



Parents' Handbook

A guide for the parents of first-year students

Dear parent of an incoming student,

Thank you for entrusting Oglethorpe with your son or daughter. We understand the significance of the transition to adulthood your child will be making here, with opportunities to learn both inside and outside the classroom. Each member of the Oglethorpe faculty and staff share the responsibility to promote our students' engagement with a community that will both challenge and support them.

From the first moment of your family's arrival on campus, you and your student's lives begin changing. As adolescence gives way to adulthood, students' perception of themselves and the world around them develops. Similarly, parents need to adjust their relationship with their maturing son or daughter, acknowledging the greater independence and responsibilities expected of a grown-up. Oglethorpe endorses this evolution and strongly encourages parents in their transition toward a meaningful bond with their children as adults. We see ourselves as partners in the project of fostering students' development: while we highly value your students when they enter, we prize them upon their graduation.

This process takes time, and a student's transformation may be unpredictable. Oglethorpe's staff and faculty view themselves as partners with parents in promoting the autonomy and independence of our students, yet we recognize that each family's background is distinct. As your child finds his or her place in the campus community, expect some surprises, complaints, and adjustments: this is all completely normal and part of the process.

Similarly, we know that parents take great interest in events here. We will be sending you monthly editions of our *E-chimes*, our electronic newsletter to students, tailored to where we are in the academic year. Regular events such as Parents Weekend, the Boar's Head Festival, Oglethorpe Day, Honors and Awards Day and of course Commencement Week all encourage your direct participation: please come if you are interested.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach us directly either via email or phone. Let this handbook though be your guide to many common topics interesting to parents, along with contact information for specific departments for issues not addressed in the text.

Again, thank you for supporting your student's life at Oglethorpe: we're proud to have them.

Sincerely,
Tim Doyle
Dean of Students and
Vice President for Student Affairs

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Academic Advising

Each student is assigned to an academic advisor, and consults with their advisor in preparing course schedules, discussing completion of degree requirements and post-graduation plans, and inquiring about any other academic matter. The student's advisor in the first year is the instructor of the Fresh Focus section, which the student has selected prior to initial enrollment. The faculty advisor is each student's primary point of contact with the University.

If necessary, how can my student change academic advisors?

To change advisors a student must complete the following procedural steps:
Ask the proposed "new" faculty advisor for permission to be added to the faculty member's advisee list.

Ask the current advisor to send the student file to the faculty member who has agreed to be the student's new advisor.

Ascertain that the new advisor has received the file and has sent an Advisor Change notice to the Registrar's Office.

This is the only method for changing academic advisors.

When the student decides or changes a major field, he or she should change advisors, if necessary, to a faculty member who has teaching responsibilities in that major field.

Normal Academic Load

What constitutes a normal course load for my student?

Two semesters - fall and spring - constitute the regular academic year, and two sessions are offered in the summer. While courses of one to five semester hours credit are offered each semester, a full-time academic program at Oglethorpe consists of no less than three regular 4-semester hour courses each semester or a minimum of 12 semester hours. Generally four courses are taken, giving the student a total of 16-18 semester hours, with a maximum of 18 hours allowed as part of the regular full-time program. This includes any cross-registered courses.

However, students may take up to four academic courses and one additional 1-hour course as part of a regular load without special permission, even if the total hours exceed 18. An academic course is defined for these purposes as a 4-hour course, a 5-hour laboratory science, or a 4-hour science lecture with accompanying 1-hour laboratory.

During the summer a student will be permitted to take no more than eight hours in any 5-week session (nine hours if one of the courses is a 5-hour laboratory science course). Thus, a student will be limited to a maximum of two 4-hour courses, plus one hour of Applied Instruction in Music, in a 5-week session or to a load of one 4-hour course and one 5-hour combination of course and accompanying laboratory. Or, to a maximum of one 4-hour course in a 5-week session while simultaneously enrolled in a

maximum of two 3-hour courses in an 8-week session. The student should be cautioned that these maximum limits represent course loads that are approximately 50 percent greater than the ceiling of 18 hours during the regular academic year. Successful completion of such a load will require a correspondingly greater effort on the part of the student.

What Parents and Guardians Should Know About the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, commonly called the Buckley Amendment, is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of educational records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their educational records and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate and misleading data through information and formal hearings. Educational records are those records, files, and other materials that contain information directly related to a student's academic progress, financial status, medical condition, etc., and are maintained by the university or a party acting on behalf of the university. The Office of the Registrar makes available copies of the federal regulations.

In accordance with FERPA, disclosure of student information, including financial and academic, is restricted. Release of information other than "directory information" to anyone other than the student requires a written consent from the student.

The University may release "directory information" without prior consent from the student. Oglethorpe University considers the following information to be "directory information:"

- Name, phone number and e-mail address.
- Date and place of birth.
- Most recent educational agency or institution attended.
- Major field of study.
- Dates of college attendance.
- Degrees.
- Scholarships and awards received.
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams.
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports.

Do parents receive a copy of their student's grade reports?

Parents may obtain non-directory information (grades, GPA, etc.) only at the discretion of the institution and after it has been determined that their child is legally their dependent. Oglethorpe University recognizes the importance of support and interest of parents and families of students in all areas of the college program. Students are encouraged to share information about their experience and programs with their families.

In keeping with that philosophy, it is not Oglethorpe University's policy to disclose non-directory information based solely on dependent status. Parents may also acquire non-directory information by obtaining and presenting a signed consent from their child.

Oglethorpe Honor Code

Persons who come to Oglethorpe University for work and study join a community that is committed to high standards of academic honesty. The Honor Code contains the responsibilities we accept by becoming members of the community. The students and faculty of Oglethorpe University expect each other to be truthful in the academic endeavor they share. Faculty assume that students complete work honestly and act toward them in ways consistent with that assumption. Oglethorpe welcomes all who accept our principles of honest behavior. We believe that this Code will enrich our years at the University and allow us to begin practicing the honorable, self-governed lives expected of society's leaders. Students pledge that they have completed assignments honestly by attaching the following statement to each test, paper, overnight work, in-class essay, or other work designated by the professor:

I pledge that I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this assignment.

Signed _____

It will be the responsibility of the student to provide these pledges by either attaching them on a separate sheet or typing them as part of the assignment. The instructor also should remind the class to sign the pledge. The pledge serves as an affirmation of the student's and the instructor's belief in the principles of the Honor Code. Assigned work should not be considered complete without the pledge.

Since it is assumed that students act according to their pledge, faculty abstain from any practices whose purpose is to ascertain that students have been dishonest unless there is a compelling reason to believe that cheating has taken place. Instructors should invite their own students to discuss with them actions or policies that appear to be at variance with the assumption of honesty.

All credit courses offered by the University are covered by the Honor Code, and all cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be handled in accordance with its provisions. It is the responsibility of faculty members to make clear how the Code applies to specific courses and to follow its procedures. Alternative ways of dealing with cases are not to be used. The Judicial Review Board is the final arbiter in all disputes concerning the Honor Code. For a complete text of the Honor Code, please see The O Book, the student handbook.

Alumni Services

As the primary representatives of Oglethorpe University's alumni body, the National Alumni Association's Board of Directors works closely with the alumni office to achieve the association's goal of establishing and encouraging an active and involved alumni network. The purpose of this network is to build mutually beneficial relationships between alumni, students, and the university, demonstrating that the student experience is just the beginning of a lifelong relationship with Oglethorpe.

In what ways can my student utilize Alumni Services during his or her undergraduate career?

The Alumni Office offers a variety of opportunities for current students to interact with alumni. One of the most successful programs offered is Career Take-Out: a program co-sponsored by Career Services in which alumni host dinners for students in their homes and offer career advice. Other ways that the Alumni Office involves alumni with current students is by providing guest lecturers for the classroom, panel discussions, and networking events for recent graduates.

How can my student get information about these events?

Alumni Events are publicized in e-Chimes, and information is sent by email to the student's Oglethorpe email account. Students and parents are also welcome to visit ePetrel, the alumni website at www.alumni.oglethorpe.edu

Parents' Weekend 2008

The Office of Alumni Relations hosts Parents' Weekend, when parents are invited to campus to experience Oglethorpe with their students through a fun-filled weekend of activities

What are the dates for Parents' Weekend 2008?

Parents' Weekend 2008 is scheduled for October 24-26, 2008. Registration opens September 1. To register, please follow the link on the Parents' Weekend website: www.alumni.oglethorpe.edu/pw08.

Is there information available about lodging in Atlanta?

For hotel information, please visit www.oglethorpe.edu keyword: hotels.

How can I learn more about Parents' Weekend?

For more information about Parents' Weekend, please visit www.alumni.oglethorpe.edu/pw08.

(It seems as if the question about dates and learning more can be combined)

Athletics

Oglethorpe University competes in NCAA Division III as a member of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference. All members of the conference are small, independent, academically competitive liberal arts institutions that, like Oglethorpe, see athletics as a part of the total educational experience. As a Division III member, Oglethorpe does not award athletic scholarships. Members of the athletic teams participate for the love of the sport. The University offers basketball, soccer, cross country, track and field, tennis, and golf for men and women. Additionally, Oglethorpe sponsors baseball for men and volleyball for women. The opportunity to participate in intercollegiate athletics is open to any full-time student. Athletic Department programs place the highest priority on the overall quality of the educational experience of each participant. The staff's primary goal is to develop a model sport program that incorporates honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect for others, fairness and leadership opportunities with the physical challenges of excelling in sport opportunities. Athletic Department programs and services provide fair and equitable treatment of men and women and a values-centered education of the whole person.

FAQs:

Do the athletes have to pay for their own travel?

No. Oglethorpe pays all expenses associated with the athletic teams and their travel.

Does my son or daughter need a physical prior to entering an Oglethorpe athletic team?

It is recommended (but not mandatory) that all student athletes have a physical exam, including an EKG, completed by their family physician prior to arriving at Oglethorpe. All first-year student athletes, however, will receive a physical upon arriving on campus administered by the Sports Medicine Clinic.

Does participating in intercollegiate athletics hurt students academically?

Rarely. The average GPA for student-athletes is usually as high or higher than overall average student GPA.

What about missing classes? Are the athletes excused?

The faculty at Oglethorpe are remarkably supportive of our athletic endeavors. It is important that each student athlete take the time in the beginning of each semester to meet with his/her professors to discuss possible conflicts. In doing so, we have had very little issues with missed class time.

My daughter/son was not recruited, can s/he still make the team?

It is very possible. Varsity athletics are competitive at Oglethorpe and our coaches recruit

throughout the year to fill their team rosters with qualified athletes. However, the tryout process is open to all students and those wishing to seek a position are encouraged to contact the respective coach immediately declaring their intention.

How good are the athletic programs at Oglethorpe?

Excellent and highly competitive—over the last several years our teams have won numerous conference championships and a number of our programs have competed in the NCAA Regional and National Championships. We are on track to become one of the top Division III programs in the country!

Athletics Staff:

Jay Gardiner
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
E-mail: jgardiner@oglethorpe.edu
Phone: 404-364-8414

Liz Campbell
Assistant Athletic Director/SWA
E-mail: lcampbell@oglethorpe.edu
Phone: 404-364-8421

Jim Owen
Senior Associate Athletic Director
E-mail: jowen@oglethorpe.edu
Phone: 404-364-8420

Adam Grier
Assistant Athletics Director for Sports Medicine
E-mail: agrier@oglethorpe.edu
Phone: 404-364-8486

Hoyt Young
Assistant Athletics Director for Media Relations
E-mail: hyoung@oglethorpe.edu
Phone: 404-364-8335

Campus Safety

Campus Safety is intended to create and maintain a safe and secure environment for all members of the Oglethorpe community. The peace of mind and security that Campus Safety services offer facilitate the realization of the university's goal to provide the highest quality liberal arts education possible. The staff of Campus Safety is committed to the complete and unconditional discharge of their duties in a professional and diligent manner with an aim to maintaining and building upon the respect it receives from members of the Oglethorpe community and its affiliates.

In line with our aim to maintain peace and safety within Oglethorpe University, Campus Safety patrol officers are active round the clock. Patrol officers have it as their duty to enforce federal laws, state laws and Oglethorpe University's rules. Violations of any of these laws and regulations are cited and turned in to the appropriate authorities for processing. In addition, patrol officers also keep an eye out for any suspicious activity and are trained to deal with emergencies and aid or divulge relevant information when necessary.

Patrol officers perform their duties either on foot or in a vehicle. During her/his shift, a patrol officer is responsible for parking lots and campus buildings and events or activities in these areas. The patrol officer also secures and grants access to certain areas of campus and in buildings as specified in the related schedules. Oglethorpe University has taken many steps to ensure that our campus is as safe as possible. The services below are provided by Campus Safety free of charge to the Oglethorpe community:

- **Vehicle Assistance:** This program includes starting a dead battery, contacting a local service station for additional assistance and opening locked vehicle doors (requires a standard waiver form to be completed and signed by the vehicle's owner and proof of a valid driver's license).
- **Room Lockout Assistance:** This program is designed to assist any student, faculty or staff (with Oglethorpe ID) in entering an authorized room.
- **Escort Service:** The department provides campus escorts to any location on campus. Contact the Campus Safety dispatcher at ext. 1998 to request assistance.

Safety at Oglethorpe is everybody's responsibility. Faculty, students and staff work together to prevent crime and make our campus a safe and thriving environment for everyone.

Emergency Phone Number: (404) 504-1998

Non-emergency Phone Number: (404) 364-8428

Campus Safety maintains a public record of the previous three years' statistics on reported crimes occurring on Oglethorpe's campus. This report is available online at www.oglethorpe.edu (keyword: safety).

Parking

All students, including freshmen, are permitted to have a car on campus if desired. New students will have the opportunity to register a vehicle and purchase a parking pass after arriving on campus in August. Designated lots for student parking are located around campus, with ample parking near the residence halls. An annual parking permit for 2008-2009 will be no more than \$50.00.

Career Center

The mission of the Oglethorpe University Career Services Center is to educate students and alumni about career planning, a life-long process of self-evaluation and decision-making. Career Services provides many resources to help students manage their own career development. Staff members assist students throughout their time at Oglethorpe via workshops, classes, online resources and individual appointments.

FAQs:

What services does the Career Center provide for my student?

- **E-Recruiting, Petreltrak, Nacelink**

Visit the Career Services homepage to use three searchable databases to find jobs, internships, on-campus interviews, and workshops. Your student can upload his or her resume for review by employers and to apply for opportunities.

- **Resource Library**

Our library offers hundreds of career-related books, magazines and other resources providing information regarding majors, careers, resume writing, interviewing, internships, employment opportunities and more.

- **Critique Services**

The Career Center can assist with writing resumes, cover letters, graduate school personal statements and other career related documents. Your student can make an appointment for a quick review or to get started on any of these.

- **Career Testing and Assessment**

Students are able to take the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and the Strong Interest Inventory to help identify their skills, interests, and possible career choices. A nominal fee of \$15.00 per assessment covers testing and a consultation session to interpret their individual results.

- **Credential Files**

Students create a file for faculty recommendation letters for graduate school programs or job searches. Five sets of placement credentials are distributed for students free of charge. Additional sets are \$3.00 each.

- **Mock Interviews**

Students may schedule an appointment with a career counselor to receive feedback that will help them prepare for their upcoming interviews. This service is free

of charge and students may make follow-up appointments for additional training and critique.

- **On-Campus Recruitment**

Employers from a variety of fields visit Oglethorpe's Career Center to conduct interviews for jobs and internships. Additionally the Career Services staff can refer resumes of students registered through e-Recruiting.

- **Career Fairs**

The Career Center participates in a consortium of universities that hosts a fall career fair at the Cobb Galleria each year. The Center also hosts an on-campus career fair each spring.

- **Sophomore Choices and Senior Transitions**

Each semester, the Career Center offers 8 week sessions of Sophomore Choices and Senior Transitions including fall non-profit financial career fairs and spring employment & internship fairs. Sophomore Choices is designed to help second year students select a major and explore career paths. Senior Transitions helps students in their career exploration and job search efforts. Students can earn one academic credit for each class.

- **Career Seminars & Workshops**

The Career Center offers workshops and seminars on resume writing, interviewing, internships, job search strategies, and other topics. These are available through the year at the Center and locations around campus. Student organizations can book a workshop for their regular group meetings or at other designated times.

Do parents have access to their student's Career Center activities?

The Career Center observes the guidelines set forth by FERPA in regard to student confidentiality and cannot discuss details of a student's career counseling activities unless the student has signed the appropriate waiver.

Want to know more?

Stop by our office on the ground floor of the Emerson Student Center or contact us at (404) 364-8865 or 8895, via email at careerservices@oglethorpe.edu.

Center for Civic Engagement

The Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) was established in 2006 to expand and enhance Oglethorpe's connections with the Atlanta community through service learning, volunteer projects, student internships and leadership development. Working with faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners, CCE coordinates numerous projects and programs. In collaboration with Hands On Atlanta, the center hires AmeriCorps volunteers in the first collegiate partnership of its kind in the nation.

FAQs:

What projects and programs does the Center coordinate?

The Center coordinates several types of service projects ranging from working with youth, such as the Positive Actions Leads to Success (PALS) mentoring program at Drew Charter School, to working outdoors, such as privet removal with Dunwoody Nature Center or Trees Atlanta. The Center has four key focus areas of service: Education, Environmental Stewardship, Health & Wellness and Homelessness & Hunger. In addition to service projects, the Center also coordinates OUr Atlanta Trips, during which students visit local area businesses and nonprofit organizations, such as the The Carter Center, the CNN Center, the Coca-Cola Museum, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Georgia Aquarium, the High Museum, The King Center, etc. Also the Center assists faculty, staff and students who want to coordinate OUr Atlanta excursions, leadership projects, service learning courses and service projects.

What are the Civic Engagement requirements of first year students?

As part of the Co-Curricular Program all first-year students are required to complete a total of 12 points, also known as Petrel Points, during their first academic year in three areas: 6 Arts and Ideas, 4 Civic Engagement, and 2 Campus Leadership and Citizenship. The four Civic Engagement points can be completed by participating in almost any event created by the Center both on and off campus, such as service days, OUr Atlanta trips and Alternative Winter and Spring Break trips.

How do students complete these requirements?

Students can sign up and participate in any of the Center's service projects or OUr Atlanta trips. Opportunities to complete two CE points are available before the first day of class in the fall. Students have the opportunity to complete up to 4 points for participating in one of the Alternative Winter or Spring Break trips. Students can also apply to receive Civic Engagement credit for participating in service projects on their own at a nonprofit organization or with another Oglethorpe University student

organization. Applications must be complete and turned in to the Center for review. At least one of the four points must be completed by participating in a Center sponsored project or trip.

For more information on Petrel Points and the Civic Engagement Requirements, please reference the Petrel Points section of this handbook.

What are the consequences of not following university policy and procedures on CCE projects, programs or Alternative Breaks?

Students are required to follow all University policies and procedures when on a Center sponsored project or trip. Any student who does not adhere to University policies and procedures is subject to removal from project, and possibly further disciplinary action from the University depending on the infraction. Students violating policies and procedures on Alternative Winter or Spring Break trips will be sent home immediately at the expense of the student and/or parent, and will face additional disciplinary action from the University.

What opportunities exist for parental involvement in the Center?

The Center encourages parents to engage in dialogue with their sons and daughters about Petrel Point completion and civic engagement opportunities. Parents visiting campus may participate in a project or trip if the student signs up ahead of time. OU Day of Service is held annually during Alumni Weekend and the Center welcomes parents of current students and of admitted students to join Oglethorpe faculty, staff and students at projects around the Atlanta area.

What opportunities exist for my son or daughter beyond the required four Civic Engagement points?

All of the Center programs and events are open to Oglethorpe students. It is our hope that students will participate beyond their first year requirement. Upperclassmen can serve as leaders at large group projects and we often ask them to speak about their experiences at community panel presentations. The Center supports faculty and the development of service learning courses offered every semester. Students are encouraged to sign up for classes designated as Atlanta in the Classroom or Service Learning (SLC). The Center is asked to recommend active students for awards, internships, jobs and scholarships to conferences and our recommendations always come from hands on experiences with students at projects. The Center also hires on campus student employees as Civic Engagement Ambassadors every April to work 10 hours a week for the following academic year. Students who are selected may only serve a one year term, so that the opportunity is available to additional students. The Center welcomes student input and supports or sponsors student led initiatives on campus such as leadership summits,

lectures and movie discussions and also provides general event logistics. Several student organizations hold their weekly meetings in the Center, including organizations focused on service such as Alpha Phi Omega and Circle K.

What opportunities exist if my student wants to continue a relationship with a volunteer site?

We hope students become interested in at least one of the four projects or programs they participate in during their first year experience. If a student enjoys their service experience they are welcome to volunteer as an individual with the nonprofit organization. The Center has contacts at numerous area nonprofits and has a nonprofit volunteer database available to students by request.

Counseling Services

What is Counseling?

Counseling is a collaborative process that involves the development of a unique, confidential helping relationship. In these relationships, therapists are facilitators who help their clients understand themselves and their environments more accurately.

Individuals are encouraged to understand their feelings and behaviors, relationships with others, and life choices. Discussion of issues enables growth, wholeness and greater sense of well being.

Among the most common concerns that students bring to counseling:

- Academic difficulties
- Adjustment to college
- Controlling the use of alcohol and other drugs
- Depression and anxiety
- Eating disorders
- Low self-confidence
- Personal growth
- Relationship issues, including but not limited to roommates, significant others, friends, family, and faculty/staff

Our Services

- Individual Counseling: This treatment modality is offered on a weekly basis to work through personal concerns. Individual therapy is generally time-limited.
- Group Counseling: Counseling in groups offers a broad range of insight and support from peers and professional therapists. Some groups deal with general concerns and personal growth; others have a more specific focus such as eating disorders, women's issues, and sexual abuse/assault.
- Couples Counseling: Couples counseling is geared to help partners negotiate difficult times in a relationship

Our Workshops

- Outreach: A variety of workshops provides information that is appropriate to the personal and professional development of university students. Workshops include topics such as - healthy relationships, eating disorders, surviving sexual abuse, and stress management.
- Consultation: Our work extends beyond the Counseling Center. Consultation is available for campus groups and individuals including students, staff, and faculty to enhance organizational and interpersonal effectiveness.

FAQ:

Is my student eligible for counseling services?

Any full or part time undergraduate or graduate student currently enrolled at Oglethorpe University may use our services. Your student's health fee covers most of the services offered.

Who are the Counselors?

A Licensed Counselor in conjunction with doctoral interns provides individual, group and couples counseling. Additionally, the department coordinates services and provides consultation and outreach.

Who Will Know?

The Counseling Center staff regards all inquiries and discussions as private and confidential. All of the people who work at the Center of Counseling and Health Services are legally bound to keep all information confidential. No information of any kind is given to anyone unless it is specifically released by the student in writing.

What can parents do if a time comes when they have concerns about their student's emotional welfare?

Parents, too, can call Counseling Services and talk with the counselor about their daughter or son. Because of state laws on confidentiality, the counselor typically cannot disclose whether their daughter or son is a client, but the counselor can listen to the parents' concerns and help them explore various strategies for offering support and assistance.

Can I make a counseling appointment for my student?

Appointments for counseling sessions must be made by the student seeking assistance and cannot be made by parents or friends.

The Counseling Center is open from 9:00 a.m-5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. Contact Leanne Henry-Miller, Licensed Professional Counselor, at (404) 364-8456.

Dining

Oglethorpe University offers complete dining options for students at the Emerson Café dining hall in Emerson Student Center. All meals are served in Emerson Café. **All students living in the residence halls are required to participate in a meal plan.**

Beginning Fall 2008, Bon Appetit will be offering a continuous service meal plan to better serve the needs of Oglethorpe students. Along with traditional breakfast, lunch, and dinner hours, the cafeteria will now remain open for a light lunch to be served between lunch and dinner, and a light dinner to be served between dinner and late night hours. Selections for light lunch and dinner will be deli, soup of the day, and salad bar.

All students living in the residence halls are required to participate in a University meal plan, and will have unlimited access to the dining hall. No breakfast is served on Saturday, Sunday, or holidays. Instead, a brunch is served from mid-morning until early afternoon. An evening meal is also served on these days.

Bon Appétit manages traditional dining in Emerson Café as an “all-you-care-to-eat” style of service. Students may choose from a wide variety of entrees including vegetarian options, meat and side dishes, seasonal fruits, salad bar, deli, pizza and desserts. The menu changes daily, providing selections to suit everyone. Bon Appétit and Emerson Café combine restaurant style selection with on-campus convenience. All choices are made using fresh ingredients and made-from-scratch preparation methods whenever possible.

Bon Appétit offers a wide array of choices for meals in the Emerson Student Center. Featured stations in the dining hall include:

Cucina Verde

The vegetarian station offers an array of options such as hummus, soymilk and tofu as well as a variety of salads that will change daily. OU’s chef works closely with student vegans and vegetarians to make certain that their nutritional needs and preferences are being met and respected.

Comforts

A variety of hot entrees and side dishes. Here you’ll find a selection of vegetarian entrees, along with favorite meat, chicken or fish dishes. Expect to see homemade fried chicken, slow-cooked pot roast, even lamb shanks on the Comforts line, which changes daily for lunch and dinner and satisfies all your basic needs.

Exhibition “Fusion”

At each lunch and dinner, you can expect to see one of the Bon Appétit chefs displaying culinary talent while making your meal to order. By day it may be a fresh pasta sauté or baked potato bar, and by night a design-your-own salad station or nachos.

The Deli

The deli offers your favorite deli meats, salads and side dishes, featuring homemade salad selections or specialty meats.

Ovens

Pizza is always available with an assortment of toppings throughout the week; often seen are Pesto Chicken, Spinach and Feta or just plain pepperoni. Additional choices include calzones, stromboli and other creative options.

Grille

Great burgers and chicken sandwiches are always available, and Bon Appétit alternates into the program a variety of favorite grill specials that will satisfy the diverse palettes represented in the campus community.

Sweets

An always-changing variety of cookies, cakes, pies and cobblers. There is always chocolate to be found!

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday:

Breakfast: 7:30 am - 9:30 am

Lunch: 11 am - 2 pm

Light Lunch: 2 pm - 5 pm

Dinner: 5 pm - 7 pm

Light Dinner: 7 pm - 9 pm

Sunday – Thursday:

Late Night: 9 pm - 11 pm

Saturday and Sunday:

Brunch: 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Dinner: 5 pm - 6 pm

FAQ:

Can I eat at the dining hall with my student? Can my student bring other guests to the dining hall?

Yes and yes. Students may bring guests to the dining hall. Prices for guests are listed below, and must be paid in cash.

Emerson Cash Café Prices

Breakfast: \$6.75

Lunch/Brunch: \$8.25

Dinner: \$10.00

How can my student get information about healthy eating?

Robert Garrett is our Chef and is able to consult with all students regarding healthy eating or nutritional concerns. When necessary, Chef Garrett may refer a student to Terri Brownlee, Bon Appetit's registered dietician, for further consultation.

Contact Information:

Denise Gilbert, General Manager

dgilbert@cafebonappetit.com

Robert Garrett, Executive Chef

robert.garrett@cafebonappetit.com

Terri Brownlee, Dietician

TBrownlee@bamco.com

Finances and Financial Aid

The Office of Financial Aid coordinates the approval and disbursement of all student financial assistance, including Oglethorpe scholarships, student loans and all state and federal programs. The Financial Aid staff is available during business hours to accept documents, provide basic information and answer financial aid questions. For more specialized situations, students and families are encouraged to make an appointment.

The Office of Financial Aid is open:

8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday–Tuesday

8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Friday

Phone number: (404) 364-8354

Does my student have to re-apply for financial aid each year once they enroll?

Yes, students must complete the FAFSA and apply for financial aid for each year that they want to receive financial assistance. The Office of Financial Aid will publish deadlines and instructions for aid renewal each year.

Will my student's financial aid award be the same throughout my time at Oglethorpe?

As long as a student's family income situation remains relatively unchanged, a student can expect to receive a comparable percentage of aid from year to year.

How can my student get a work-study job during my first year at Oglethorpe?

Students interested in on-campus employment should contact the Office of Financial Aid once they arrive on campus in August. It is difficult to assess how many on-campus positions will be open until the start of the term.

How do we settle our account with the University?

All account transactions must take place with the Business Office via payment plan, check, or cash payments in combination with financial aid (if a student is eligible). The Business Office manager can provide more details on how payments can be made. Bills are typically sent on a monthly basis, beginning in July.

How do we apply for financial aid?

For first-year students, all applications must have been filed and processed by March 2, 2007. Both the CSS Profile and the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) were distributed at some point either by a student's high school college Guidance Office and/or the college of interest throughout the past fall/winter season. If a student still

needs to apply, it isn't too late. However, scholarship/grant funds are limited and therefore the sooner applications can be submitted, the better.

When are financial aid award letters sent out?

Most first-year students received letters between February and June; some letters may be sent later in the summer, due to applications being submitted later in the process.

How much money should I send with my student?

At the very minimum, students should arrive to campus with enough money to:

- Purchase books and supplies (anywhere from \$400-600 each semester)
- Pay for any additional off-campus activities during the first month (not all financial aid will be credited during the first week of school)

All students should always have enough money in case of any emergency.

What is the schedule of tuition payments?

Twice per year: end of July for fall term; mid-December for spring term. Financial aid is disbursed on a similar schedule.

IT Services

The Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) is located in Goodman Hall and supports all technology resources available to faculty, students and staff of Oglethorpe University.

Services include:

- Operating the student computing labs
- Supporting faculty and staff desktops and the OU network that keeps everyone connected
- Maintaining secure servers
- Providing email services, remote access, supporting web-based and classroom enhancement programs
- Administrative computing and the OASIS portal

IT Services operates the OU Helpdesk to serve as the front lines for answers and assistance. The Helpdesk is available for quick response by either phone (404)364-8518 or email help@oglethorpe.edu.

FAQs:

Does my student need a laptop? A printer?

While many students choose to bring a personal computer to campus, there are several options for on-campus computing available to students. IT Services manages computer labs in Goslin Hall, Philip Weltner Library and Goodman Hall (24-hour lab).

Printing is available in all of our lab locations.

Is a PC or a Mac a better choice for my student?

IT Services recommends that students connect to the Oglethorpe network with a computer running Microsoft Windows Vista or Windows XP. While some students do choose Apples, Unix/Linux-based or older versions of Windows computers and those machines successfully on our network, IT Services is unable to provide support or assistance for these systems.

Are there discounts available through OU?

Yes, Oglethorpe offers negotiated pricing for students on hardware and software. Visit www.oglethorpe.edu (keyword: Dell) for more information and a direct link to our preferred retailer, Dell.

How do I set up internet on my student's computer?

It is as easy as plugging it in! The computer will automatically configure itself.

Is there wireless internet available on campus? How can my student get connected?

Oglethorpe provides extensive wireless internet all over campus. Simply set up the computer to receive wireless and select the Oglethorpe network from the wireless network options. For more assistance, please contact IT Services (information below).

How does my student get his or her Oglethorpe email account? What purpose does this account serve? Do they really need an Oglethorpe account, or can they just continue to use their personal email account?

Every incoming student is sent information about their email account through the Admissions Office. By policy, Oglethorpe considers the email account as the only official mechanism of communication by the University. So, students will need to use it. They do not have to give up their personal account, but all official Oglethorpe communication will go through the Oglethorpe account.

Further, without the account, students will not be able to check OASIS for grades, financial aid or billing information or use the labs. Thus, the Oglethorpe account is essential for student life on campus.

IT Services is always available 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Contact ITS at (404) 364-8518 or at help@oglethorpe.edu.

Library

Library Mission and Tasks

The mission of the Philip Weltner Library is to support the University's academic programs. The library also:

- serves as the Archives of the University
- supports the extra-curricular interests of members of the University community.

The library pursues the following tasks to accomplish its mission:

- collects an appropriate selection from the universe of available material organizes, describes, and houses the collection for effective access and preservation
- provides prompt and equitable access to the collection
- provides suitable instruction and assistance in the use of the library
- provides reasonable access through formal arrangements or agreements to additional resources.

FAQs:

Are visitors allowed access to the library?

Philip Weltner Library's primary purpose is to meet the needs of the students, faculty, and staff of Oglethorpe University. We also regularly serve alumni, family of faculty and staff, and [ARCHE](#) interlibrary use patrons.

Visitors are asked to introduce themselves at the Circulation Desk by showing a valid photo ID. They must sign the guest registry each time they visit the library. Special limitations on the use of library workstations are addressed in the library's [Computer Access Policy](#).

Use of the library by visitors is at the discretion of the supervisor on duty and subject to limitation during the academic cycle. We reserve the right to limit use of this facility in order to meet our primary purpose.

Questions about this policy may be directed to any Circulation Supervisor or to the Library Director.

How can my student get help learning to use library resources?

Students in need of assistance or information should contact a reference librarian using one of our Ask a Librarian options on the library homepage. Students should also consult our information literacy section and consider attending some of our instructional programs. Please visit the website or stop by the library for more information!

Petrel Points

Oglethorpe is committed to maintaining an environment that fosters engagement both on campus and in the larger community. At graduation, many students find themselves reflecting upon what could have enhanced their college experiences, and often they cite a wish for a greater sense of engagement. With this in mind, Oglethorpe offers a program called Petrel Points to catalyze the process of student involvement. All students who enter in the fall semester, except transfer students with more than 31 credit hours (and who thereby classify as sophomores), are required to participate in a campus-wide co-curricular program which involves accruing a total of 12 points distributed across the three categories below. The Petrel Points program exists only for a student's first year at Oglethorpe, with the expectation that initial exposure to the many opportunities on and off campus will support and encourage a student to pursue his or her co-curricular interests as an upperclassman. The categories from which students can accrue Petrel Points are as follows:

Arts and Ideas (6 points)

Arts and Ideas includes all events listed on the university "Arts and Ideas" Calendar and nearly all other cultural and academic events on campus, such as lectures, film series, concerts, plays, events at the art museum and the like. Students typically earn one point for each event or program attended in this category.

Civic Engagement (4 points)

Civic Engagement includes all events sponsored by the Oglethorpe Center for Civic Engagement both on and off campus, such as service days, OUr Atlanta trips, Hands On Atlanta Day and alternative winter and spring breaks. Participation in OUr Atlanta trips with a Fresh Focus class, for example, will count toward this category. Students typically earn one point for each event or program attended in this category; some events, such as the alternative winter and spring breaks, will count as 4 points.

Campus Leadership and Citizenship (2 points)

Campus Leadership and Citizenship encompasses a broad range of activities, including holding a student government office, starting a student club, planning campus events, membership on an athletic team, active participation in campus organizations (for example, Greek fraternities and sororities), fine arts participation (acting in a play) and participation in student affairs activities in the residence halls. Students typically earn one point for each leadership position; club started or event planned; team membership; or participation in campus organizations, fine arts programs or student affairs activities. Submissions to the *Yamacraw* (Oglethorpe yearbook) and *Stormy Petrel* (Oglethorpe newspaper) will also count (4 submissions will count as 1 point). Attending key campus

community events such as Boar's Head, Oglethorpe Day, Honors and Awards and Commencement also count as 1 point each.

Any student who enters in the spring as a freshman with 31 hours or less must complete 6 Petrel Points (a 3-2-1 plan).

Most students will find the requirements of the 6-4-2 or 3-2-1 plan not difficult to meet. Updates on progress toward meeting this requirement will be available through each student's individual OASIS account. Students who meet this requirement by the end of their first year, or first semester in the case of freshmen entering in the spring, receive the privilege of registration on the assigned day of their entering class. With the exception of transfer students who enter with more than 31 credit hours, no student will be permitted to graduate until this requirement is met.

Learning Communities

Students may choose to participate in learning communities, a special opportunity for professors and students to work together closely inside and outside of class. A learning community consists of the same students taking a Fresh Focus: First-Year Seminar linked to a particular section of the required core curriculum course Narratives of the Self I. (More information on both Fresh Focus and the core curriculum is available later in this handbook.) By sharing the same students, learning community professors can better coordinate discussions and material studied, and students thereby receive additional support in succeeding in their first year of college. They also benefit from special extracurricular activities and social events organized specifically for the learning communities. Some of the communities are discipline focused and aimed, for instance, at students in science, economics, or other fields. In this case, a third course forms an additional link in constituting the community.

FAQs:

How can my student keep track of the number of Petrel Points he or she has accumulated?

Starting Fall 2008, students will be able to access their Petrel Points using OASIS. Through this feature, students may request credit for points that were not awarded.

How can my student find out which events count toward Petrel Points?

For events that count toward Arts and Ideas, a list of authorized activities and events is available on PetrelNet (<http://petrelnet.oglethorpe.edu>). For Civic Engagement,

a list of activities is available and constantly updated on the Oglethorpe University calendar in pink (<http://www.oglethorpe.edu/apps/calendar/>).

How does my student receive credit for attending these events?

Students sign in at each event, either on a hard copy or by scanning their PetrelPass (student ID card). These points will then be updated to their OASIS Petrel Points accounts.

How can my student participate in a Learning Community?

First-Year students were given the opportunity to learn about and sign up for a Learning Community during their summer Passport session. However, given the success of the program, there may be more opportunities to participate in the future.

Residence Life

The Oglethorpe University Office of Residence Life strives to create a living and learning community for students that supports the academic mission of the institution. Recognizing that a significant part of the collegiate experience occurs outside of the classroom, the Office of Residence Life offers a variety of programs and services aimed at promoting academic success and fostering personal development. OU's residential community will be your student's home away from home as he or she pursues his or her academic and personal interests.

New students at Oglethorpe will be assigned to double-occupancy rooms. Therefore, living with a roommate will be a reality of the freshman residential experience and an important part of the overall education process during your first year of college. The Office of Residence Life attempts to match compatible students based on their responses about living and study habits on the housing application form; however, please bear in mind that some habits do change over time and some students will interpret qualities (such as "tidy" or "late") in slightly different ways.

A list of suggested items to bring was sent to your student with his or her housing assignment and contract over the summer. However, the following is a reminder of things not permitted in the residence halls:

- Weapons (guns, swords, knives, etc.)
- Illegal drugs and alcohol
- Fireworks
- Appliances with open-faced heating coils (such as toasters/toaster ovens) or heating plates
- Wireless computer routers (both DSL and wireless Internet access are provided on campus)
- Waterbeds
- Candles or incense
- Any pet other than fish

All new freshmen will be housed in a double occupancy suite in either Dempsey Hall or Traer Hall. Most suites are four-person, although there are limited two- and three-person suites available. All suites have a full bathroom inside the suite. Most transfers will be housed in a four-person suite with single bedrooms, two bathrooms and a common room in either North and South Halls or Phase II Hall.

How big is my student's room?

Traer Hall: 12 ft 6 in x 13 ft. (double room)

Dempsey Hall: approx. 12 ft x 14 ft. (double room)

NoSo and Phase II: 7 ft 10 in x 10 ft. (single room)

Housing and Meals

Campus housing is provided to full-time students enrolled in the **traditional** undergraduate program on a space-available basis. All residence halls are coed, non-smoking facilities. A staff of resident assistants and housing professionals supervises each residential area. All freshmen and sophomores not living at home with a parent or legal guardian are required to live on campus. The residence halls close during the winter break at which time all residents must leave campus.

All students living on campus are required to participate in the Oglethorpe meal plan. For more information, please refer to the Dining section of the handbook. **Meals are only provided when school is in session, and are not provided during Thanksgiving, winter, and spring breaks. Lunch will be the last meal served on the day prior to the start of the aforementioned breaks. The last meal served as part of the plan during the academic year will be lunch on the last day of final exams during the spring semester. There is no meal plan during the summer.**

Residence Life Staff

Resident Assistants (RAs) are students that live and work in the residence halls. They are hired by the Office of Residence Life to help students who live in the residence halls and are the most visible members of the residence life staff. Since the RA lives directly in the building, he or she is attuned to residents' particular needs and problems. RAs go through an extensive selection and training process and are, therefore, helpful in dealing with all types of problems and situations. RAs also plan programs and activities, hold hall meetings, enforce policies and refer maintenance/housekeeping work orders to the physical plant. Residence Life Coordinators (RLCs) are student affairs professionals who work and live on campus. They are trained and experienced in residence hall operations, supervise the RAs and provide guidance in RA programming. RLCs live in a campus apartment and oversee the activities of their assigned area of campus. They are the residence life office's spokesperson in any situation that may arise in the residence halls and enforce university and residence hall policies.

Room Changes

Students wishing to change rooms must submit a Room Change Request form. Forms may be obtained and submitted in the student affairs office. The student will then be contacted (usually within **7 to 10 business days**) as to whether or not his or her request has been approved. Moving without prior approval of the residence life office will result in a **minimum \$100 fine**. Room changes may only be made after the first two

weeks of school through midterm during the first semester and during the first two weeks of school during the second semester. When the residence halls are filled to capacity, room change options diminish. Communication is the key to effective roommate relationships.

Holidays

All residents are expected to vacate the residence halls by the time posted by the residence life staff on the last day of classes before a scheduled break or at the completion of their final examinations. Special requests for delayed departure must be submitted to the director of residence life two weeks prior to the upcoming break. The director of residence life may grant permission if the request is justified. Students granted special permission to remain in the halls over scheduled breaks will be charged \$100 per day. **Anyone who returns to the residence halls during the break or who stays late without receiving prior permission may face the daily charge and additional sanctions, fines, and further disciplinary action.** The residence halls will reopen after scheduled vacation periods at 9:00 a.m. on the day before registration or when classes resume.

Deposits, Refunds and Breaking Contract

A room reservation/damage deposit of \$200 must be paid prior to reserving a room. This deposit **may be** applicable to residence hall damages. Students who currently live on campus will not have to pay an additional deposit to reserve a room. In this case, the deposit will be rolled over. The deposit will be refunded after the student leaves the residence hall at the end of the contract period or for other reasons as stated in the Residence Hall Agreement, provided that the student has no outstanding financial obligations to the university and does not intend to live on campus the following year. If the student fails to turn in keys and sign the proper check out forms at the end of the occupancy period or if keys are lost during the contract period, a lock change fee may be charged against the damage deposit. The damage deposit is not applicable to room and board charges. Damage deposits will be processed at the end of each semester. Students who are graduating or not returning to campus housing should expect a check mailed to their permanent address by the end of June. Deposits are not refunded to students who withdraw from the university or who otherwise leave housing prior to the end of their contract period. Students are obligated to live on campus throughout their contractual agreement, typically the entire academic year. Students may apply to break their contract prior to the end of the academic year as outlined in the Residence Hall Agreement. A breakage fee of \$500 is charged and the deposit is forfeited for students who break the contract early. Freshmen and sophomores may only break the contract to commute from the home of a parent or guardian. Students suspended from the residence halls are not entitled to a refund.

Cable TV

Basic cable TV service is provided in each suite in the residence halls. Students may purchase premium television channels for an additional fee directly through our cable provider.

Housekeeping

The housekeeping staff is responsible for cleaning all public areas. These areas include the lounges, common restrooms, halls and stairwells. Housekeeping requests should be sent via email to the helpdesk.

Laundry Facilities

Coin-operated washers and dryers are located on the first floor of Traer Hall, in the basement of Dempsey Hall, and on each floor of the Phase II and North-South Residence Halls.

Maintenance

Routine maintenance needs should be reported by your student via an email request to help@oglethorpe.edu. All regular maintenance requests must be submitted in writing by email. Emergency concerns and after hours maintenance requests should be reported to the RA on duty, the RLC or campus safety immediately.

Fire Safety

Evacuation routes are posted in each residence hall and it is each student's responsibility to become familiar with such routes. All students must evacuate a building if an alarm is sounding. Fire drills are conducted once per semester and failure to comply during a drill may result in disciplinary action and a fine. For the safety of all residents, candles and incense will not be allowed in the residence halls at any time. Open fires are not permitted anywhere on campus. Any student who willfully compromises the safety of fellow students by tampering with fire safety equipment or sounding false alarms will be **subject to fines up to \$1000**, suspension from the residence halls and/or criminal prosecution.

FAQs:

What is the alcohol policy in the residence halls?

Oglethorpe University expects students to follow all federal, state and local laws regarding alcohol. Consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons under 21 and the furnishing of alcohol to individuals under 21 are violations of state law. Students of legal age are permitted to use alcohol only in the privacy of their living quarters or at events or in locations specifically authorized by the Dean of Students. If all members of a room or suite are under the legal drinking age, no alcohol can be present at any time. For more information on alcohol at Oglethorpe, contact the Office of Student Affairs.

What about the visitation policy?

Oglethorpe University permits visitation in the residence halls by members of the opposite sex 24 hours per day, seven days a week with the consent of the host or hostess and his or her roommates/suitemates. Cohabitation between students and/or non-students, regardless of gender, is not permitted. Cohabitation exists when a person who is not assigned to a particular residence hall room or suite uses that room or suite as if he or she were living there.

Does my student need personal property insurance?

Yes, personal property insurance is a good investment. However, it may be wise to check to see if your student is covered by an existing homeowner's or renter's policy before purchasing new insurance. The University is not in any way liable for the loss, theft, or damage of any property belonging to residents.

Student Activities

The Student Activities Office serves as an advisor, resource, and an administrator to the student organizations and clubs at Oglethorpe. The student activities staff is composed of highly experienced professionals, and promotes student development and autonomy through individual coaching as students plan and execute their own program initiatives. The Student Activities Office is located in the Student Affairs suite on the first floor of the Emerson Center.

Oglethorpe offers a variety of out-of-classroom involvement opportunities found in dozens of student organizations, ranging from academic honor societies to religious groups to recreational teams and more. The Office of Student Activities updates a list of recognized student organizations yearly. Below are some of the opportunities for involvement during the 2008-2009 year, but the list is continually growing.

For more information on the specific groups listed below, students are encouraged to visit the Clubs and Organizations Fair, put on every year during the first week of classes. Students may also stop by the Activities office for specific information. In the event a student is unable to find a group that peaks their interest, creating a new organization is as easy as drafting a constitution with eight friends and obtaining approval from student government. For more information on creating a new organization, students should visit the Student Activities Office.

Academic/Honorary

Accounting Society
Alpha Chi, academic honorary
Alpha Psi Omega, drama honorary
Chi Alpha Sigma, national college athlete honor society
Omicron Delta Kappa, national leadership honor society
Order of Omega, Greek honor society
Phi Alpha Theta, history honorary
Phi Beta Delta, international honorary
Phi Delta Epsilon, pre-medical society
Phi Eta Sigma, freshman honor society
Psi Chi, psychology honor society
Sigma Pi Sigma, physics honor society
Sigma Tau Delta, English honor society
Sigma Zeta, science honorary

Advocacy

Amnesty International Club
College Democrats
College Republicans
ECOS: Environmentally Concerned Oglethorpe Students
Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance

Ethnic/International

Black Student Caucus (BSC)
International Club
Japanese Culture Club
Oglethorpe Caribbean Student Association

Fraternities

Chi Phi
Delta Sigma Phi
Kappa Alpha Order
Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Governance/Advisory

Interfraternity Council
Oglethorpe Student Association (OSA)
Panhellenic Council

Performing Arts

Ballroom Dance Club
OU Playmakers
Rehearsal Room C
University Singers & Chorale
Voices of Inspiration (gospel choir)

Publications

The Stormy Petrel (newspaper)
The Tower (literary magazine)
The Yamacraw (yearbook)

Recreational

Core, Karate
Fencing Club
Oglethorpe Spirit Coalition
Dorough Delinquents
Khayos Urban Dance Steppers
OU Cheerleaders
Oglethorpe University Dancers

Religious

Jewish Student Union
Oglethorpe Christian Fellowship
Interfaith Council
Muslim Student Association

Sororities

Alpha Sigma Tau
Chi Omega
Sigma Sigma Sigma

Special Interest

Chess Club
Open Mic Club
OUTlet, Students Against Homophobia

Economic Empowerment Initiative

Volunteer

Alpha Phi Omega (APO)
Circle K International

Student Government

The Oglethorpe Student Association (OSA) is the governing body for all recognized student organizations on campus. OSA consists of three student government branches: an Executive Council, a Senate and a Programming Board.

- The Executive Council is composed of the elected President, an Executive Vice President, a Vice President for Programming, a Parliamentarian, a Secretary, a Treasurer and the Presidents of the four classes.
- The Senate is chaired by the Executive Vice President and composed of four elected Senators from each class.
- The Programming Board is the body of students (elected and volunteer) who are responsible for planning and carrying out programs on campus, which are funded completely by the student activity fee. This body is chaired by the Vice President for Programming and is composed of three members elected from each class, one Senator from each class and the elected Freshman Class President.

The OSA meets regularly and all meetings are open to the public. Freshman elections will be held at the beginning of the fall semester. The OSA looks forward to great participation and leadership from entering students in the year ahead.

The OSA office is located on the first floor of the Emerson Center, next to the Talmage room.

Fraternity and Sorority Life

Oglethorpe University has an active Greek community, comprised by a total of seven chapters of national fraternities (4) and sororities (3):

Chi Phi
Alpha Sigma Tau
Delta Sigma Phi
Chi Omega
Kappa Alpha
Sigma Sigma Sigma
Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Approximately 25% of the student body chooses to participate in Greek life. Recruitment activities at Oglethorpe take place in the fall semester after classes have begun, typically in the month of September with introductory meetings for interested students before the formal recruitment process begins. Sorority and fraternity houses at Oglethorpe are non-residential except for top officers, who may occupy the house's few bedrooms. Greek Row houses serve primarily as a meeting and social space for each chapter. Questions about the formal recruitment process or Greek life in general should be directed to the Division of Student Affairs located in the first floor of the Emerson Center. .

Oglethorpe University Students Abroad (OUSA)

Oglethorpe University fosters and supports the concept that international study, travel, and global explorations remain a vital part of a rigorous academic education. Through a growing global network of partnerships, agreements, and for-credit, short-term trips sponsored by the university, Oglethorpe offers an exciting array of opportunities for international education. Oglethorpe University Students Abroad (OUSA) consists of four divisions:

- International Exchange Partnerships
Oglethorpe University offers unique opportunities to students for one semester or one year of study at partnership colleges and universities in Latin America, China, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, and Spain. Most of the student exchanges at these institutions will cost the student what he or she pays for tuition at Oglethorpe.
- Independent Study Abroad
Numerous opportunities exist for any qualified students to study at other, non-partnership universities of the student's choice throughout the world, in science, economics, social sciences, languages, art, communications, the liberal arts, and business. The OUSA Director will help advise and direct each student in selecting the appropriate university abroad. Financial resources and stipends are available for academic study in some countries.
- Students Abroad
This division of OUSA creates, organizes, and directs short-term, for-credit academic study trips abroad during the months of December, March, May, and the summer. Oglethorpe professors develop these trips as intensive explorations of culture, cuisine, music, historical and political institutions, art, archaeology, and business. Standard destinations include Italy, France, Spain, Switzerland, Austria, England, Greece, Turkey, Central and Latin America, China, and Russia. Students who elect to do so receive credit for their participation, which includes note-taking, photographing, field documentation, journaling, and a research project to be completed after returning from the trips as independent work with the professor.
- Associate Student Programs for Special Study Abroad
This division of OUSA manages special links to prominent universities and



institutions abroad with whom Oglethorpe has developed a special relationship. At present, Oglethorpe has created the following special programs at these universities:

Oxford University, Oxford, England

Through the Washington International Studies Council, OU students who wish to study at Oxford University for a semester or a year may do so as registered visiting students with university privileges, and live with British students in the center of Oxford. Applications and eligibility requirements can be obtained in the Office of the OUSA Director, R-107.

Umbra Institute, Perugia, Italy

Students who wish to study in Italy for a semester or a year may do so at this English-speaking, liberal arts institute, where they can take course in Italian language, history, and politics as well. Applications and materials may be obtained in the Office of the OUSA Director, R-107.

Students who desire to explore a culture, examine archaeological ruins, witness political decision-making firsthand, research museums throughout the world, document ecological problems, study in an international setting, or sharpen language skills should seriously investigate participating in any of the four divisions of OUSA.

Oglethorpe academic advisors and the OUSA Director serve as primary consultants for students who seek any study abroad experience. Students who wish to apply for financial assistance should contact the Director of Financial Aid early in the pursuit of a study abroad program to determine what available funds exist. Specific deadlines and itineraries for short-term trips appear throughout the year in student e-mail, the student newspaper, and fliers throughout the campus.

Note: Every student attending an Oglethorpe approved semester or year abroad will receive credit for one semester of the junior year core - either Historical Perspectives on the Social Order I or II - the student may choose.

Student Health Services

Oglethorpe University provides a health services center on the ground floor of Emerson Student Center. With office hours Monday-Friday and availability for many routine health services, the Student Health Center is often an OU student's first stop when feeling under the weather or experiencing another health concern. Cathy Grote, R.N., is the center's director; a private-practice physician also sees patients on campus weekly. In the event that additional or major medical care is required, the health center staff will refer student-patients to medical specialists and hospitals in the area.

The Student Health Center serves to:

- Accept and manage the required Immunization and Health History forms for all students
- Schedule monthly immunization clinics through DeKalb Co. Board of Health (hepatitis A & B, MMR, tetanus booster, and meningitis vaccinations) to assist students in completing required vaccinations
- Provide flu vaccinations
- Offer the House Call Program (call extension 8413 and the nurse will come to your dorm)
- Diagnose and treat acute common health problems such as sinusitis, conjunctivitis, allergies, colds, sore throats, urinary tract infections, nausea, vomiting and sprains/strains
- Prescribe and recommend medications in collaboration with a physician
- Assist with physician referrals for HMOs and PPOs upon request
- Offer an Allergy Injection Clinic: weekdays between 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- Schedule educational programs
- Schedule free anonymous HIV testing with AID Atlanta each semester and STD testing Referrals

Entering students must complete an OU Immunization and Health History form. To access a copy of this form and to review other health form information, visit www.oglethorpe.edu (keyword: immunization).

- Offer an affordable university-sponsored Student Accident and Illness Insurance policy that is available for all full time day students.

- Notary services

Note: A fee may be charged for certain services. All full-time residential day students are required to have health insurance coverage. If your family has private health insurance, be sure that the student has a copy of the insurance card and an understanding of the plan's benefits (co-pays, HMO, PPO, etc.). Contact your HMO to see how they handle out-of-area claims for college students and to inquire about guest memberships in Georgia.

Do not drop your private health insurance in favor of the OU student health insurance. The Student Accident and Sickness Insurance Plan is meant to be an insurance supplement.

The Student Health Center is open:

10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Doctor Clinic hours are:

1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Tuesday

Phone number: (404) 364-8413

Email: cgrote@oglethorpe.edu

To Visit Near Oglethorpe

Places to visit on the Oglethorpe Campus

The University Bookstore – A friendly, helpful staff offering a large variety of used and new textbooks, school supplies and Oglethorpe fashion for students, parents and siblings. Located in the basement of Hearst Hall – 404-364-8361

The Philip Weltner Library – An equally friendly, helpful staff who would love for you to visit and set up your library account! Very important to the budding scholars of the university! Located in Lowry Hall – 404-364-8511

The Oglethorpe University Museum of Art – Go see our permanent collection and stop by the Gift Shop to add to your collection. Students receive a 10% discount on purchases. Located on the 3rd floor of the Philip Weltner Library – 404-364-8553

AT&T Wireless Phones – Oglethorpe University has a special arrangement with AT&T for wireless phones. If you are interested please go to this web site to access information; http://www.oglethorpe.edu/administrative/information_technology_services/cell_phones.asp

Comcast Cable TV – Basic cable is provided in the residence halls. If you are inclined toward premium channels, Comcast will have representatives here in the Schmidt Center to take your order and hook you up.

Dell Computers – We also have a special discount with Dell Computers through our intranet. Our IT department has specs to help you decide what to purchase and recommended bundles. Please check that out at <http://petrelnet/OU/>

Retail & Entertainment

Lowe's – 4950 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. – 770-220-0153

Home Depot – 815 Sidney Marcs Blvd NE – 404-231-1411

The Container Store – 3255 Peachtree Road – 404-261-4776

AMC Phipps Plaza 14 – 3500 Peachtree Road NE – 404-816-4262

Regal Hollywood 24 – 3265 Northeast Expressway – 800-326-3264

Parent's Handbook Survey

Oglethorpe parent

Please let us know if you found this handbook to be useful to you by filling out a brief, on-line survey. To do so, visit Oglethorpe.edu on the web and use the keyword box to type in "Parents Handbook Survey". This will take you to a three question multiple choice survey that will take only two minutes to complete. We appreciate your help as we continue to try and better serve you and your students.

Thanks so much!