

OLDENBURG LANGUAGE HALL APPLICATION

Due by 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 6, 2009 in the main office, Oldenburg Center

Oldenburg Room Draw Wednesday, April 8th at 4:15pm* Glass Family Conference Room in the Oldenburg Center

Language Hall applicants receive Room Draw numbers Friday, April 3rd via Pomona email. Numbers will also be posted at Campus Life

*Wait List Room Draw (if needed) immediately follows Oldenburg Room Draw (will not begin before 5:30 p.m.)

There are (8) language sections: **Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish.**

Students must be eligible to live in a language hall of Oldenburg. Eligibility is determined by:

- Proof of one year of college-level coursework in the target language
- Demonstrated interest in the section of choice (essay, see attached)
- Endorsement from a member of the relevant language faculty **due Friday, March 13th.**

The form indicates that you have spoken with a faculty member or the language resident about your desire to live in Oldenburg and that s/he vouches for your language proficiency and commitment to language learning. Note: Arabic and Italian halls collaborate with the CMC Arabic language resident and SC Italian language resident and their respective faculty on cultural activities. Oldenburg also hosts Arabic and Italian language tables.

A complete application includes the following. Please organize your application and neatly staple together: Application form...List of relevant coursework...Essay...Faculty recommendation...Signed Oldenburg agreement.

Applications will be reviewed and placed into one of three categories:

Most qualified – strong language skills, strong essay, strong faculty endorsement, shows intent to engage in Oldenburg programming, known record of prior participation in Oldenburg programming, demonstrated interest in language learning and community

Qualified - students with adequate language skills, adequate application, adequate motivation to continue language study

Waitlisted - students who have been deemed less qualified/not qualified for the program but demonstrate motivation and interest in engagement with Oldenburg programming.

Room Draw numbers will be randomly generated within the “most qualified” and “qualified” categories. Waitlisted students do not receive room draw numbers and cannot be “pulled in.” Waitlisted students may draw for rooms at the end of Oldenburg room draw (approximately 5:30pm) only if rooms remain available.

Suitemates

Oldenburg wishes to honor a student’s suitemate selection. However, please realize, this complicates the Oldenburg room draw process! We seek to balance placing the most qualified students—and introducing those students to new experiences and situations—with making students comfortable. If you wish to designate your suitemate, do these things:

- List your intended suitemate on the application form. **NO EXCEPTIONS. NO LATE WRITE-INS. PLEASE DON'T ASK.**
 - Pick a suitemate from the same language hall. **OTHER COMBINATIONS ARE IMPOSSIBLE OR CREATE HARDSHIP.**
 - Realize that students placed in the “waitlist” category cannot be pulled in as suitemates.
 - If you are worried that your intended suitemate may drop out of Oldenburg room draw (e.g., to accept Sponsor), designate an alternate intended suitemate on your application form. We will only consider your alternate intended suitemate if your first choice drops **ON OR BEFORE April 2nd.** This is fair to you and fair to us.
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Can't decide between language halls? Think you have a shot at a Special Interest Group (SIG)? That's OK!

There are TWO types of application for Oldenburg residency—Language Hall and Special Interest Group applications.

- Students who wish to apply for a Language Hall and a SIG MUST complete separate applications.
- Students who wish to apply for two Language Halls MUST complete two separate applications.
- If you apply for more than one opportunity, indicate your first choice in your essay.

Oldenborg Center and Residence Hall – Language Hall Application Form

Application for: Arabic Chinese French German Italian Japanese Russian Spanish
(Circle ONE only)

Name: _____ Class of: _____ Email: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Current Residence Hall: _____
Concentration: _____ Permanent Address: _____
Street City State Country
Birthdate (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ Gender: **F M**

Oldenborg use only

Room Drawn _____

Section _____

Other languages _____

First Choice Intended Suitemate: _____

Optional. But if you wish to be considered for this option, you **MUST** list your intended suitemate's name here. One per application.

Alternate Intended Suitemate: _____

Will be considered only if First Choice drops **ON OR BEFORE** April 2, 2009.

LIST COURSES: On a separate sheet of paper, list the course titles of the high school and college language courses you have taken or in which you are currently enrolled. Include when you took these courses and, if courses were taken at the Claremont Colleges, include the name(s) of your instructor(s).

ESSAY: On a separate sheet of paper, explain why you would like to live in Oldenborg. How do you intend to participate in Oldenborg programs? What background especially qualifies you for Oldenborg residency? Essays should convey a demonstrated interest in the language and culture of the section of your choice (e.g., relevant coursework in language, cultural studies, international politics, study abroad experiences, participation in Oldenborg conversation classes and language tables, etc.). If you speak languages in addition to the language of the section to which you are applying, include this information as well.

If you have a proxy, please list your proxy's name here: _____

I will participate actively in Oldenborg's foreign language and international relations programming. I understand this means, **at a minimum**, that I am expected to attend language table three times a month and to participate in three cultural activities per semester. I understand I am expected to participate in and attend Language Special Dinners and study breaks and to be helpful to and respectful of my language resident. Oldenborg is more than a place to live; it is a community of which I wish to be a part.

I also understand that, if I fail to meet these minimum requirements or fail to honor the spirit of Oldenborg, the Director may ask me to leave and that I **will** be placed at the bottom of my class in the following year's room draw. I will also become ineligible for future housing in Oldenborg.

Today's date

Signature

Please return this application by 4:00pm, Friday, March 6th, to the main office at Oldenborg.

A complete application includes: this form, your list of relevant coursework, your essay, the faculty recommendation form, and a signed Oldenborg agreement. Please staple all of these items neatly together! *Only the faculty recommendation form may be submitted by the later deadline of Friday, March 13, 2009. Faculty may send the form to us via campus mail.*

Please be aware that Oldenborg has both single and double rooms. Receipt of a room draw number does not guarantee a single.

FMI: oldenborg@pomona.edu or Luz Forero, Oldenborg Assistant Director, x. 7-1159

Name of student: _____

Circle one: Arabic Chinese French German Italian Japanese Russian Spanish

OLDENBORG ROOM DRAW 2009-2010

Faculty Recommendation Form for Language Hall Applicants

Students applying to live in Oldenburg are expected to meet with Language Faculty or Language Residents to request validation that the student evidences:

- 1). The minimum language proficiency to live in Oldenburg (one year college-level coursework or equivalent)
- 2). Motivation to continue engagement with the target language and to participate in a community that promotes the teaching and learning of non-English languages and international studies.

Students: Please be respectful of the multiple demands on faculty and language resident time. Language faculty and language residents are often accessible at language tables Monday through Friday over the noon hour at Oldenburg. If they are busy mentoring their table and request a longer conversation with you in order to ascertain your proficiency and motivation, you may have to schedule a separate appointment with them.

IT IS OK FOR THE LANGUAGE RESIDENT OR FACULTY MEMBER TO TAKE THIS FORM FROM THE STUDENT, COMPLETE IT IN PRIVACY AFTER SOME REFLECTION, AND THEN SEND IT TO OLDENBORG VIA CAMPUS MAIL. **DUE DATE: ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 13TH.**

Name of faculty member: _____ Department: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Campus extension: _____

I have met with this student and can verify **Elementary** **Intermediate** **Advanced** language proficiency.

Please **initial** all relevant statements. (Oldenburg does not expect faculty to respond affirmatively to each statement).

Student attends language tables on a regular basis.

Student participates regularly in Oldenburg cultural activities.

Student has attended my class(es). List class(es): _____

Student demonstrates an active interest in the language and culture of the section to which student is applying.

We welcome additional comments:

OLDENBORG LANGUAGE HALL AGREEMENT 2009-2010

I knowingly and voluntarily agree to live in OLDENBORG for AY 2009-2010.

- I understand that the mission of Oldenburg is to promote the teaching and learning of non-English languages and international studies.
- I understand that I am expected to be helpful to and respectful of my Language Resident.
- I understand that Language Residents mentor and prepare events such as language tables, study breaks, cultural activities, and Special Dinners. I intend to participate in those activities and collaborate with my Language Resident.
- I understand that Oldenburg dining hall is reserved for those who:
 - 1). participate at language tables
 - 2). attend a luncheon talk.

If I want to speak English, I will attend another dining hall.¹

- I understand that, **at a minimum**, language hall residents are expected to:
 - 1). attend language table three times a month
 - 2). participate in three cultural activities per semester.
- I understand that Oldenburg is a smoke-free building and I will comply with regulations regarding the smoke-free environment.
- I understand that the language lounges are considered public space (classroom space) and not private space. Balconies are also considered public space.
- I understand that Oldenburg is more than a place to live; it is a community. For this reason, if I fail to meet these outlined requirements or fail to honor the spirit of Oldenburg, the Oldenburg Director may ask me to leave and I **will** be placed at the bottom of my class in the following year's room draw. I will also become ineligible for future housing in Oldenburg.

I have read and agree to comply with the conditions set forth in the above contract.

Name (please print): _____

Room # _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

¹ If a lunchtime student meeting or activity requires the use of English, I may ask the Oldenburg staff to help me reserve an alternate Oldenburg venue (e.g., Private Dining Room, Glass Conference Room, TV lounge).