Listed below are important questions to ask yourself when searching for an apartment.

How much you can spend for rent and utilities?
How far you want to live from campus?
When do you need to move in?
Do you need furnishings (i.e. bedding, furniture)?
Do you want to live alone or with others?
Do you have pets or are you allergic to any pets?
Do you require any additional features (i.e. washer/dryer, dishwasher, microwave, handicap accessibility)?
How close do you want to be to grocery stores, Laundromats, etc.?
What is the character of the surrounding neighborhood?
Is parking provided?
What type of heating/air conditioning does the dwelling have?

Once you’ve found the right place...
There are a few more important questions to consider before signing the lease. Talk to the landlord and take time to ask questions like:

Who pays for trash removal?
Who repairs and pay for wear and tear damage?
What kinds of decorating are allowed in the dwelling?
Who handles lawn care/snow removal?
When are rent payments expected? Monthly/weekly/semester/yearly
Is smoking permitted on the premises?
What is the landlord’s policy on overnight guests?
Are there any special restrictions/house rules?

Finding The Right Apartment

Who pays the utility bills?
Are there any expectations about housekeeping?
Does the landlord expect to enter the apartment without advance notice?
Are there rules governing the conduct of tenants?
Is parking provided? If there is a fee, what is it?

How long is the lease for?
What are the policies on deposits and refunds?
What does the security deposit cover?
Are pets allowed?