



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

ADVISOR 101

Ball State University
Office of Greek Life



Office of Greek Life

- The Office of Greek Life (OGL) exists to support Ball State University's 30 fraternities and sororities within the Interfraternity Council (IFC), the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), and the Panhellenic Association (PHA).
- OGL Mission Statement: *The Ball State University fraternity and sorority community provides a premier student development experience dedicated to a lifetime of excellence.*
- OGL provides advisement to chapter and community leaders, leadership development programming, and oversees the Greek Peer Advocates program.
- OGL requires that all chapters participate in the Accreditation Program (see more for [IFC](#), [NPHC](#), and [PHA](#) chapters).



Role of Faculty Advisors

- Meet with the chapter president and scholarship chair on a regular basis (every other week/monthly)
- Be familiar with OGL policies
- Help the chapter develop a scholarship plan
 - A scholarship plan is a plan of action for members at or below a certain GPA
- Attend chapter events or functions when appropriate
- Assist members with course selection
- Share effective study habits
- Be knowledgeable of Ball State University resources
- Be a mentor for chapter members interested in your field of study

Role of Chapter Advisors

- Meet with the chapter president (or the officer you advise) on a regular basis (every other week/monthly)
- Attend chapter meetings on a regular basis
- Assist the chapter in completing their goals through OGL's accreditation program
- Guide chapter leadership through conflict management, intervening when necessary
- Be familiar with OGL policies and your inter/national organization's policies
- Report any violations to OGL and to your inter/national organization
- Other additional responsibilities outlined by your inter/national organization

Greek Life History at BSU

Greek life has been a part of Ball State for nearly its entire existence.

Within a year of the founding of the university in 1918, as the Indiana State Normal School-Eastern Division, the first Greek organization began: the Navajo social club, which would later become Lambda Chi Alpha in 1951.

Also in 1919, the Girls Club was started, which followed the tradition of the organization at Indiana State Normal School in Terre Haute. All women were eligible to be a member and local sororities started in sections of the club, beginning with Alpha sorority in 1920, which later became Alpha Chi Omega.

Ball State developed a large community of national organizations in the mid-1950s, when many of the local organizations became affiliated with national fraternities and sororities. Throughout the community's history, more than 45 chapters of national and international Greek organizations have called Ball State University home.

Greek Life History at BSU, continued

Other important milestones for our community include:

- 1946 – Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. was established as the first African-American sorority at Ball State University.
- 1953 – Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. was founded as the first African-American fraternity.
- 1957 – Woodworth Complex opened and provided eight sorority suites, which housed Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Omicron Pi, Chi Omega, Delta Zeta, and Pi Beta Phi.
- 1994 – Gamma Phi Omega International Sorority, Inc. became the first Latina sorority at Ball State University when the local chapter was established.
- 2008 – Four sororities relocated to university-owned homes on Riverside Avenue for the first time.
- 2008 – Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity, Inc. became the first Latino fraternity.

What is Hazing?

Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; 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 or inside of the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the University or applicable Indiana law.

-from the [Ball State Greek Life Risk Management Policy](#)

It is the responsibility of an advisor to report an instances of hazing to the Office of Greek Life.

Do's and Don't's

Do

- Establish a relationship with the chapter
- Use open-ended questions
- Follow-up with students
- Know when to refer students to resources
- Recognize and acknowledge success

Don't

- Engage in inappropriate activities
- Give away all the answers
- Do the work for students
- Expect students to know everything
- Be overly critical



Tips for Advisors

- Review expectations early in the advising relationship.
- Review all meeting minutes.
- Determine what type of communication works best when interacting with chapter members (email, phone calls, in-person meetings, etc.).
- Work with other chapter advisors to fully support the chapter and provide a holistic approach to issues.
- Let members define and live their own fraternity or sorority experience.
- Reach out to OGL with any questions at (765) 285-4733 or greeks@bsu.edu



Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to be a member of the organization I'm advising?

No! Faculty advisors don't even need to be a member of a fraternity or sorority. Typically, chapter advisors are alumni/alumnae of the organization.

How can I access the individual grades of the chapter I advise?

Chapter presidents and advisors have access to a Box account with individual grade information.

Where can I find detailed information on the Greek community?

The Semester reports can be found on the OGL website under [Documents, Forms, and Resources](#).

Resources for Advisors

- [OGL Documents, Forms, and Resources](#)
 - [Ball State Greek Life Risk Management Policy](#)
 - [FIPG Risk Management Policy \(Brief\)](#)
- Ball State Greek Life on [BennyLink](#)
- [The Association of Fraternity and Sorority Advisors \(AFA\)](#)
 - [Core Competencies Manual](#)
 - [Essentials E-Publication](#)
- [Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education \(CAS\)](#)
- [Update Your Contact Information with OGL](#)





**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**