

## **International-Domestic Student Roommate Conversation Guide**

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Having a roommate in college is an opportunity to learn new cultures and make new friends. Get to know your roommate by asking some of the following questions:

### **Hometown**

- Where did you grow up (rural, urban, suburban, etc.)?
- What did your neighborhood look like?
- What do you love about your home and where you grew up?

### **Country**

- What perceptions and stereotypes do folks have about your country?
- What have you learned about each other's countries?
- What values are important to you and individuals from your community?

### **Communication**

- How do you communicate a challenge you are experiencing?
- How do you like to communicate with someone new?
- How do you like to receive good news?

### **Family Unit & Dynamics**

- What do your parents or guardians do for work?
- How many siblings do you have?
- What is your birth order?
- Who do you consider your immediate family?
- Who did you grow up living with?
- Who makes decisions in your family?

### **Education**

- How was school structured in your countries?
- What was your primary and secondary school experience like?
- What are you planning to study here at OSU?
- What are important life lessons you've learned?

### **Hobbies & Interests**

- What do you do for entertainment?
- What are your hobbies and interests?
- What is your favorite food from your home country and culture?
- Who are your favorite artists (music, film, etc.)?
- Who are popular artists from your country?
- What is your favorite films and TV Shows?
- What are your favorite books and why are they are favorites?
- What kind of art inspires you?

### **Gift Giving & Celebrations**

- How do you celebrate birthdays in your culture?
- What major events/holidays do you celebrate in your culture?
- How do you show appreciation to someone?
- When is it appropriate to give gifts?
- What does giving a gift mean or represent where you are from?

### **Religion**

*It is important to approach these questions with respect and care.*

- Do you have a religious belief?
- What are important religious events you celebrate?