

FAQS

Who can live in the Kade-Duesenberg German House and Cultural Center? Any Valpo sophomore, junior or senior who has taken German 204 or the equivalent can live in the German House. Applications are submitted in the January before the academic year in question.

How long can I live in the German House? Students who wish to live in the German House a second or third year simply reapply.

I'll be abroad for part of the year. Can I apply for just one semester? Yes. Students who are studying abroad are especially encouraged to apply to live in the German House -- either in preparation for their time abroad or as a way of easing back into American campus life. There is space on the application form for you to indicate your intent to apply for the fall or the spring semester only

What happens if I apply to live in the German House but am not selected? Space in the German House is limited to 13 students, one of whom is an RA; this means that not every applicant can always be accommodated. Applications are reviewed by a committee of faculty and staff and selections are made based on language ability and willingness to participate in communal life. Seniority and gender balance may also be considered. Applicants are informed whether or not they have been selected well in advance of the campus-wide room selection process so that students who are not selected to live in the German House have time to find a roommate and join the regular room selection process at no disadvantage.

Who is the Resident Assistant? Each year there is a new resident assistant. The RA is normally an exchange student from Tübingen who takes regular VU courses while serving also as RA at the German House.

What are the rooms like? The rooms in the German House are singles and doubles within same-gender suites. Each suite has its own bathroom so that only two, three, or four students share a bathroom. Each suite has moveable furniture -- beds that can be bunked, wardrobes, dressers, desks and study chairs; telephones with voicemail services provided by the university; wiring for cable television; wiring for computer connections-one port per person; and access to the balconies that run the length of the house.

What are the shared areas of the German House like? The shared areas of the German House include a great room with fireplace, comfortable seating, and a large table for communal meals; a large kitchen; a TV lounge with German (and American) television; a study room with university computers and a printer; a laundry room; and a guest restroom. For students who have cars on campus there is a small parking lot available in front of the house.

What makes the German House different from the other residence halls? There are two main differences. First, German House residents pledge to speak only German in the public areas of the house. Second, residents share meal planning and preparation on weekday evenings, Sunday through Thursday. This shared mealtime (and planning time for it) is the main time period for community interaction in German.

Are there any work-study jobs associated with living in the German House? Yes. German House residents may apply for work-study positions as receptionists in the Cultural Center downstairs and as teachers in the "Kinder lernen Deutsch"

German House - Valparaiso University
program. Other German-related jobs on campus include student aides for faculty members and language lab assistants/tutors.

What does it cost to live in the German House? In the 2008/2009 academic year the charge is \$2,825 per semester for a double room and \$4,240 per semester for a single room.

Do I have to purchase a full-price meal card? After all, we are doing our own cooking four nights each week. No, your meal card buy-in is at a lower rate. In the 2008/2009 academic year the charge is \$310 per semester; seniors are not required to purchase a meal card.

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