioritize academics as the central goal of a liberal arts education
- to study effectively in a residential college environment