

**New Member Education Plan (2017)**

**Zeta - Upsilon Zeta Chapter**

**Introduction to our values**

Welcome to Lambda Chi Alpha! You are about to embark on a journey of personal growth and accomplishment. Over the next few weeks you will learn everything about Lambda Chi Alpha from our history, to how we are organized, and how we function as a whole. We will work towards developing leadership skills and developing a TRUE Brotherhood. The Associate Member Education Program is designed to provide you with a foundation of conceptual understandings and practical skills that will enable you to become a positive, contributing Brother of Lambda Chi Alpha. We offer knowledge, skills, support, and opportunities. It is your choice to make what you will of this experience. The most important regime within Lambda Chi Alpha is the learning model throughout which we teach. The learning model is broken down into four main parts: Experience, Discuss, Reflect, and Share. Throughout your education, all four of these parts should be present during each education session. While experiencing the value in everyday life through an example, I hope that you are then able to discuss the meaning with our fraternity educator and your big, and then later reflect on the meaning of that value and the importance of it during each education debriefing and individually. This is the true learning model of Lambda Chi Alpha and is what separates us from most.

**Fraternity Model:**

**The Vision:** Create an organization of **True Brothers** that are **Empowered** to achieve **High Standards.**

**True Brother:** Having the desire and ability to devote themselves to the organization and their constant effort to do so elevates themselves, their brothers and Lambda Chi as a whole.

**Empowerment:** Being able to be confident in yourself and encouraged by your circumstances such that you feel motivated and at liberty to devote yourself to a purpose that will benefit Lambda Chi.

**High Standards:** Making sure all members of the fraternity understand what we do, why we do it, and how. The reason for that is so that we can create a unique and respectful culture along with an unforgettable experience for every one of our brothers and people/organizations that associate themselves with Lambda Chi.

**National Anti-Hazing statement**

In the 1970s, Lambda Chi Alpha was the first international fraternity to abandon hazing. Lambda Chi Alpha decided to take a stance against the practice and instead implement a respect based new member education. This goes from the top down and is a belief all chapters share. Hazing is not tolerated and never will be.

**Our chapter’s stance on hazing**

Our chapter fully supports and respects our national hazing stance. Furthermore, we seek to be a shining light on Miami University’s campus and help lead greek life to a more respectable, and sustainable future. We believe in our Associate Members and treat them with respect. This is why we call them Associate Members instead of pledges. Our chapter does not tolerate hazing whatsoever and we seek to hold the highest standard of our young men.

We define hazing as any act or any action taken or situation created, intentionally,

whether on or off Fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule. This includes but is not limited to forced consumption, includes paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside the confines of the house; wearing, publicly, apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities, late work sessions which interfere with scholastic activities and any other activities which are not consistent with the United States Constitution, Ohio State law, Miami University policy and fraternal bylaws or policy.

**Attendance and Punctuality**

Lambda Chi Alpha believes that full involvement in the chapter is one of the reasons we have such a great chapter. We take pride in our motivation to attend mandatory events and to be punctual because brothers want to, not because they have to. That being said, being a full time student can be challenging and throughout your four years here your schedule will fluctuate at short notice. For these reasons we practice a very flexible excused absence policy. Whether it is studying for an exam that you are behind on, a doctor's appointment, you are ill, traveling, or any other of the many occurrences in life that would interfere with a fraternity event. Lambda Chi Alpha understands these and allows brothers to utilize excused absence. However excuses must be valid and not taken advantage of, which is why we require proof, in the form of a note, a screenshot of your schedule, or a picture of you traveling. That being said, mistakes do happen and each brother is allowed two unexcused absences per semester.

**Big Brothers**

Throughout your new member education, there may be times where you have questions and are in need of mentorship. Lambda Chi Alpha practices a mentorship program called big brothers. At the beginning of your new member education you receive a big brother who is there to guide you, answer questions, be a resource, and be as helpful and supportive as possible. We take pride in our value of brotherhood and working together.

**Academics**

 It cannot be stressed enough that academics are a core part of the glue that holds a fraternity together. Academics are extremely important in regards to active brothers, it is of equal--maybe even of greater--importance in the education of our associate members (AMs). We are passionate about supplying our members, whether they are brothers or associate members, as many resources as possible. This includes extending brothers to act as tutors who have taken similar classes or enrolled in the same major, meeting once a semester to define their academic goals for the year, and utilizing the University’s resources as often as possible. Moreover, we like to provide academic support to any AM who feels that they need it, and act as a support system so he can succeed at this university while still being actively engaged in our brotherhood--as that is our main goal as fraternity educators/advisors each year.

**Community service and philanthropy**

In Lambda Chi Alpha’s new member education, associate members are taught about Lambda Chi Alpha’s core values one of which is stewardship; basically if a brother has the ability to make a difference it is their duty to do so. The chapter as a whole has really taken this value to heart through an increased dedication to various community service projects and raising money for our philanthropy, Feeding America and more specifically the local Oxford, Ohio food bank: The Oxford Community Choice Pantry. Throughout the semester there will be a total eight community service events held or roughly two per month that the chapter will participate in, including but not limited to; a highway cleanup, volunteering at the Oxford food pantry and helping out the local animal shelter. Besides just the community service projects listed brothers and associate members are encouraged to bring any projects that they would like to work on or that are special to them to the philanthropy chair. This is done for a multitude of reasons but the main reason is that everyone has their own situations that they are going through whether that be a family member with cancer, close friend dying, really anything that bring them down and we as a fraternity have the resources to help them; we can volunteer at the cancer ward, give sober rides to deter drunk driving and much more. As a fraternity we are always going to support our brothers and we are always going to help through any trials in their life because this more than just a simple friends new members are quite literally joining our family.

In addition to the community service projects there will be one large philanthropy project held each semester where the brother of Lambda Chi Alpha pair up with a sorority to raise money, usually for the local Oxford food bank. These events have ranged from dance-a- thons to can-struction with the intent to get other Greek organizations to create and pay for teams in the event so that money can be raised for the cause. In the end of the day your son is joining a brotherhood with some of the best gentlemen on campus but being a Lambda Chi man is more than just simply getting ninety new friends, it is about striving every day to make a difference in this world because not everyone has that opportunity. By having this emphasis on helping our local community and the less fortunate we hope that the new members will learn what a simply act of kindness can do for someone and what this brotherhood is truly about.

**Disciplinary procedures**

The members of Lambda Chi Alpha are held to the highest standard possible. To accomplish this, we utilize an executive committee for all judicial action. This includes, but is not limited to, disciplinary procedure, unexcused absences, failure to pay dues or fines, and importantly, a resource to all brothers if they have a problem and we try to supply them with additional resources. This committee is there to support the rules we follow and to help brothers if they need it.

**Spring Education 2018 Syllabus**

**Curriculum:**

 Our education focuses on seven core values adopted from the values of the United States Army including: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Service and Stewardship, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage.  You will be given a book called the Paedogogus that describes in detail the meaning of these values and relates them to our fraternity.

**Education Sessions:**

There will be seven Kappa(education) Sessions.  A Kappa Session is a learning experience that educates the chapter on one of our core values.  There will be one Kappa Session for each core value:

1. Loyalty
2. Duty
3. Respect
4. Service and Stewardship
5. Honor
6. Integrity
7. Personal Courage

**Debriefings & Lectures:**

Each Kappa Session will have a debriefing session. We ask both brothers and AMs to share their reflections, and then discuss the meaning of the Kappa Session and how it exemplifies the given value. AM’s will be put into groups and told to present a specific core value throughout education.

**Chapter:**

Associate Members are required to go to part of chapter with active brothers. Immediately after chapter ends, you will have your own chapter where the Kappa Committee and will help you fill out any forms/clear up any confusion you have about what was discussed at chapter. This will also serve as a time for you to discuss any issues you all have as an Associate Member Class.

**Education Goals:**

--Teach the AM’s that if there is something they really want, they have to work hard for it and make it a priority, take initiative and hold yourself accountable. Anything is possible!

**Calendar:**

Sunday January 28th:7:30PM - 9:30PM: Associate Member Ceremony and Chapter

The Associate Member Ceremony: The associate member ceremony is an open ceremony to which may be invited parents and families of associate members, local alumni, college or university officials, friends of members, and recruitment prospects.

The ceremony was selected as the primary device for preserving the ritual heritage of the Theta Kappa Nu brotherhood by Lambda Chi Alpha. The ceremony serves as an introduction to the fraternity for the new members. This is a ceremony that we hope the new members will remember for a long time due to the spiritual significance of joining the brothers.

Chapter: Usual chapter activities

Location: Academic classroom

Thursday February 1st:7PM-9 PM: AM Ceremony Debriefing/ Meet the Brothers BBQ

Associate Member Ceremony Debriefing: Explain the significance of the ceremony as it pertains to the values of the Lambda Chi Alpha ritual.

Meet the Brothers BBQ: We will host a BBQ at the chapter house so that the Associate Members may meet some brothers they may have not not had a chance to talk to much yet. This will be a good bonding experience where brothers can eat together and play outside games such as cornhole or basketball

Location: Lambda Chi House

Saturday February 3rd:1PM-4PM: Weekly brothers sporting event

Weekly brothers sporting event: Each saturday the associate members will choose a different sporting event to teach one another and to play a game with the brothers. This will teach respect and sportsmanship. This is also a fun outlet to get to know more members by playing games on the same team as them.

Location: Cook Field or other sporting location and a restaurant

Thursday February 8th: 7PM-9PM: AM Shadow Nominations/ Plan visit to National Headquarters

AM Shadow Nominations: The Associate Members nominate members of their class to shadow members of the executive board to get a better understanding of how our chapter runs. Each officer will have 2-3 members shadowing them and they will attend officer meeting as well as other functions to understand the position.

Plan visit to National Headquarters: The associate members will plan an educational visit to the Lambda Chi Alpha national headquarters if there is interest. At this meeting will explain the significance and see if there is interest in making this trip

Location: Lambda Chi House

Saturday February 10th: 1 PM-5PM: Watch a Sporting Event or movie together

Watch a Sporting Event or movie together**:** We will vote whether we want to watch a sporting game somewhere or watch a movie together. After watching the movie or sporting event we will utilize the situation to explain respect through the lense of the sporting event or movie. This session will be both educational and fun for the associate members while learning the importance of respect to the fraternity.

Location: Cincinnati/movie theatre

Sunday February 11th: 1 PM-5PM:Clean our sponsored highway with a sorority/ Chapter

Clean the Highway with another sorority: This cleaning of the our sponsored highway with fellow brothers and sisters from another sorority will serve as a bonding event and a community service. After the event we will explain the importance of service and stewardship to our associate members and hope that they will see this as a rewarding experience.

Chapter: Usual chapter event

Location: Our sponsored highway stretch/Lambda Chi House

Thursday February 15th: 8PM-9 PM: Big Brother Ceremony

Big Brother Ceremony: The Kappa Committee or education team along with the Big Brother Coordinator will assign big brothers to the associate members. We will introduce them to each other during the ceremony tonight. They will sign a contract of what there relationship should be. The ceremony is in formal attire.

Location: Lambda Chi House

Saturday February 17th 1PM-3 PM: Guest Speaker: Army Veteran talking about War and Honor

Guest Speaker Army Veteran talking about War and Honor: One of our decorated alumni who has served in war for the United States will come in and speak to the associate members about what it is like to serve for your country and the importance of being honorable men. Hopefully following this we will have enough alumni in attendance to have a small meet and greet.

Location: Lambda Chi House

Sunday February 18th: 12PM-2PM AM Shadow meeting with mentors/Chapter

AM Shadow Meetings: Have meetings with the officers who the associate members is suppose to shadow. These meetings should be both educational and fun. Hopefully the officers will give the associate members hands on experience so they can take part in planning and executing events which is an exciting experience for the new members

Location: Lambda Chi House or academic classroom

Thursday February 22nd 7PM-9PM: Team Building: Assembling and building a trophy case.

Assembling and building a trophy case: The associate members and a group of brothers will build a trophy case to display some of our most decorated alumni. We want to be able to display their accomplishments when they walk in the house. This will also be a very good team building exercise for the associate members and older brothers. They will be able to learn how to work together to achieve a goal.

Location: Lambda Chi Alpha House

Saturday February 24th All day: Associate Member Camping Trip

Associate Member Camping Trip: The Associate Members will go to a nearby camping ground to bond with one another. They will be given supplies to live comfortably and then they have the weekend to themselves to bond, talk, reflect and grow closer as a class.

Location: A local camping ground

Sunday February 25th 1PM-4PM: Chapter/ Review of what they learned from camping

Chapter: usual business

Review of camping trip: The associate members will discuss the values they learned from the camping trip

Location: Lambda Chi House

Thursday March 1st: 7PM-10PM: AM Cooking challenge

AM Cooking Challenge: The kappa committee and education team will provide the associate members with cooking supplies and funds and the AM’s will have to go out and buy the foods they want and plan out their budget so they get enough food and supplies for everyone. This will teach them the importance of fulfilling your duty to the rest of the group. If one person messes up the meal they let everyone down.

Location: TBD wherever kitchen space can be found

Saturday March 3rd 1PM-6PM: Brotherly Bonding Session: Field Day

Brotherly Bonding Session Field Day: The associate members and brothers will be split up into team in order to do a combination of activities, sports, team building exercises, and a scavenger hunt. The teams will be mixed between associate members and brothers to encourage more interaction between each other.

 Location: Cook Field and the Lambda Chi House

Sunday March 4th 1PM-3PM: Teach a brother a sport or skill day/ chapter

Teach a brother a sport or skill day: The associate members will pair up with one another and brothers on the education team in order to learn a skill or sport that they don’t know much about. The point of this assignment is to push yourself a little outside your comfort zone to learn about things you have never done before. This will help both the associate members and the brothers grow as people and will teach them personal courage.

Chapter: usual business

Location: Locations will vary depending on the activity

Thursday March 8th 7PM-10PM: New Member and Education Team Comedy Show

New Member and Education Team Comedy Show : The associate members will pair up with one brothers on the education team in order to create funny skits. The point of this assignment is to lighten up the mood and provide a fun bonding experience for everyone involved. This is a very light hearted event.

 Location: Lambda Chi House

Saturday March 10th 1PM-7PM: Associate Member and Education Team Sport Outing

Associate Member and Education Team Sport Outing: The associate members will pair up with one brothers on the education team in order to plan a sport outing for the day in cincinnati. The point of this assignment is to bond with the associate members in sharing common interests. We plan to tailgate the sporting event so that we can discuss the importance of brotherly bonding before the game.

 Location: Cincinnati sports game

Sunday March 11th 1PM-4PM: Alumni Meet and Greet/ Chapter

Alumni Meet and Greet: The associate members will pair up with alumni to hold a yearly presentation about our chapter and will hold a cookout after it. We want to get both our alumni and new members as involved in the chapter as possible.

Chapter: normal chapter activities

Location: Lambda Chi House

Some time will be given off for spring break and to re-charge for the rest of the semester.

Saturday March 31st 1PM-4PM: Survey on Education

Survey on Education: Each new member will be able to discuss what they thought of their new member learning experience and it will be a very safe and open discussion. We look for ways to improve it every year and hope that it will be even better than last years. This will be the end of education.

Location: Lambda Chi House

**\*\*All Locations and times/dates not finalized on here. This will be updated and added to the syllabus once voted on by the AM class\*\***