



SOLOMON KALUSHI MAHLANGU HALL

2024 STUDENT HANDBOOK

The students and staff of the Hall, inspired by the spirit of **ubuntu-botho**, acknowledge the challenges facing a diverse community of people with varying backgrounds, cultures, and histories.

- We strive to create a residential environment based on the principles and values of dignity, equality, and freedom.
- We recognise self-discipline, humility, loyalty, courtesy, self-respect, and respect for others as essential for harmonious communal living.
- The spirit of **ubuntu-botho** shall at all times inform the management of the Hall and its constituent Halls.

1. GENERAL CONDUCT

- It is the responsibility of each student member of the Hall to be familiar with the Student Disciplinary Code (printed in the Rhodes University Calendar).
- The following rules apply specifically to the Hall. Should there be anything concerning the understated of which you remain uncertain, do not hesitate to approach any member of the Residence Staff or the Residence Student Assistants for assistance.
- Students are required at all times to abstain from any conduct which may reasonably be regarded as unbecoming of a member of the University – especially drunken and or disorderly conduct.
- Students are entitled to privacy at all times. The harassment and/or intimidation of a student is strictly prohibited. Any form of initiation is strictly prohibited and may result in permanent expulsion from the Hall as well as from the University.

Please note: IGNORANCE OF THE RULES IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE EXCUSE.

2. PERSONNEL

PORTFOLIO	NAME	TEL/CELL	E-MAIL
HALL MANAGER	Dr Amos Chinomona	046 603 8031 076 998 7503	a.chinomona@ru.ac.za
RESIDENCE MANAGER Adamson House	Dr Sandile Khamanga	046 603 8029 082 547 9383	s.khamanga@ru.ac.za
RESIDENCE MANAGER Atherstone House	Ms Unathi Bontsi	046 603 7619 071 609 5109	u.bontsi@ru.ac.za
RESIDENCE MANAGER New House	Ms Lisl Griffioen	046 603 8032 082 679 6317	l.griffioen@ru.ac.za
RESIDENCE MANAGER Robert Sobukwe House	Dr Amos Chinomona	046 603 8031 076 998 7503	a.chinomona@ru.ac.za
HALL FELLOW	Dr Gabriel Darong	046 603 8230	g.darong@ru.ac.za
HALL ADMINISTRATOR	Ms Angela Bezuidenhout	046 603 8589	a.bezuidenhout@ru.ac.za
HOUSEKEEPER Atherstone House & Adamson House	Mrs Linda Vatela	046 603 8559 Speed dial: 5159	L.Vatela@ru.ac.za
HOUSEKEEPER Robert Sobukwe House, New House & Annexes	Mrs Zisiwe Nkwinti	046 603 8549 Speed dial: 5241	z.nkwinti@ru.ac.za

3. ORGANIZATION OF THE HALL

The Hall Manager: the chief executive, administrative and disciplinary officer of the Hall.

The Hall Administrator: responsible for providing day-to-day administrative services to the Hall.

The Hall Committee: comprises the Hall Fellows, the Residence Managers, the Residence Students Assistants, the Hall Senior Student, the Hall Head Students, SRC Hall Representative and some other members of the Hall Committees; it acts as an advisory committee to the Hall Manager and provides a forum in which matters concerning the Hall may be discussed and decisions made.

The Hall Fellows: invited by the Hall Manager in consultation with the Hall Committee to assist and advise the Hall.

The Residence Managers: responsible to the Hall Manager for the welfare and discipline of students in the Hall and for the maintenance of the fabric of the Hall and its moveable assets.

The Residence Student Assistants: students appointed by the University to assist Residence Managers with the smooth running of the Halls and to act as intermediaries between the students and the Residence Manager. Certain authority and disciplinary powers have been delegated to the Residence Managers for use at their discretion.

The Hall Senior Student: elected by the students of the Hall in accordance with the Hall Constitution. The Hall Senior Student has a number of specific duties to perform as well as acting as an intermediary between students and the Hall Manager; they also provide a liaison between students of the Hall, the Hall Committee, and the Students Representative Council (SRC).

The Head Student of the Hall: elected by the students during the fourth term of each year in accordance with the Hall Constitution.

The House Committee: elected by the students during the fourth term of each year in accordance with the Hall Constitution. The Residence Student Assistants and members of the Hall Committee, in addition to acting as an advisory committee to the Residence Manager, act as intermediaries between the students and Residence Managers. They assist residents to adapt to university life, refer students for advice on social, academic, and personal issues, and help to enforce policies and regulations for the well-being of residents. The Hall Committee members are there for you; do not hesitate to ask for assistance.

The SRC Hall Representative: elected by the students of the Hall in accordance with the SRC Constitution. The SRC Hall Rep, amongst other duties, provides a liaison between students of the Hall, the Hall Committee, and the Students Representative Council (SRC).

4. STUDENT STATUS

Students are granted status as follows:

Seniors: Graduates, students in their third or fourth year at University, Hall and House Committee members and SRC executive members.

Second Years: Students who are in their second year of study at Rhodes University.

First-Years: All students who have registered for the first time at Rhodes University in the current year. All first-year students are required to do 'First Year' Duties.

5. ROOM ALLOCATIONS

Rooms are allocated in the following order:

- a) Residence Student Assistants
- b) SRC
- c) Hall Senior Student
- d) Head Students of the Hall
- e) Remaining House Committee members
- f) Students remaining in same rooms as previous year
- g) Post-graduate and 4th years (academic); students who have previously served for one year on the House Committee in the Residence;
- h) 3rd years (academic); SRC Hall Representative;
- i) 2nd years (academic);
- j) 1st year (academic);
- k) International visiting students;
- l) 1st years and students transferred from other Residences on campus - no room choice.

Should two or more students of equal rank want the same room, allocation will be based on academic achievement, contributions to the Residence and certain other criteria as decided by the RESIDENCE MANAGER.

PLEASE NOTE:

- FINAL ALLOCATIONS ARE MADE SUBJECT TO THE REQUIRED FEE PAYMENTS MADE AS PER STUDENT FEES OFFICE AND YOUR NAME APPEARING ON THE HALL LIST.
- IF CURRENTLY ALLOCATED IN A DOUBLE ROOM AND YOU WISH TO MOVE INTO A SINGLE ROOM, PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO MOVE TO A SINGLE ROOM SUBJECT TO THE REQUIRED PAYMENTS BEEN MADE TO THE FEES OFFICE.

6. ABSENCE – LEAVE OF ABSENCE (LoA)

6.1 Permission for Leave of Absence from lectures /tutorials /practicals

This must be obtained from the Head of Department concerned. Forms for leave of absence are obtainable from Departmental Secretaries. If you go to a private doctor, remember to get a note from them while you are there to support any later request for a LoA.

6.2 Weekend Leave/Overnight Absence from Residence

Weekend Leave (from after lectures on Friday to 07h45 on Monday) may be taken by students. They must sign the "Weekend Book" indicating their weekend address and telephone number therein.

If a student wishes to spend a night away from the Residence (returning later than 3.00 am) they should sign the "Weekend/Overnight Book" and indicate their address, their cell phone number, and if possible, another contact telephone number. This is in the interest of the student's safety and the safety of others in the event of an emergency situation such as a fire. It will also be of assistance in the event of urgent messages from relatives, e.g., serious illness at home.

7. ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE/HALL

7.1 *The physical address of the Hall* (for couriers) is:

(Name of Student & Student No.)

(Name of Hall & name of House) University Road Rhodes, University Makhanda 6140

* Please ensure that the name of your Residence is shown on ALL correspondence sent to you. The Hall Administrator will NOT accept any courier items on your behalf. The onus is on you to make the necessary arrangements for the delivery of items.

7.2 *Change of address* can be made on ROSS at <https://ross.ru.ac.za>.

8. GENERAL RESIDENCE AND HALL RULES

8.1 *Alcohol and other drinks*

- Written permission must be obtained from the Hall Manager for the consumption of alcohol at any Hall or House function or any other function within the precincts of the Hall.
- Written permission must be obtained from the Vice-Chancellor for the consumption of ciders, sherry, beer and/or wine at a braai or at a party which is held on University property, other than within the precincts of the Hall or House (this includes the Prospect braai area and the Great Hall).
- Normally alcohol that **IS ALLOWED** in Residence should be in the form of beer, wine, spirit coolers and premixes, where the concentration of alcohol should not exceed 20% by volume, (ethanol 20%v/v), **ONLY** with the permission of the Hall Manager and when Residence Managers are in Residence.
- When punch is made for functions, the alcohol concentration should not exceed 20% v/v (e.g., in a 20 L bucket - no more than 2 litres of hard liquor may be used).
- Hard tack is defined as spirits, where the concentration of ethanol exceeds 20%v/v, which includes whiskey, brandy, rum, vodka, cane spirits, gin, and similar spirit liquors. Hard tack can **ONLY** be mixed under the supervision of the Residence Manager. Please refer to the Policy for the Responsible Use of Alcohol.
- The mixture must be brought up to 20L with juices, water and concentrates. The preparation and consumption of drinks containing more than one alcoholic beverage is strictly prohibited.
- The organisers must supply soft drinks in a quantity regarded as sufficient by the Hall Manager.
- Alcohol may not be served to intoxicated persons.
- Non-alcoholic drinks and food must be served/on sale at all events and venues where alcohol is served.

Please note: These rules above have been approved by the Board of Residences and the Student Services Council and are binding to all Halls.

8.2 *Amenities*

Each Hall has its own fridges, microwave ovens, washing machines, tumble driers and television sets, for use by the occupants of the Halls. It is the sole responsibility of the students to keep the fridges and microwaves clean.

8.3 Early arrival & late departure

- **What constitutes an early arrival?** A student who wishes to return to Residence two days before University starts must apply to the Hall Manager (with support from the Residence Manager) for permission to return early, using the *Application to Return Early to Residence* form (With Residence Manager's signature on form) at least **SEVEN** days before the proposed early return. Students must provide evidence of valid reasons.
- **What constitutes a late departure?** In exceptional circumstances, a student may be allowed to remain in Residence 24 hours longer than the time periods noted above. The student must apply to the Hall Manager (with support from the Residence Manager) for permission to remain late, using the *Application to Remain Late in Residence* form at least SEVEN days before the proposed prolonged stay. Evidence of valid reasons (e.g., limitations of transport) must be provided.
- Students will be charged at the daily rate for any extra days that are spent in Residence.

PLEASE NOTE: Ms Shandre Hoffman will process early arrivals and late departures: Her email address is: shandre.hoffman@ru.ac.za

- On arrival at the beginning of each term every student must report to the Residence Student Assistants/Residence Manager and sign the Arrival Book. Should a student anticipate arriving late, (i.e., between 22:00 and 07:00) the Residence Student Assistants/Residence Manager must be informed.
- Students not able to return from vacation within a day or two of the Residences reopening should inform the Residence Manager of their date of return.
- Any student remaining in Residence after completing their exams must note that any action that causes a disturbance of any kind to the students still writing examinations will most likely result in that student being requested to leave immediately.
- All students **MUST** sign the Departure Book before departing at the end of each term to enable the Housekeeping staff to attend to their duties. Students wishing to leave Residence before the end of a term must inform the Residence Manager/Residence Student Assistants and sign the Departure Book.
- Should the Residence be scheduled to be used for conference accommodation during vacations, student rooms will have to be checked by a Residence Student Assistant and vacated before leaving the Residence.
- It is essential that all Residence keys issued to students be handed in at the end of each term and at the end of the year. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action and/or a debit being made against a student's account for a key replacement.

8.4. Box - Rooms

- Members of the Hall are permitted to store possessions in boxrooms and or designated areas, **at their own risk**.
- Limited space is available in box rooms for the storage of students' belongings during vacations when rooms must be vacated.
- Box rooms should be packed neatly, and consideration must be given to other packers.

- All boxes and trunks must be sealed, and clearly labelled with the owner's name. Items are to be signed in/out of the box rooms by a Residence Manager or Residence Student Assistants.
- Box rooms and storage areas will **NOT** be opened during vacations.

Please Note: The box room protocol is visible on each box room door and designated box rooms. Please familiarise yourself with this information.

8.5 Campus Protection

- Students may not interfere with, or obstruct, a Campus Protection Officer/Guard in the execution of their duties.
- Campus Protection may be contacted at 603-8146/ 8147 to make prior arrangements for CPU staff to escort students to or from Residences at night, or should the student feel unsafe at any other time. Students are warned of the dangers of walking alone in isolated places, especially after dark.
- Cases of theft from rooms or vehicles should be reported to Campus Protection without delay, as well as to the Residence Manager.

Please Note: It is a serious disciplinary offence to give false or incorrect information or to withhold information when a student is asked by a Campus Protection Officer/Guard to supply their name and/or place of Residence.

8.6. Changing of rooms and locks

- Students may not change rooms without the prior permission of the Residence Manager.
- Students who receive permission to change their room must complete a new room statement or run the risk of paying for the repair of all maintenance in the room.

8.7 Cleaning

- Rooms must be kept clean and tidy at all times.
- Students are required to clean their own rooms.
- It is an offence to obstruct a member of the Housekeeping staff in the course of their duty.

8.8 Cooking

- No cooking whatsoever is permitted in student rooms. Any breach of this rule will result in disciplinary action and appliance(s) confiscated.
- Preparation of light snacks only may take place in the Residence kitchenettes using University appliances.
- Microwave ovens are available to heat food but are not to be used for major food preparation. They must be kept clean by the students using them.

8.9 Counselling Centre

It is located on the top floor of the Steve Biko Building on Prince Alfred Street.

Opening hours Monday to Friday 08:00 – 16:30.

To make an appointment, telephone (046) 603 7070 during office hours or email counsellingcentre@ru.ac.za or visit the Centre in the Steve Biko building.

Psychological emergency after hours

For any psychological emergencies after hours (from 16:30 - 08.00) daily and on the weekends, please contact the RU ER24 emergency number **010 205 3068**. If the problem is not an emergency, then rather go to the Centre during office hours.

8.10 Damage to and loss of University property

- In the case of damage to, or loss of University property the student or students responsible, if known, will be required to bear the cost, such cost may be charged either against a particular group of students or against the general fund of the body of students.
- If any room or its contents (walls, doors, windows, floor, furniture, fittings, etc.) is damaged in any way, the student occupant will be liable for the cost of repairs.
- Room Statements must be completed and handed to the Residence Manager, Residence Student Assistants, or the Hall Administrator within seventy-two hours of a student's arrival. Failure to do so will result in a student being held responsible for any damage to and/or loss of property subsequently found in the room concerned.
- Any deficiencies or damage which may occur in a student's room while they are in occupation, and for which they are not responsible, shall be reported in writing to the Hall Residence Manager by the student within 24 hours of its occurrence.
- If the report mentioned above is not made it will be irrefutably presumed that the deficiencies or damage are the responsibility of the occupant of the room, who will be required to bear the cost thereof.
- No student shall wilfully or negligently damage any property in the Hall belonging to the University, or a member of staff or another student.
- Damage done to any property of the University must be reported in writing to the Residence Manager by the person or persons responsible.
- A student who damages property whilst under the influence of alcohol/liquor or drugs will be severely dealt with.
- Special care must be exercised to avoid damage to parquet floors and carpets by flooding. In particular, taps must not be left on when the water supply is off. If you are not sure whether the tap is turned off, take the plug out of the basin. Flooding a room is considered a disciplinary offence.
- No person may interfere with the lights, lighting systems, heating systems, or firefighting equipment.
- Any deficiencies or damage found in any room when first occupied by a student must be reported to the Residence Manager in writing within 48 hours of arrival.
- Any damage or defects which may occur in a student's room while they are in occupation, and for which they are not responsible, must be reported in writing to the Residence Manager by the student within 24 hours of its occurrence. If such a report is not made it will be irrefutably presumed that the damage or deficiencies are the responsibility of the occupant of the room, who will be required to bear the cost thereof.
- Writing on and permanent attachments to bedroom doors are strictly prohibited.

8.11 Dining Hall

- At all meals, students must be appropriately dressed, and footwear worn to meals. For example, swimming costumes or pyjamas, sleep bonnets etc are not appropriate.
- No meals may be served in bedrooms without the permission of the Hall Manager or a Residence Student Assistants or the Residence Manager.
- No student may enter the kitchen without the permission of a Caterer or a Residence Manager.
- Any complaints about the food or service must be directed to an elected Hall Food Representative, the Hall Manager, or the Residence Manager.
- Complaints may not be made to the catering staff in the kitchen.
- Complaints directed to a Hall Food Representative must be brought to the attention of the Hall Manager as soon as possible.
- NO plates, cups, saucers, glasses, knives, forks, spoons, etc. are to be removed from the Dining Hall.
- Before you leave the Dining Hall please ensure that you have cleared your place of all crockery, etc. and placed your tray in the hatch or on the tray trolley.
- Once having left after the consumption of a meal, students are not allowed to come back to the Dining Hall during the same mealtime.

Mealtimes

Mealtimes for all Dining Halls are the same:

Weekdays (Monday – Friday)

<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>07:00 – 08:15</i>
<i>Lunch</i>	<i>12:00 – 14:00</i>
<i>Supper</i>	<i>17:00 – 18:30</i>

Saturdays, Sundays & public holidays

<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>08:00 – 09:15</i>
<i>Lunch</i>	<i>12:00 – 13:30</i>
<i>Supper</i>	<i>17:00 – 18:30</i>

On certain days when kitchen staff do not come to work (e.g., 1st of May) alternative meal arrangements will be made by Food Services and students in Residence will be notified of these.

- You are requested to vacate the Dining Hall no later than 15 minutes after closing time.
- NO SMOKING is permitted in the Dining Hall or on the Dining Hall veranda on any occasion.
- NO unauthorised guests are allowed in the Dining Hall – unless they have a meal booked and validated at the checkpoint.
- Students must double book a meal if they have a guest or visitor; it is not permitted to share a meal with them.
- It is an offence to unlawfully obtain or attempt to obtain food; this may lead to exclusion for theft.

- Please note that meals will not be issued to students whose fingerprint or student card is not recognised. If there is a system malfunction, students may use student cards as an alternative for obtaining meals.
- Packed meals are available only if you are unable to attend a meal because of academic or sporting commitments. They may be obtained if arrangements are made **at least 48 hours in advance**.
- Seconds may be obtained, if there is sufficient food available, by returning to the servery with your plate.

Food limitations

- You are only permitted to take four slices of bread;
- You may take one glass of juice and one fruit, or two juices, or two fruits.

Removing food from Dining Hall

- No food or drink may be taken out of the Dining Hall, **except** your carton of yoghurt at breakfast and your allocation of fruit.

At Brunch – yoghurt, fruit, muffin

- NO containers are allowed to be brought into the Dining Hall in order to remove food – this is a disciplinary offence.
- Only in exceptional cases, such as in the case of a student who is ill and unable to go to the Dining Hall, can the Residence Manager/Hall Manager arrange for a booked meal for the student.

Special Hall Functions

- Various special Hall functions are held during the year.
- Vegetarian and special diets will be catered for a Formal Dinner provided the Hall Administrator or Hall Senior Student has been notified well in advance.
- Those on special diets may be required to fetch their meal from the kitchen. If you are unable to attend a function, you will be responsible for your own meal. Please note that it is your responsibility to unbook your meal on the res system if you have specified you are not attending a formal function.

Please note: No portion of food or drink may be removed from the Dining Hall on special occasions.

8.12 Discipline

- No student of the Hall may engage in any form of conduct that may reasonably be regarded as unbecoming in a student of the Hall or the University, be it on or off the University Campus.
- It is an offence for students to aid and abet other students to break the rules of the Hall or the University.
- It is a serious offence to give false or incorrect information when asked by a Campus Protection Officer/Guard to supply your name and/or place of Residence to such Officer/Guard.
- Not obeying a lawful instruction is a disciplinary offence.
- In terms of a Senate Resolution, drunkenness is an **AGGRAVATING** and **NOT** a mitigating circumstance. Drunk and disorderly conduct will not be tolerated. It is regarded as "Conduct Unbecoming".

RIGHTS - Before any disciplinary action is taken against a student, they have the right:

- i) To be given the particulars of the alleged disciplinary offence
- ii) To 72 hours' notice of the disciplinary hearing and
- iii) To be heard by the Presiding Officer

Right of Review

Any student aggrieved by the decision or penalty imposed by a Residence Manager, a Hall Disciplinary Committee or any member of the Hall exercising delegated disciplinary powers shall have the right to take the matter on review as set out in the relevant sections of the Student Disciplinary Code.

Admission of Guilt Sanctions

These penalties **MAY NOT** be **REDUCED OR INCREASED** without a disciplinary hearing being held. The objective of this procedure is to do away with disciplinary hearings in certain limited cases.

- These penalties may only be imposed upon a student where they admit guilt. If the student does not admit guilt, then a disciplinary hearing **MUST** be held.
- The disciplinary authority does not have to utilise the admission of guilt procedure and may decide to hold a hearing.
- This schedule does not create offences: it only relates to penalties for existing offences.
- Monetary fines will only be imposed only in exceptional circumstances.

8.13 Drugs

In terms of the Student Disciplinary Code: *"A student may not be in unlawful possession of or deal in or distribute any drugs for which a prescription is required by law, or of any drug the possession of which is forbidden by law".*

9. Duties

- Duties to be carried out by first years and Hall Committee members will be decided by the respective Hall or House Committees.
- All first years, irrespective of status, may be assigned special duties, e.g., preparing for or cleaning up after Hall or Hall functions.

10. Electrical Usage

- Students must adhere to the University rules regarding the use of electricity.
- Students may not keep or operate a toaster, snack maker, electric frying pan, braai, gas cooker, hot plate or any other electrical appliance used for the preparation of food.
- All kettles **MUST** stand on a tray to catch any water spillage.
- Immersion heaters are forbidden.
- Students may not have fridges in their rooms. Written application may be made to the Director, Student Services and Development for exception, if the student has a valid doctor's certificate.
- Irons may not be used in student rooms. Each Hall has areas designated for ironing; an ironing board must be used.
- **HEATERS must be switched off** when the room is vacated for any time or when the student goes to sleep.
- No personal/additional/loose heaters are permitted in Residence.

- Heaters must NOT be used for cooking, making toast or any other purpose for which they are not intended. Damage to a heater, or failure or malfunctioning of the lighting, power system or University electrical equipment in a student's room must be reported immediately.

Please note: Failure to switch off a heater is a serious disciplinary offence as it is a fire hazard.

11. End of Term protocol

- Your rooms are to be checked by the Residence Student Assistants before you leave. Anything found missing or damaged will be charged to your account. Rooms must be left in a clean and neat state. All room keys are to be handed in when you leave. Any missing keys are to be reported to the Residence Manager.
- At the end of the year, if you need books for summer school or supplementary exams, take them with you. The box rooms will not be available before students return for O-week.

11.1. Leaving the Residence for good

- Anything left behind and not fetched by you before the start of the second term will be disposed of.
- ONLY students RETURNING the next term may store their possessions in the Residence box Rooms. Make sure you remove all your belongings from box rooms when you finally pack up or when you collect your belongings.
- Please remember that it is your responsibility to make arrangements to have your belongings fetched.

11.2 Returning for the next term

- You may have your belongings checked into the box rooms at your own risk.
- NO luggage or boxes etc. are to be left on the landings, in passages, or in rooms.
- Residence Student Assistants, the Hall Senior Student, Hall Head Students, the SRC executive committee members and SRC Hall Rep are extended the privilege of not having to pack up their rooms, except during the December holidays when all students must pack-up their rooms.
- Under certain circumstances the Hall Manager might deem it necessary to withdraw this privilege.

Please note: Additional instructions may be issued for procedures to be followed at the end of terms.

12. Exclusion from the Hall

Should a student commit any of the following offences they could face exclusion for the following but not limited to:

- Theft
- Assault
- Fraud
- Deliberate damage of property
- Cheating in exams
- Drunk and disorderly behaviour
- Unlawful possession of drugs
- A second visiting offence in a single academic year

- Intentionally interfering with emergency equipment

13. Firearms

Possession or use of firearms are strictly prohibited in Residences.

14. Fire Drills

- Students are to ensure that they are fully informed of the procedure to follow in case of fire or emergency. Fire safety notices are posted on Residence notice boards. Students are to make sure they know and understand these precautions and instructions.
- Fire drills are held four times a year. Additional fire drills will be held should the evacuation procedure not be completed satisfactorily.
- Every possible precaution should be taken to avoid a potential fire. Ensure that heaters are switched off while unattended or while you are sleeping, extinguish cigarettes properly and ensure that all electrical appliances are safe and correctly connected.
- Attendance and participation in fire drills are compulsory for all students of the Hall.

15. Fireworks

Fireworks may not be kept, or set off, in the precincts of the Hall.

16. Furniture, Furnishing or Other University Property

No furniture, furnishings or other University property may be removed from any room without the consent of the Residence Manager or Housekeeper.

17. Health Care Services

The HCC is the building on the left, near the top of Rhodes Avenue, the steep road that goes up the hill past Hobson Hall and CPU.

The nursing staff in the HCC are on duty throughout the term to provide a professional and caring service to students at Rhodes University. Qualified nursing Sisters who provide the services below run the health care centre. Students are welcome to discuss their problems and these discussions are confidential.

Medical emergency after hours

For any medical emergencies after hours (from 16:30 - 08.00) daily and on the weekends, please contact the RU ER24 emergency number **010 205 3068**. If the problem is not an emergency, then rather go to the Centre during office hours.

For students on medical aid, all emergencies will be referred to Settlers hospital via ER24 or Gardmed ambulance and the hospital staff will organize that the doctor meets the patient there. If no private Dr is available after hours, the hospital Dr will see the emergency. Appointments can also be made for the students to see the Doctor at the surgery.

The student is responsible for the medical practitioner's charges and for the cost of prescribed medicines from local pharmacies. A doctor is available to see students every weekday and the charge is approximately half a normal consultation fee from the private sector per visit from the student account.

An appointment will be secured with the doctor via the Health Care Centre Staff or Counselling Centre. Admissions at the HCC is free for ALL students, not only Residence students, but also for Oppidans.

There are ten beds for patients suffering from infectious diseases or ailments such as flu, tonsillitis, gastroenteritis and for those recovering after surgical procedures.

It is also a haven for those suffering from stress, anxiety, and depression. This in-patient facility is available free to students in Residence and at a nominal fee to Oppidans.

Opening Hours

During the Term, please make an appointment online via ROSS, or call (046) 603 8523; email: healthcarecentre@ru.ac.za

During University term times:

Monday - Friday: 08h00 -16h30

Saturday, Sunday, and Public Holidays: 08h00 – 13h00

During University vacations:

Monday- Friday 09h30-12h30

(Contact **010 205 3068 from 12h30**)

After hours: Call the RU ER24 number: **010 205 3068 (from 16h30 until 08h00)**

Free Services

- Treatment of minor ailments such as flu, tonsillitis etc.
- In-patient care for acute illnesses
- Management and care of patients with infectious diseases.
- Post-operative observations
- Emergency assessment and crisis management. (e.g., rape)
- Voluntary HIV testing, including pre- and post-test counselling
- HIV AIDS medication
- Screening tests e.g., blood pressure.
- Family planning advice

Services at a minimal cost

- Vaccinations (flu, etc.)
- Pregnancy Tests
- Pap Smears and blood tests.
- Doctor's clinic: the fees rise annually
- Vitamins and appropriate medication for HIV AIDS patients

18. House Meetings

- House meetings may be called by the Hall Manager, Residence Manager, Residence Student Assistants, Hall Head Student or Hall Senior Student, and it is compulsory for all occupants of the House to attend them.
- If you are unable to attend a meeting, apologies must be given to the Residence Manager or Residence Student Assistants in advance.
- The onus is on you to find out what was discussed at the meeting. Failure to comply is a disciplinary offence.

19. Housekeeping Services

- Cleaning equipment is available in each Residence for use by students.
- Students are required to make their own beds and keep their rooms clean, including basins and/or baths in student rooms.
- Students are expected to clean the baths after use and to leave bathrooms, showers, and toilets in a state such as they would like to find them.
- The Housekeeping staff are responsible for cleaning all public areas. However, consideration for staff must be given and no area may be left untidy or in such a state as to cause offence.
- Students are expected to change linen regularly. Linen change takes place weekly between 1 -2 pm with the Housekeeper.

20. Illness or Injury

- Illness or injury must be reported at once to the Residence Manager or a Residence Student Assistant.
- In the event of a student being admitted to hospital or the Health Care Centre, the Residence Manager as well as the Hall Manager must be informed as soon as possible.
- Students are not permitted to request a doctor to make a House visit to the Residence. Any student who is too ill to attend the doctor's surgery must go to the Health Care Centre.

21. Incense

PLEASE NOTE: The burning of incense or any material in the Residences, is strictly prohibited in the Residences as it is a fire hazard.

22. Laundry

- Students are expected to do their personal laundry in the washing machines and tumble dryers which are provided in the Residences.
- A booking system is in operation for the use of the machines and times must be adhered to so as not to inconvenience other users.
- Laundry-room opening and closure times in each of the Halls will be displayed on the notice boards.
- Wash lines are provided in an enclosed area for the use of students. Students are warned against leaving washing outside overnight as it may be stolen.
- Laundry machines may not be used outside of the times on the booking sheets.
- It is not permitted to use the Residence washing machines to do laundry for persons not a Residence student.
- Laundry handed in late or left outside the laundry-room will not be accepted, nor will it be the responsibility of the Residence Managers, Residence Student Assistants, Housekeeper or Housekeeping staff to return such laundry to the student(s) concerned.

23. Littering

Littering constitutes a serious offence and will be severely penalized.

24. Pets

- No pets may be kept in Residence.
- Students may not bring animals into the Hall or a Hall or feed animals in any part of the Hall.

25. Privacy

- No student may enter another student's room without the latter's permission.
- Students are always entitled to privacy. No student may tamper with another student's property or post.

26. Reasonable Quietness

- Reasonable quietness must be observed in the Hall and Hall and within the precincts of the Halls at all times.
- Silence must be strictly maintained at the following times:

08h00 – 12h30

14h00 - 17h00

19h00 – 07h00

Please note: These times may change during exam periods.

- If musical instruments (including radios, TV's etc.) are played in breach of rules above, they may, in addition to any other penalty which may be imposed, be confiscated.
- The occupant of each bedroom shall be responsible for the quietness and behaviour of all persons in their bedroom.
- The occupant of each bedroom shall be responsible for any damage to and/or loss of property subsequently found in the room concerned.

27. Room Keys

- No student may give or lend or otherwise dispose of their room key to any other person under any circumstances.
- No student may borrow or acquire in any other way a room key of any other student.
- Residents of a Hall are issued with a room key to their Residence.
- No person other than the authorised user of the key may use the key.
- In the event of problems being encountered when locking the door, the matter must be reported to the Resident Student Assistants or Residence Manager **immediately.**

28. Smoking

- Smoking is strictly prohibited in any Residence rooms or any public places, including the courtyards, and in the Residences.

- Smokers are expected to be considerate about their smoking, even when outside the building.
- NOT to smoke within ten (10) metres of an entrance/exit door or outside an open window of a Residence room or the Dining Hall.
- Cigarette butts must not be left to litter the Residences' verandas or grounds and gardens but must be disposed of in bins provided.

29. Theft

Theft of private and University property must be reported immediately to the Residence Manager.

Please note: The University accepts no responsibility for loss or theft of or damage to private property.

30. Vehicles

A student possessing a motor vehicle must register a vehicle with the Student Bureau.

Students' vehicles may **NOT** be parked:

- In the driveway between New House Annexes and Robert Sobukwe House
- Behind or on the pavement of Robert Sobukwe House
- On the pavement around Atherstone House
- On the turning circle outside New House
- On the pavement around New House

Please note: The rule above also applies to motorcycles which are not allowed up the steps to Atherstone House front lawns.

Additional Rules

Additional rules may be made from time to time. These will be posted on the notice boards in each House and/or on the Hall Manager's Notice board. It is the duty of all students to familiarise themselves with all rules applicable to the Hall.

Updated August 2024