



### Colby College Student Handbook

- » [2007-08 Handbook Home](#)
- » [The Colby Experience](#)
- » [Campus Contacts](#)

### Academic Life

### Student Life

### Offices and Student Services

### Policies and Procedures

- » [Access Policy](#)
- » [Student Accountability](#)
- » [A Summary of Colby's Values](#)
- » [Alcohol and Drug Policies](#)
- » [Automobile and Parking Regulations](#)
- » [Residential Life Policies and Procedures](#)
- » [Other College Policies](#)
- » [Harassment Policies and Procedures](#)
- » [Sexual Assault Policies](#)
- » [Student Disciplinary Procedures](#)
- » [Campus Crime Statistics](#)
- » [Personal Safety](#)
- » [Event Regulations and Procedures](#)
- » [Code of Ethics for Information Technology](#)
- » [Electronic Mail Policy and Procedures](#)
- » [Digest of Civil Discourse](#)
- » [Title IX Grievance Procedure](#)

### College Governance

### Appendices

### Student Reference

- » [2007-08 Colby College Calendar](#)
- » [Critical Dates and Deadlines](#)
- » [2008-09 Colby College Calendar](#)
- » [Campus Map](#)

### Search Colby



[Advanced Search](#)

### Colby College

4250 Mayflower Hill  
Waterville, ME 04901-8842  
P: 207-859-4250  
[dos@colby.edu](mailto:dos@colby.edu)

[Dean of Students](#) > [Student Handbook](#) > [2007-08](#) > [Policies and Procedures](#) > [Harassment Policies and Procedures](#) >

## Definition of Harassment

### Definition of Harassment

The following are provided as examples of the kinds of actions that may constitute harassment under College policy:

- Hostile, intimidating remarks spoken or written (including jokes) or physical gestures directed at a person because of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national or ethnic origin, or disability.
- Sexual contact or pressure that is not freely and explicitly agreed to by both parties. A stranger does not always perpetrate rape. Date or acquaintance rape and pressured sex are more common than many realize. No circumstance, including excessive drinking, is an acceptable excuse for such behavior.
- Any unwanted attention of a sexual nature (e.g., physical contact, written or verbal comments, lewd or suggestive looks and/or gestures).
- Implied or expressed threat of reprisal for failure to comply with a request for sexual contact.
- Any conduct of a sexual nature that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably or substantially interfering with an individual's working or educational environment, or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or educational environment.

Defining harassment in the classroom poses some difficult problems. The tradition of academic freedom is a long and honored one. Instructors have wide latitude to conduct classroom sessions in creative and intellectually stimulating ways. In the classroom, texts, ideas, values, and objects should be presented so as to elicit the fullest possible critical and emotional response. It seems unlikely that any student could pass through the educational process without confronting uncomfortable moments and ideas that are disquieting. While students must expect to be challenged, they also have the right to participate in the classroom without being harassed or intimidated. Students should not be singled out in any way by race, gender, sexual orientation, or religion.

It is incumbent upon faculty members not to abuse, or seem to abuse, the power with which they are entrusted. Instructors have the special responsibility to explain to their students, when necessary, the educational purpose of any classroom technique or practice.

<< [First](#) | [Prev](#) | [Next](#) > | [Last](#) >>

### Harassment Policies and Procedures

- [Harassment Policies and Procedures](#)
- [Harassment Policy](#)
- [Definition of Harassment](#)
- [Institutional Support](#)
- [Harassment Complaint Procedures](#)