5 Tips for Finding the Perfect Off-Campus House

1. Start looking early!
2. Look at as many properties as you can and bring all of your roommates!
3. Talk to the property’s previous residents!
4. Get everything in writing; it is ok for you to add terms to the lease!
5. Ask potential landlord questions!

- How do I report a facility problem?
- What is the landlord's normal response time for repairs?
- What percentage of residents have gotten their security deposits back in the past?
- What type of cleaning will be done to the house before I move-in?
- Under what circumstances would the landlord come into the house without notice?
- What happens if there’s vandalism to the property?
- Am I allowed to sublet?
- What happens if I get locked out?
- Does the property come with off-street parking?
- What happens if I have a problem with an immediate neighbor?
- Is the property considered to be in a flooded area?
- Is there a neighborhood association?
- What is the landlord's policy with pets? What kind of pets are allowed? Dogs, snakes, fish?
- Is there an existing alarm system?
- Can I install an alarm system?
- If I make improvements/repairs, can I take that off my rent?
- Am I allowed to paint?
- Who takes care of the lawn?