Personal Statement

For this section, please attach a typed cover letter of no more than 750 words answering these two questions:
Why do you wish to be a member of this living-learning community? Please include the contributions you expect to make as a member of the community, any outside interests that have influenced your desire to apply, and/or any programming ideas you may have for this community.

What do you expect to experience or learn by being part of your chosen community?

Is there anything that would prevent you from fully participating in living-learning community activities?

☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please explain: __________________________________________

Please complete and return this application with a copy of your class schedule to Saint Catherine Hall, Room 108. If your application is approved, you will be contacted for an interview. Please attach your course schedule to assist us in scheduling interviews.
Thank you for your interest in being a member of a GCU living-learning community. A living-learning community is a group of students who have chosen to expand their education through shared learning experiences. Each community has a graduate assistant who plans and implements programs and an advisor who supports, guides, and participates in the LLC. Living-learning communities can positively enhance a student’s social and academic integration, personal and intellectual growth, collaborative learning, and problem-solving skills. As a member of a living-learning community, you can experience a deepened sense of connectedness and specialized interests you can incorporate in your life in a fulfilling manner. Membership in a living-learning community is open to all GCU students—residents and commuters alike.

**LIVING-LEARNING COMMUNITY PROGRAM GOALS**

- To be congruent with Georgian Court University’s mission of preparing graduates to be global citizens who are civically engaged and effective;
- To incorporate the Mercy core values of respect, integrity, justice, compassion, and service;
- To be consistent with the educational mission as determined by the living-learning community;
- To enhance the overall educational experience;
- To promote learning through private and public reflection on the community’s theme—e.g., through discussion groups, performances, or informal interactions with faculty and staff members; and
- To create a sense of community that encourages individual commitment to supporting and respecting each other and the program.

**EXPECTATIONS**
The minimum expectations of all living-learning community members are

- To attend approximately three events hosted by your community per semester;
- To participate in the opening and closing events;
- To participate in meetings facilitated by the GA and/or community advisor(s);
- To participate in community assessments (approximately one each semester);
- To abide by university policies and remain in good disciplinary standing; and
- To sign and abide by the Living-Learning Contract.

**BENEFITS**
Some of the primary benefits of being a part of a living-learning community include opportunities to

- Connect with peers, faculty, and staff around common interests and themes;
- Develop academically and personally;
- Integrate and apply your interests and experiences;
- Explore and define personal values and identity within a community context;
- Broaden appreciation for diversity and global awareness;
- Become civically engaged and be of service to others;
- Collaborate and communicate effectively in various settings; and
- Have fun and learn at the same time!