

**VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY FRENCH HOUSE (*MAISON FRANÇAISE*)
GENERAL INFORMATION**

I. Eligibility

- Applicants will have completed at least FLF 204 or have attained that level through other means (to be determined by placement exam score and/or consultation with VU French faculty).
- Applications will be accepted from any student, regardless of major. International students whose native language is French will be considered if space is available.
- Selection will be based on a combination of class standing, GPA, and capacity to contribute to the success of the French House. Appropriate gender assignment within an apartment may also affect selection.

II. Rules and Expectations

- The same rules that govern other residence halls on campus are observed at the French House, particularly with regard to alcohol and visitation (please refer to policies established by Residential Life). The French House is a no-smoking facility.
- Residents of the French House will ***use French with one another*** in all common areas of each apartment (living room, kitchen, and dining room). English may be used with non-French speaking guests or visitors.
- Residents will ***assist in organizing regular French Club meetings***, whether at the French House or at another location on campus. Residents are expected to ***develop and participate in additional activities*** that include non-residents and that ***promote use of French and knowledge of French culture***.
- Residents are expected to take their ***weekday evening meals (Sunday-Thursday) together at the French House***. The shopping for, expense, preparation, and hosting of these meals will be shared equally among residents on a rotating basis. Sophomores and juniors are also required to purchase a meal card to use for breakfast and/or lunch elsewhere on campus. The required amount remains to be determined, but will likely parallel that charged to residents of the German House (\$250 per semester in 2006-2007)
- A native French-speaking RA will reside in one of the units and will organize and coordinate the general activities of the French House.

III. The Facility

- The French House is located within one of the four adjacent buildings leased by the University in the Compass Pointe Apartment complex off Sturdy Road, just north of campus. (See the Office of Residential Life, <http://www.valpo.edu/reslife/compass.htm>).
- Apartments vary from two bedroom to three bedroom units, with each student having a private bedroom. Each bedroom is furnished with a bed, desk, dresser and closet space.
- The common areas of the apartment (living room, kitchen, and dining room) are furnished with a couch, sitting chair, dinette table and chairs, as well as with major appliances such as an oven/range, refrigerator, microwave, and dishwasher.
- All units are air-conditioned and include window treatments, a ceiling fan, and a walk-out balcony-style patio. A washer and dryer are provided in each apartment at no extra charge (detergent and other supplies not included). Students will also have access to the Compass Pointe complex pool and fitness room.
- All utilities are included (up to a threshold amount determined by Residential Life): Electric, water, gas, sewage, cable TV, Internet, and local phone. The apartments will not be connected to the VU network, like residence halls. To get at "on-campus only" resources, students need to (a) download and install the Virtual Private Network (VPN) client or (b) use the proxy server. Instructions for these are available on the IT web site. Local phone service connected with the VU phone system will also be provided; however, students must plug in their own phone.
- Each building has an intercom entry system for added security; USPS mailboxes are located inside the building entrance, but campus mail is not available.
- Limited parking spaces and covered carports are available in the complex on a first come, first served basis. A limited number of garages may be available for rent via a lottery system.