



The Bark | April 24, 2023

## Community Expectations to End the Year

Guest Columnist: Jessica Carron

Hello Students -

My name is Jessica Carron, and I am the Director of Student Rights & Responsibilities. As the school year winds to a close, I'm sure many of you are filled with nervousness and excitement at the prospect of finals and a completed term. As you make your plans for studying, moving out of the residence halls, and celebrations with friends, I wanted to share a few things to keep in mind to ensure you and the rest of our community have the best possible last couple of weeks.

1. **If you live in the residence halls, minimize noise and disruptions during finals week.** Everyone has different needs when preparing for exams, including varying times for studying and rest. Beginning on the last day of classes of each term, Quiet Hours are extended to 24-hours/day to support the students' successful completion of final exams, papers, projects, as well as the necessary sleeping that occurs during this time. 24-hour quiet continues from 11:59 pm on the last day of classes until the residence halls close for the semester.
2. **Whether you live on or off campus, ensure you are being conscientious of your neighbors as you celebrate the end of the term.** I know many students want to get together to enjoy some last minute socializing with peers before heading to your different summer experiences. To help meet this need without disrupting your peers, I recommend checking out our campus community spaces and meeting rooms in the Fowler Center or going off campus to get together with friends. For those of you who live off campus, while your neighbors may not be other students, you should still be respectful of your neighbors and city noise ordinances. If you plan to have a celebration, I recommend giving your neighbors a heads up, and setting up communication with them about how they can alert you if things get too loud.
3. **If you choose to consume substances when you celebrate (not everyone does!), please do so responsibly.** Make a plan when going out about how much of a substance, like alcohol, you feel safe consuming, how you and your friends will get home safely, and who you want to let know where you are. Please do not drive under the influence of any substance, and be cognizant of your personal consumption limits. For other tips and resources around alcohol and drugs, check out the Office of Health Promotion & Wellness webpage. Finally, as a reminder, remember that our policies around Drugs and Alcohol remain in effect throughout your time as a student.
4. **Take care of our campus as you leave.** As you pack up your residence hall rooms and unload your unwanted notebooks or papers at the end of exams, please make sure to keep our community clean. In the residence halls, please do not leave trash or belongings in the hallways or common areas. Utilize designated donation, trash and recycling receptacles on campus, but do not pile up on ones that are already full. Finally, clean up common spaces and kitchens that you use regularly.

All of this is important to keep our campus a great place to live and learn for next year's students, and to help preserve the time and resources of our friends in Facilities Services.

This is an exciting time of year, and I, along with the rest of the Division of Student Life are rooting for you as you wrap up the last of your assignments and examinations. We also hope that you will take part in the many programs happening this week to celebrate your success.

Happy last week of classes!

Jessica Carron  
Director of Student Rights & Responsibilities