

Standards of Excellence

The Spelman Way: Nothing Less Than the Best

Civility: interacting with integrity in a manner that is both respectful and courteous.

Commitment: Executing my responsibilities with unwavering dedication to excellence and sustainability.

Consistency: Always delivering quality outcomes in a reliable, timely, and positive manner.

Understanding the Spelman Sisterhood

Spelman College provides long-standing and life-changing connections to a diverse and dynamic sisterhood. Spelman Sisterhood represents a community of women who share in the educational and social experiences of Spelman College. It represents a feeling of kinship and the closeness you feel with another Spelmanite. It's a warm smile on a cold and rainy day, a friendly hug, or a cheerful hello. It's counting on others and being counted on. It's expressing care, concern, and respect for others, who then do likewise in return.

The Spelman Sisterhood is all that a good and lasting friendship is, only better. It is a treasured and sacred experience of knowing that there will always be someone there to support you. The Spelman Sisterhood represents our shared dreams and accountability to each other to achieve our personal, academic, social, and career goals. While chance or circumstances have made us friends and acquaintances, making the choice to be a Spelmanite has made us sisters.

What It Takes to Be a Spelman Sister

Accountability is the acknowledgment and assumption of responsibility for your actions, decisions, and compliance with policies. It also means being answerable for resulting consequences.

Civility is demonstrating courtesy and politeness in action and/or oral and written expression with members of the Spelman community.

Community—As a member of Spelman College, you have voluntarily entered into an institution with a strong intellectual and cultural heritage. Each Spelmanite is a member of an elite community of learners who are expected to exhibit thoughtful academic study and discourse, and ethical and socially responsible behaviors on and off campus.

Diversity requires that each Spelmanite know how to relate to those qualities and conditions that are different from her own and outside the groups to which she belongs. These include but are not limited to age, ethnicity, class, gender, physical abilities/qualities, race, sexual orientation, as well as religious status, gender expression, educational background, geographical location, income, marital status, parental status, and work experiences. These categories of difference are not always fixed: they can be fluid. The overall goal of diversity is that each Spelmanite learn to respect the individual rights of her sister, and recognize that no one individual or culture is intrinsically superior to another.

Integrity means demonstrating honesty, respect for truth, and congruence with College standards and behavior expectations in all exchanges and interactions with your Spelman Sisters.

Friendship means sharing a strong bond of mutual understanding, respect, and love that serves as the foundation for building a trusting relationship between two or more Spelman sisters.

Mentoring –Mentoring is a developmental partnership through which a Spelman sister shares her knowledge, skills, information, and perspective to foster the personal and professional growth of another Spelman sister. We all have a need for insight that is outside of our normal life and educational experience. The power of mentoring is that it creates a one-of-a-kind opportunity for collaboration, goal achievement and problem-solving between Spelman sisters.

Politeness is showing good manners and behaviors and engaging in respectful dialogues with your Spelman Sister, and learning how to disagree in a respectful manner.

Respect means giving favorable regard to the worth, excellence, or personal quality or ability of a Spelman sister. When Spelman Sisters disagree, they do so in a manner that does not humiliate or demean another Spelman Sister in person, in a group or in online communities.

Responsibility means taking ownership of your individual choices and any subsequent consequences.

Unity means that Spelman Sisters are unique individuals who combine together to create the Spelman College community.