



Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution

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A Message from the Director

Dear Faculty and Staff Members:

Florida International University established the Code of Student Standards as the foundation of our community values. These standards, in conjunction with the Student Code of Conduct, are institutional expectations for members of our community. As the University prepares students for their future in a global society, the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution assists this mission by promoting concepts of civility, fairness, respect and appropriate conflict resolution. We hope our students will make appropriate decisions that positively contribute to our University community. The Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution addresses behavioral misconduct in and outside the classroom environment. The Office of Academic Affairs addresses issues of academic misconduct. In the spirit of continuing our collaboration with faculty and staff, we have created resources to assist you in your work with students. It is our hope that you will be able to utilize the following resources. Our staff is available for consultation and educational presentations.

Sincerely,
Karen A. Dlhosh

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Student Code of Conduct

(For more information, please view our student conduct process link. You may obtain a complete student code of conduct within the student handbook in GC 2240)

Statement of Philosophy

As an academic community, Florida International University fosters the intellectual exchange of ideas, knowledge, and experience. It is the responsibility of the University to provide a stimulating environment in which scholarship and personal growth may occur. The desired effect is that students will take advantage of this environment to develop intellectually as well as participate as responsible, contributing citizens.

The uniqueness of the academic community requires particular sensitivity to the individual rights of students and to the maintenance of a safe environment for study, recreation, and personal growth. To this end, rules and regulations are imperative as a basis for the orderly conduct of University activities. Responsibilities and expectations must be clearly articulated to students. Inappropriate behavior must be challenged and addressed in a manner, which leads to the positive growth and development of those involved in the process. The rights of the community, as well as those of individuals, must be protected. When there is infringement, ensuing problems must be resolved in a manner, which protects both the accused and the University community. The judicial process holds students accountable in a fair, yet developmental manner. The judicial process utilizes educational, developmental and punitive sanctions when responding to infringements upon our standards.

To achieve this end, the University has developed policies and procedures regarding the rights and responsibilities of students and established a Student Code of Conduct assuring these rights may be freely exercised without interference by others.

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Statement of Rights and Freedom

Florida International University recognizes the basic rights and freedoms of students. They are inherent to the educational process and to the intellectual growth of students. The following rights and freedoms are recognized as basic to the educational process:

Freedom of Expression and Assembly

Students are guaranteed freedom of expression. Students and student groups may discuss, pass resolutions, write or distribute literature and leaflets, circulate petitions, sponsor speakers and public forums, and take other orderly actions which do not disrupt the essential function of the University. Please refer to Florida Administrative Code F.A.C. 6C8-5.008 for more information.

Freedom of Association

Students are free to form and join University organizations. Student organizations must be officially recognized by the University in order to utilize campus facilities

and services.

Freedom in the Classroom

Students are responsible for learning the content of courses of study, but have the right to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in the classroom. Students have the right to expect that course descriptions will reflect actual course content, to receive a written syllabus for each course, to be informed of the standards on which evaluation in each course will be based, and to be fairly and justly evaluated based only on performance in the course. Students also have the right to consult with faculty during announced office hours.

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Freedom from Improper Disclosure

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, students shall have access to records maintained on them and be protected from improper disclosures to third parties without their consent. Academic and disciplinary records will be maintained separately and the procedures for access explicitly stated.

Freedom from Discrimination

Students shall not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, creed, age, sex, marital status, disability, religion, or national origin. Freedom from discrimination governs eligibility to student organizations, University activities, academic programs, employment, use of facilities, and housing.

Freedom from Sexual Harassment

Students are entitled to work and study in an atmosphere free from unsolicited and unwelcome sexual overtures or innuendoes.

Right to Due Process

Students have the right to due process in all disciplinary situations. This includes written notice of hearing, information concerning the evidence against them, the opportunity to present evidence on their own behalf, and written notice of the decision.

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Statement of Responsibilities

All students enrolled in the University and all student residents, regardless of institutional or program affiliation, are expected to know and adhere to the rules and regulations of the University, as well as civil laws. Those charged with and found responsible for the violations will be subject to disciplinary action as provided for in this document. For the purposes of this document, students are required to appear as witnesses in disciplinary proceedings when requested to do so by a Judicial Official.

Student Code of Standards

A University is a learning community following a tradition more than 1,000 years old. Florida International University is such a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. As a member of this community:

- *I will respect the tradition of academic inquiry, the University's rules of conduct, and its mission*
- *I will respect the opinions and differences of all members of the FIU community.*
- *I will practice civility and demonstrate conduct that reflects the values of the institution.*
- *I will respect the rights and property of the University and its members.*
- *I will be diligent and honest in my personal and academic endeavors.*

Educational Workshops

We are available to present on topics such as ethics, dealing with disruptive students, the student code of conduct process and conflict resolution. Our ethics presentation is particularly popular in the First Year Experience classes. Please contact our office at 305-348-3939 in order to schedule a presentation for your class, student group or department. You can peruse our [Outreach and Presentations](#) page in order to get a better idea of the presentations we conduct through our office.

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