

Smart-TV use and Viewing Options:

The common rooms of over 25 residence halls are equipped with College provided large screen internet connected smart-TVs. Each has the ability to view free internet program streams or connect to your service provider using your personal viewing account. Programming channels delivered by satellite are available in some campus viewing areas (e.g. College Union Building). Student owned streaming devices and smart television flat screens are welcome in the residence halls, but must be connected to the wired network. No wirelessly connected TVs are permitted. Students must register these devices and they must be secure and compatible with the campus network. Students can also watch or display content from their laptop by connecting it to a College or personally owned smart-TV using an HDMI cable.

What video or TV streaming devices can students use?

Students can bring and use any streaming device that can be plugged into the campus wired system. The device must be compatible with the campus network and use current security features. Students must register the device using the webpage, [Device Registration](#).

Compatible devices include:

- Apple TV
- Fire TV Box (not the Fire TV Stick)
- Roku Ultra
- Smart TVs equipped with an Ethernet port (subject to security review and approval by Information Technology)

Can I bring my Chromecast?

No, a Chromecast will not work on the College network – even though the Chromecast Ultra model is capable of an Ethernet connection. This is because the internet system at Gettysburg College isolates clients on the network – meaning that no device knows that any other devices are on the network. Because “casting” requires origination from your computer or smartphone, this client isolation makes it impossible to use a Chromecast on the College network.

What if my residence hall does not have a common room?

Programming channels delivered by satellite are available in some campus viewing areas (e.g. College Union Building). Common areas can be shared by all. Students can also watch video streamed to their laptops over wired internet connection in their room.

Will IT provide me with an HDMI cable or adapter?

Yes, IT will provide—free of charge—an HDMI cable and/or adapter to display video from a laptop to a flat screen TV.

How am I going to watch XYZ show without cable service?

- **Over the Air:** A good old fashioned digital antenna is always an option. Any antenna that you use will need to be contained to your room – no outdoor antennas are permitted at Gettysburg College. IT has tested a couple Amazon Basics model antennas that are available at a reasonable price. The channels you can receive vary widely depending on the type of building and location of your room in that building. Because most residence hall buildings are made of brick and we are on the fringe of the signal reception range, it can be difficult to get a signal. In our tests, it required a direct line of sight out the window using [a 50 mile range amplified Amazon Basics antenna](#) to receive a signal. Some stations you may be able to receive in this area include:
 - WGAL – NBC – Channel 8.1
 - WITF – PBS – Channel 33.1
 - WHP – CBS – Channel 21.1
 - WMPB – PBS – Channel 67.1
 - WPMT – FOX – Channel 43.1
 - WHTM – ABS – Channel 27.1
- **Stream it Live:** There are several legal streaming services that allow you to watch live television over the internet. DirectTV NOW offers several packages starting at as little as \$35/month for 60+ channels. Other streaming services include PlayStation Vue, Hulu Live TV, and Sling TV. You may also be eligible to watch live TV through your home cable TV or satellite provider. Ask them if they offer TV Everywhere to their customers.
- **Watch it On Demand:** Services like Netflix and Hulu offer access to episodes after they air, sometimes as early as the next day. Many of the TV network websites also allow free next day access to new episodes. Some networks allow access to more episodes if you log in with a TV or internet provider.

A note on legality: you may come across links on the internet to shady websites offering live streams of broadcast and cable TV for free. These sites are illegal, and using them may put you at risk of criminal prosecution and/or civil litigation if you are caught. Under current copyright law, criminal cases of copyright violation carry a penalty of up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. Civil penalties for copyright infringement include a minimum fine of \$750

for each work. Please note that while criminal prosecutions for illegal downloading are rare, civil litigation is quite common. Additionally, these websites violate the Gettysburg College Network Use Policy, and use of these websites could result in college sanctions.

Which streaming service should I get?

That depends on what shows you watch and how you want to watch them. Untangle.tv allows you to input the shows you watch, how you like to watch them, and streaming services you have or are considering so that you can see which services provide the best coverage for your unique television preferences.

Can I share my Netflix/HBO GO/Hulu/etc. password with my friends?

You wouldn't steal a car, you wouldn't steal a handbag, and you wouldn't steal a television, so why would you steal a movie or TV show? Using someone else's account information to log in and watch television or movies is stealing. While you aren't walking out of a store with Blu-rays hidden under your jacket, you are accessing content you didn't pay for and aren't licensed to access.

Sharing streaming account passwords is illegal because only the account holder is licensed to access the content. Many people say that sharing accounts is like letting someone borrow a movie and then having them give it back. The difference is that once you share that information, you both have access simultaneously to the product, unlike with physical media where you lose access to it after you give it to someone else.