

# Faculty-in-Residence (FiR) Position Description



## Program Overview

The Residential Commons (RC) provides an integrated academic and residential experience that incorporates a Faculty-in-Residence (FiR) and a Residential Community Director (RCD) who, together, shape the overall experience of each commons. Each Residential Commons has unique traditions as well as social and educational activities that build community, foster long-term bonds among residents, and strengthen student affiliation with the commons and SMU. This model supports a strong residential community with an emphasis on academic and social balance to enhance personal exploration and growth of students. The Residential Commons is a collaboration between the Office of the Provost, Division of Student Affairs (DSA), and Residence Life & Student Housing (RLSH).

Research shows student interaction with faculty outside of the classroom produces positive outcomes, such as cognitive and personal development, student satisfaction, and improved retention. The FiR program is a cornerstone of the residential experience that creates opportunities for students to interact with faculty outside of the classroom and emphasizes a culture of mentorship, intellectual discourse, and community that is cultivated in all aspects of the collegiate experience.

**Reports day-to-day to:** Director of Academic Initiatives, Residence Life & Student Housing

## Qualifications & Eligibility

Full-time Instructional Faculty Status or equivalent as determined by the Provost. For staff, a 2-2 teaching load (12 credit hours total) as part of normal duties (no extra compensation) is the minimal teaching load

Approval from Department Chair

Approval from Dean or Equivalent

Prior experience engaging students outside of the classroom



