Questions for a potential landlord:

Regarding your Lease:

***Get these questions answered BEFORE you consider signing a lease.***

1. When is the earliest I can move in?

2. Do you have a written lease? If not, can we use a standard lease?

3. How much is the security deposit? Is it refundable? What conditions must be met for me to receive a refund?

4. When is rent due?

5. What are my obligations if I have to break the lease?

6. What happens to the property during breaks/vacations?

7. Do you require references?

8. Are the landlord/tenant responsibilities clearly outlined?

9. If I am under 21, do I need a parent or legal guardian to co-sign the lease?

Regarding Living Arrangements:

1. Are there rooms in the basement?

2. May I have a pet?

3. May I put up posters, hang pictures, etc.?

4. For which utilities am I responsible?

5. How do you feel about... (alcohol, smoking, etc.)?

6. What are your rules regarding social gatherings/parties?

7. Where may I park my car?
Regarding the Property and Neighborhood:

1. What is the surrounding neighborhood like?

2. Do other students live in the area?

3. What are my responsibilities for mowing grass/shoveling snow/trimming hedges?

4. Who has keys to the property? How many keys are in circulation?

5. Who do I call if there is a plumbing or electrical issue? At what hours is it acceptable to call? How long will I have to wait for someone to respond to the call?

Regarding Background/History:

1. What problems have you had with previous tenants?

2. What are the average utility bills?

3. Are there any code-related issues with the property? (i.e., how many un-related people are allowed to live in the house at one time?)