

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Approved by Council: 08 October 2010(amended 17.01.2017)



PREAMBLE

In order to develop and maintain harmonious relationship not only among all members of the University community but also between the University and the public and to further encourage mutual respect, responsibility and the promotion of the University values in particular and national values in general, students of the University of Limpopo are required and expected to conform to a Code of Conduct to maintain and enhance; the good name of the University, order, discipline, safety and security at the University, and the effective and efficient advancement of all activities of the University;

Students hereby undertake to govern their conduct at all times in such a way that is consistent with the pursuit of the University's mission and vision;

Furthermore, students agree that any student conduct which is inconsistent with this Code or which negatively impacts on the above mentioned relationship shall constitute misconduct, and may be subjected to disciplinary measures in accordance with the University of Limpopo Student Disciplinary Procedure.

1. THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Student Code of Conduct shall include the following specific student responsibilities:

1.1 The recognition that the intellectual and educational climate of the University shall be maintained as its University's highest priority mandate.

1.2 The protection of the opportunity for each student to attain his/her educational objective without whatever form of disruption.

1.3 The protection of the physical and mental health, safety and welfare of each member of the University and the general community at large.

1.4 The protection of the property rights of all members of the University and the general community.

1.5 The respect for the human rights of members of both the University and the general community.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF JURISDICTION

2.1 Each Student shall be bound by the Student Code of Conduct and the General Rules and Regulations upon admission to or attendance at the University. It is the responsibility of each student to know and comply with the University Student Code of Conduct and the General Rules and Regulations of the University.

2.2 Any violation of the Students Code of Conduct or the General Rules and Regulations shall be subjected to appropriate disciplinary procedures.

2.3 A decision to invoke internal disciplinary proceedings shall not preclude or delay the prosecution of the student concerned in criminal and/or civil proceedings.

2.4 Each student shall be bound by all laws applicable or relevant to properties under the control of the University or which the University is associated with or has interests in.

2.5 Each student shall be bound by all other General Rules approved by Council and Faculty Rules approved by Senate for the good governance of the University.

2.6 Each student shall comply with whatever action brought against him/her by the relevant University authority.

3. ACTS OF GENERAL MISCONDUCT

3.1 Misconduct, in terms of this Code, shall mean the breach or violation of any University Student Code of Conduct and the General Rules or Regulations of the University which shall among others include:

3.1.1 improper, disorderly or indecent behaviour on any premises of the University or any other place which is associated with the University or the University has interests in;

3.1.2 any violation of the privacy of another student including but not limited to the unauthorized scrutiny or examination of his or her possessions;

3.1.3 being in possession of another person's property without his or her authority;

3.1.4 interfering with or hindering any business and/or activities of the University;

3.1.4 threatening or attempting to threaten the rights of another student to attend lectures, practicals, research, reading centres or any other facility which is associated with teaching, learning, and/or research;

3.1.5 any failure to report the misconduct of another student of which he or she is aware of or which he or she has witnessed;

3.1.6 convening or participating in any unauthorized demonstrations on the University premises or any such property whereby the University has interests;

3.1.7 failure or neglect to carry the University student card or other University identification document (i.e. valid proof of registration plus an Identity Book) or refusal to furnish such when requested to do so by a competent University authority;

3.1.8 allowing another student or any other person to use one's student card or to use another student's card to gain access to any room and/ or premises of the University or to perform or obtain any service that cannot be performed or obtained without such a card.

3.1.9 participating in the performance of, or attempting to perform, or incite, instigate, command, advocate, advise or encourage the performance by any other person of any of the following acts or conduct within the precincts of the University:

a) Racist or sexist behaviour;

b) Assaults on or threats to any person;

c) Disruption of classes, meetings or any other activity of the University, unless such conduct is reasonably directed toward the exercise of the right to assemble, to demonstrate, to picket and to present petitions, peacefully and unarmed;

d) Taking weapons or dangerous objects into meetings.

4. HARASSMENT, PHYSICAL ABUSE AND DEMEANING CONDUCT

4.1 Any form of harassment or intimidation by way of written or verbal acts or use of technology causing violation to the dignity of any student, employee or visitor of the University or causing any mental prejudice to, or humiliation of such persons, on any premises of the University or premises controlled by the University or on any other place where such conduct brings the University into disrepute;

4.2 Authorizing or permitting the commission of any act that would result in willful or deliberate or reckless infliction of harm to any person, including but not limited to:

4.2.1 physical assault or abuse upon any person;

4.2.2 an attempt or threats to inflict such physical assault or abuse upon any person;

4.2.3 the use of force in any form of physical abuse such as rape, sexual assaults, sexual offences upon any person which includes acts or threats, unlawful assault or attempt to assault any person in a manner designed or intended to achieve sexual intercourse or any other form of sexual gratification of what ever nature or degree with the person assaulted;

4.2.4 any other conduct that threatens, limits or violates the physical integrity of others including indecently assaulting or touching another person;

4.2.5 subjecting any student, employee or visitor of the University to any form of initiation;

4.2.6 holding any student, employee or visitor of the University hostage;

4.2.7 any other act that is degrading or may reasonably be interpreted as degrading, such as the holding of a strip show, the open display of photographs, films or videos or any other material that is degrading of a person or a group or a sector of people.

5. PUBLICATIONS, INFORMATION AND STATEMENTS

5.1 Failure to indicate whether any statement made to the public or the University community, is made officially on behalf of a named body such as the Student Representative Council or Student political Organization, Church group, Cultural group any other group or in the student's private capacity.

5.2 Any conduct detrimental to the maintenance of law and order, discipline and proper performance of the work of the University or any section thereof, including but not limited to:

5.2.1 Affixing, distributing or displaying on or in, or outside University premises, publications, including but not limited to posters, placards, notices, banners, circulars or any other form of publication, of a defamatory or otherwise unlawful nature towards members of the University community or any other person;

5.2.2 Knowingly providing forged or erroneous University admission documents, addresses and names required by the University from time to time or statutory documents to the University or intentionally providing false information or forged documents such as but limited to the statement of results, academic records, examination results, diploma/degree certificate or any other document purporting it to be an official document issued by an academic or other institution to anyone outside the University about the University;

5.2.3 Making a false statement or providing incorrect information for whatsoever reason to any person in the position of authority;

6. INTERFERENCE WITH THE BUSINESS OF THE UNIVERSITY

6.1 Interference with, or attempting to interfere with access to, or exit from the University, or any University controlled premises or any other way which infringes on the freedom of movement of students, employee, visitor to the University or members of the public on the said premises.

6.2 Obstructing or disrupting teaching, research, learning, administration or any other University activity.

6.3 Willful obstruction and/ or failure to comply with the legitimate oral or written directive of a competent University authority in the performance of his/ her duty.

7. UNIVERSITY ASSETS

7.1 Any damage either deliberately or negligently, unauthorized taking or alienating University property or any other property under the control of the University or the

property of any other person associated with the University, including that of another student, employee or visitor to the University or any attempt or threats to do so or the use or handing of such property in a manner that is, or may be, prejudicial to the University, students, employee or visitor to the University.

7.2 permitting, assisting or facilitating the entry onto University property or premises under the control of the University of any person who is not authorized to be on such University property or premises.

7.3 Defacing the University property by pasting notices and pamphlets at places not designated for such purposes.

8. CONDUCTING BUSINESS

8.1 Collecting money for whatever reason or offering goods for sale or advertising goods on or in University premises or any other property which is under the control of the University, without prior written permission by the relevant University authority.

8.2 Fundraising on behalf of the University or any of its constituent structures without prior written permission by the relevant University authority.

Fundraising on behalf of other organization(s) without prior permission.

8.3 Conducting any act of prostitution or pimping on or in University premises or any other property under the control of the University.

8.4 Conducting any act of gambling which is regarded as criminal offence under Criminal Law.

8.5 Substance abuse and Use and/or distribution or sale of Narcotics and drugs.

9. RESIDENCES

9.1 Failure or negligence to adhere to any rules and regulations of the University's residence including but not limited to:

9.1.1 An unauthorized occupation or squatting on or in the University residence, or any other premises of the University or any other property under the control of the University;

9.1.2 permitting and/ or assisting or attempting to permit and/ or assisting another person to squat on or in the University residence or any other premises under the control of the University;

9.1.3 failure to adhere to the safety procedures and standards, including but not limited to the authorized use of electrical, plumbing and sewerage services;

9.1.4 failure to adhere to basic hygiene and sanitary standards;

9.1.5 cooking in rooms not designated as kitchens;

- 9.1.6 removal or tempering with windows panes or screens;
- 9.1.7 allowing the unruly and unlawful behavior by guests of a specified student;
- 9.1.8 damage or misuse of furniture or any other facilities in the residences;
- 9.1.9 unauthorized removal of furniture and fittings found in University residences;
- 9.1.10 unauthorized presence of a student in the residences after specified visiting hours;
- 9.1.11 failure to obey any lawful or reasonable order of any person in authority in a residence;
- 9.1.12 any form of violation directed at any other reasonably publicized residence policy;

10. ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

10.1 Any non-compliance with the academic rules, including but not limited to:

10.1.1 helping or attempting to help another student during a test or examination or obtaining or attempting to help or to obtain help from another student during a test or examination in whatever manner;

10.1.2 submission by any student of a test or examination script or written assignment of another student in his or her own name;

10.1.3 intentionally removing pages from an examination answer book or retaining or removing an answer book from the examination venue, including question papers as determined by the University that may not be retained and/ or must be returned to the invigilator;

10.1.4 intentionally writing notes on his or her body or clothes that will assist him or her in the examination or test;

10.1.5 intentionally writing notes on her or his body or clothes that will assist him or her during the process of continuous assessment;

10.1.6 possession of, or using or trying to use notes that have relevance, or any other kind of resource during any test or examination, except where the supervisor or lecture concerned has consented explicitly to such possession, or refusal to hand over such notes to the invigilator, or destroying or trying to destroy such notes in any way, or making notes during a test or examination on any object including ruler, pocket calculator or cell phone.

11. PLAGIARISM

11.1 A Student must not submit the work of any other person in any examination or in respect of the completion and/or submission of any form of academic assessment without the full and proper attribution and acknowledgement of the sources/s.

12. OPERATIVE DATE OF THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

This Student Code of Conduct shall come into operation immediately after ratification by the University Council, unless the University Council expressly determine the date upon which the document shall come into operation.