May I stay on campus during the break or do I have to leave?

All current residents who plan to take courses and live on campus during the spring may stay on campus throughout the winter break. Whether you stay or go is up to you.

If I currently have an empty bed in my suite, or, if my current roommate doesn’t plan to come back next semester, will I be assigned a new roommate or get to live by myself?

Since we often receive housing applications from prospective residents through the first week of spring classes, it will take almost as long for us to determine the total number of new students who will join us in the halls in January. Additionally, until they all apply, we can’t confirm how many of our newest residents will be male, female, freshmen, upperclassmen, etc. or what their housing preferences will be. Thus, it is very difficult for us to predict whether a particular vacant assignment will be filled – unless, of course, a current or incoming resident request it.

At present, we do not keep any lists of students who prefer to live alone. We can, however, offer a limited number of residents who are passionate in their quest to live in a roommate-free zone this spring, the option to purchase both sides of a double room.
How will I know if a new student is assigned to my suite/apartment?

Shortly after placing a new residential student into a housing assignment, we will notify the new students’ roommates via their university email addresses. GSW students may also view their housing assignment and roommate information on RAIN.

I plan to leave campus during the break. Anything I should do before I go?

Whether you plan to be away from campus one or two days or for the entire break, before you go remove all trash from your suite or apartment and check to make sure your doors and windows are closed and locked. If you keep anything of significant (monetary or personal) value in your room, you may also consider taking it with you off campus.

It’s never a bad idea to unplug appliances when they aren’t in use, but this is especially a good practice if you plan to be gone for a span of more than 2-3 days at one time. While we don’t require it, we also suggest that you empty out your refrigerator and defrost it (except in Pines) if you plan to be away from campus for any length of time.

Residents who currently live alone or will be left without a roommate at the end of the semester, should take special care to ensure that their rooms are as clean as possible before they leave campus in the event that a new resident is assigned to live in their suite or apartment (and could potentially check/move into the shared space before the returning residents return to campus. These residents, if leaving for more than a few days, should remove their personal belongings from their bathroom areas – storing them temporarily (during the break) in their bedrooms or elsewhere. Since the University’s custodial team are generally not permitted to clean any area which contains items belonging to students, removing personal items from a bathroom will allow them to clean it and see that it is in good shape before your new roommate arrives.

Is there a specific day I need to return to campus prior to spring?

We suggest you arrive back on campus long enough to settle back in before classes resume on Monday, January 11. If for some reason, you do not plan to return before Wednesday, January 13, please inform the Housing Office staff so that your assignment isn’t cancelled.
What if my plans change over the break?

If, at any point during the winter break, you have reason to withdraw from the University, please notify us immediately via email (housing@gsw.edu) or by phone (229.931.2375).

If you become interested in living off-campus next semester while maintaining enrollment in GSW, ELI, or SGSC courses on campus, please note the following.

Unless you 1) informed the University of your plans to live on campus only during the fall semester when you completed and submitted your housing application (and were approved to do so), or 2) are no longer enrolled at GSW, SGSC, or ELI courses, you are required by contract to remain in housing for the duration of the academic year. This policy includes pertains to all residents, even those who meet the residency exemption requirements.

Current residents who wish to live off-campus next semester while remaining enrolled must complete the Appeal of Housing Obligation form. Completed (and signed) forms may be submitted in-person at the Housing Office or emailed to housing@gsw.edu. Once the form (and any/all documentation) is reviewed, the student will receive notification from the Director of Auxiliary Services of the University’s decision to approve or deny the appeal request. Housing (and meal plan) fees for the spring semester will remain on the accounts of all students whose appeal applications are denied, as long as the students are enrolled, regardless whether or not the students choose to occupy their housing assignments during the second semester.

If you would like further clarification on any of the FAQs listed above or have other questions of your own, contact your RA, Residence Life Coordinator or Hall Director, drop by the Housing Office or email housing@gsw.edu.