What inspires you?

Life at Upstate
An inspiring community

College... It’s the best opportunity many of you will ever have to learn who you are and who you want to be. Much of that knowledge will come in the classroom or on a study abroad trip or during an internship experience. But, just as surely as you will learn about robotics and Renaissance painting, you will also learn how to navigate different opinions and lifestyles. Are you really a night owl? Do you thrive with a packed schedule, or is your style more laid-back? How important is time to yourself or with friends? If you choose wisely and pay attention, college can provide an atmosphere to answer just those kinds of questions.

One of your most crucial choices will be selecting a place to live. Studies have shown that for many students, living on campus can provide both an academic and a social benefit. Choosing to live in campus housing puts you right in the middle of everything a university has to offer—study groups, theatre productions, athletic events, lectures, festivals and concerts. In short, you’ll find the perfect atmosphere for self-discovery and learning.
An inspiring community Designed for our freshman and sophomore students, Palmetto House and Magnolia House are traditional-style residence halls located on the northeast side of campus. The beautifully styled glass and brick buildings feature single and double rooms complete with a bathroom and communal living space in each. Every resident is provided a bed, a desk, a chair, four dresser drawers, and an armoire. The communal areas have a microwave/refrigerator unit, an end table, an upholstered sofa or loveseat, and a chair.

In addition to the spacious rooms, each floor has designated common rooms for studying and socializing. On the bottom floor of Palmetto House is Sparty’s Den, which includes a TV lounge and a game room with billiards, ping pong, foosball, and air hockey, plus three flat screen televisions and a combination movie theater/classroom. Residents of the Palmetto and Magnolia Houses also have access to a laundry facility in each building, with free use of washers and dryers, where they can also utilize Laundry View, which allows them to check the status of laundry from their computer, as well as Laundry Text, which sends a message straight to their phone when laundry is complete. To assist residents with academic needs, in-house tutoring is available several nights a week, special academic skills workshops are offered, and a 20-unit computer lab is located in Palmetto House.

All standard amenities are provided, including basic electricity, local phone service, cable television in each room, access to the University’s high-speed Internet service, water service, garbage collection, free laundry facilities on each floor, digital security cameras inside and outside each building, 24/7 staff coverage in each building, emergency phones, and controlled-access security gates for the well-illuminated parking lots. An electronic key card system is used to provide controlled access to each building’s lobby, floors, and suites. In addition, the entire complex is outfitted with a sprinkler system. Handicap-accessible units are also available.

**The Tree Houses: Palmetto House and Magnolia House**
In the fall, the semester begins with a variety of activities like the Stadium Party, Rock the Block Party, and the Premier Fair. It's a great way to get to know your fellow classmates, plus you'll get to meet the fall Spartan sports teams and enjoy free food, giveaways and great entertainment!
Shared ground

Full-time housing professionals live on-site at each housing facility and are easily accessible to students. In addition, each unit has live-in resident advisors, usually upperclassmen, to assist residents with all facets of “college living.” Around-the-clock security is provided by 10 full-time police officers on the University Police force. All of the officers are graduates of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and commissioned as state constables. Shared recreational facilities include a game room, a swimming pool, a sand volleyball court, and a basketball court. Plus, all housing facilities are located within easy walking distance to the Wellness Center, located inside the Heath Education Complex.

All campus housing is near the Campus Life Center, home to the all-important Dining Hall! The USC Upstate Dining Hall serves a little of everything for everyone—whether you are a vegetarian or a pizza addict. And, the food really is good! (We promise. You can check it out on your campus visit.) All students living in campus housing must purchase the Carte Blanche meal plan.

Carte blanche

This is the backstage pass of meal options! It gives you the Dining Hall advantage of unlimited access plus five equivalency meals at campus retail locations. For more information and prices, visit the Dining Services website, www.uscupstatedining.com.

Meal prices and plans for Commuting Students are available on our Web page. *Options are subject to change.

Housing floor plans

**Palmetto House & Magnolia House**

All housing has controlled access through a main lobby. Students may choose between single and double occupancy rooms. Every effort will be made to assign students with first choice of occupancy. Rates are per student, per semester.

**Single Occupancy**

*Fall/Spring rate: $2,600*

*Options are subject to change.

**Double Occupancy**

*Fall/Spring rate: $2,150*

*Options are subject to change.

Students have many options when it comes to dining choices. In addition to the Dining Hall, students can satisfy their hunger at Pete’s Arena Pizza, SubConnection, Jazzman’s Café & Bakery, PowerBlendz, or Sandella’s Flatbread Café.
Experience Inspiration

One of the main advantages to living on campus is proximity to all activities—academic, social, and athletic—that happen on the USC Upstate campus. The Campus Activity Board (CAB) brings a variety of performances and workshops to campus. We’ve hosted comedians, rock bands, jazz musicians, magicians, even a hypnotist! Clubs and organizations also abound. You can join a greek organization and help plan Rush Week or work late into the night putting the next issue of The Carolinian to bed. You might take a yoga class or check out a play in the Performing Arts Center. The choices are endless.

Athletics
Athletics are also a big part of on-campus college life. Campus housing is a quick walk from the Louis P. Howell Athletic Complex, the hub of the athletic program at USC Upstate. The University fields 17 athletic teams—known as the Spartans — and compete in the NCAA Division I Atlantic Sun Conference. Intramural, extramural, and club sports are also a fun way to work out on campus.

Exclusive activities
Some activities are offered exclusively to housing residents. There are midnight breakfast study breaks, block parties, cookouts and gaming tournaments, pizza parties, ice cream socials, community service projects, movie nights, and much more. If you want something to do without leaving your new “home,” you can find it!

Tours
Tours of the housing complexes are available on request. You can meet the Residential Life staff and tour the public areas and individual rooms.
On-campus living is popular, and space is limited. If you are interested in this option, you should fill out your application as early as possible. Applications are available from the Office of Housing and Residential Life and the Office of Admissions. Housing applications require a $100 advance room payment and a $35 non-refundable application fee that should be submitted to the Office of Housing and Residential Life. Your space cannot be confirmed until you are admitted to the University.

Due to limited spaces, USC Upstate cannot guarantee rooms. You will receive a letter from Residential Life notifying you of your status and how to complete the online roommate matching application. Roommate assignments are made based on information provided on these applications, so be sure it’s “the whole truth and nothing but.” Once all the information is gathered, and space is deemed available, a room will be reserved for you.

For additional information regarding student housing, contact the Office of Housing and Residential Life at 864-503-5422, or send us an e-mail at hrl@uscupstate.edu.
“Being a resident assistant is not only about enforcing rules. It’s also about creating a community atmosphere that makes the residents feel like they belong here. As an RA, I like the role of being the “go-to guy” for my residents — the person they feel can help them in any situation. As an RA, I’ve had the chance to meet many new people, some that I otherwise would have never had the opportunity to meet, and be that “big brother figure” for them. I’ve become a very dynamic person, and I know my experience as an RA has made me able to take on the obstacles of any given situation. I know that in my time as an RA, I have become more open to different views and ideas than I ever would have imagined before this experience.”

Matthew Guempel
Political Science/ York, South Carolina