

MPS 2010 Frequently Asked Questions

Where are students housed?

This year, Seminar students will be housed in a dormitory in the Southwest Residential Area of campus. The Southwest dorms consist mostly of double rooms and a few triple rooms.

Placement of students in rooms is based upon age and gender. No student will be assigned a room to him/herself.

There are NO co-ed rooms. Females are housed on one floor and males are housed on the remaining floors. Males are NOT permitted in females' rooms and vice versa.

Are the Dorms supervised?

Generally, there are 20 staff members who live in the dorms with the Seminar students. This includes both Professional and UMass Percussion Student ("TA") Volunteer Staff.

The staff rooms are placed strategically on all floors of the dorm. Bed checks are done every night to ensure that all Seminar students are accounted for.

What is building security like?

The dormitory is locked 24 hours a day. No other camps at UMass are housed in or have access to the dorm. Seminar students will receive a special "swipe card" that serves as their admittance pass to the dormitory.

Please note: The "swipe card" also serves as each student's meal ticket to the Dining Commons.

Where are meals provided?

All meals are provided for the Seminar students at the Berkshire Dining Commons.

The cost of meals is included in the camp tuition for Resident students. Commuters have the option of bringing their meals to campus or they can purchase individual meals at the dining commons.

We recommend bringing some additional money for snacks and drinks from the vending machines (small bills, as there is nowhere to make change).

Is equipment provided or should I bring my own?

Snares, tenors, basses, and cymbals should make every effort to bring their own instruments and harnesses. If this is logistically impossible, equipment can be provided by contacting our Business/Operations Director at 413-549-8066.

Keyboard players should bring portable instruments if available, otherwise instruments will be provided at the seminar.

Students enrolled in the Drum Set Program should bring their own sticks, hi-hat, hi-hat stand, ride cymbals and stand, and drum seat.

ALL STUDENTS should bring their own sticks, mallets, and a practice pad!

What is a typical schedule for daily activities?**Morning Session**

- Physical warm up & stretching
- Marching basics (battery only)
- Playing warm up
- Large ensemble

Afternoon Session

- Small group
- Music reading fundamentals
- Section Leader “leadership sessions”

Evening Session

- Music review with full ensemble (battery, pit, and drumset)

Questions regarding Camp procedures, health and safety, documents and registration, or other student-related business should be directed to our Business Coordinator at mps@percussion.org