

Standards of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures



By publication of these “STANDARDS OF CONDUCT,” the University calls to the special attention of students and organizations the standards by which they are expected to abide. Students and organizations should be aware of the STANDARDS and should know they will be held accountable for their provisions.

Student Conduct Office General Philosophy

Troy University emphasizes a developmental approach toward discipline that is educational and proactive and allows for maximum student growth. The Office of Student Conduct embraces the concept of a student-centered University. Troy University is committed to developing and establishing programs designed to enhance lifelong learning opportunities, foster a climate of personal growth and development, set high expectations for personal integrity, and assist students in the development of an informed set of values, ethics, and beliefs. Troy University embraces a campus climate in which civility and respect among members of the campus community is viewed vital to the overall ethical development of its students.

Authority for Rules and Regulations

The Board of Trustees of Troy University is vested with the authority to promulgate rules and regulations regarding the conduct of students while enrolled at Troy University by Title 16-56-6, Code of Alabama, 1975. The University Trustees have delegated full authority to the University administration to prepare and administer rules and regulations for the welfare and discipline of its students.

Administrative Responsibility and Authority

The Student Services Division of the University has primary authority for the supervision of student conduct and administration of discipline. The Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Administration and campus staff are responsible for working with students and student organizations to encourage support and compliance with University standards. The Senior Vice Chancellor may delegate specific responsibilities to members of his respective staffs, and in some instances, to student government agencies. It is permissible for the Student Services Conduct Officers on each campus to handle disciplinary decisions administratively if both the student or student organization and the Conduct Officer agree to an administrative hearing. The Student Services Conduct Officer is responsible for coordinating all disciplinary procedures and maintaining appropriate records of student conduct and disciplinary actions.

Statement on Student Conduct

Troy University students are expected to obey national, state, and local laws, to respect the rights of members of the campus community, and to accept responsibility for the consequences of their behavior. In the event students fail to demonstrate such behavior, Troy University reserves the right to take necessary and appropriate action to protect the safety and well-being of the campus community. Such action may include pursuing disciplinary action for violations of University rules and regulations, policies, violations of national, state, and local laws that occur on-campus, off-campus, or on the internet that adversely affects the educational interest of the University.

Troy University’s student conduct system is not a court of law. The Student Conduct Code is not written with the specificity of a criminal statute. In cases where civil or criminal proceedings also involve a violation of the Student Conduct Code, the University reserves the right to take appropriate disciplinary action against the student. Such action will be regarded as separate and distinct from proceedings in criminal or civil court and may be scheduled according to timelines that serve the interest of the University.

The Trojan Way

To live and perform “The Trojan Way”, we are expected to:

- Be Respectful
- Speak Appropriately
- Dress Properly for the Occasion
- Behave as a Responsible, Kind Person
- Adhere to Applicable Laws and Policies

Misconduct Defined

By enrollment at the University, a student or organization neither relinquishes rights nor escapes responsibilities of local, state, or federal laws and regulations. The “STANDARDS OF CONDUCT” are applicable to behavior of students and organizations on and off the university campus if that behavior is deemed to be incompatible with the educational environment and mission of the university. A student or organization may be disciplined, up to and including suspension and expulsion, and is deemed in violation of the “STANDARDS OF CONDUCT”, for the commission of or the attempt to commit any of the following offenses:

1. Academic Dishonesty, such as cheating and plagiarism to include the following:

Cheating:

- submitting material that is not yours as part of your course performance;
- using information or devices that are not allowed by the faculty;
- obtaining and/or using unauthorized materials;
- fabricating information, research, and/or results;
- violating procedures prescribed to protect the integrity of an assignment, test, or other evaluation;
- collaborating with others on assignments without the faculty’s consent;
- cooperating with and/or helping another student to cheat;
- demonstrating any other forms of dishonest behavior.

Plagiarism:

- directly quoting the words of others without using quotation marks or indented format to identify them;
- using sources of information (published or unpublished) without identifying them;
- paraphrasing materials or ideas without identifying the source;
- self-plagiarism: re-submitting work previously submitted without explicit approval from the instructor;
- unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic material.

2. Alcohol Possession and Use

- possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21;
- driving under the influence of alcohol;
- possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in public locations on campus, including residence hall common spaces; Common spaces in residence halls refer to any public space that exists outside the bedroom of a specific residential unit. Examples include, but are not limited to kitchens, living rooms, bathrooms, group study/lounge spaces, laundry rooms, elevator lobbies, computer rooms etc. Common spaces also include the public spaces located on the outside grounds of a residence hall.
- the sale, distribution, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21;

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- the use of alcohol in an irresponsible manner (games, contests, forced or ritualized consumption of alcohol, behaviors requiring the response of a University official or law enforcement officer, etc.);
 - providing alcoholic beverages to a person who is intoxicated;
 - any activity or conduct involving the use of alcohol that is in violation of law.
3. Animals
- intentional abuse, inappropriate handling, or causing death to wildlife and/or animals
 - bringing any unauthorized animal into any building owned, leased, or controlled by Troy University
4. Assault
- any intentional physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature;
 - any physical abuse, intentional injury, or physical harm of another person.
5. Classroom Copyright Infringement
- any recording and transmission of classroom lectures and discussions by students without prior written permission from the class instructor, and without all students in the class as well as the guest speaker(s) being informed that audio/video recording may occur (it is not a violation if student has educational accommodations through the Student Disability Resource Center);
 - uploading any recordings of lectures and/or class presentations to publicly accessible web environments
6. Classroom Disruption
- any classroom behavior that interferes with the instructor's ability to conduct class or the ability of other students to learn
7. Damage or Destruction of Property
- any damage or destruction of University property or another person's property
8. Deception
- any misuse of any University records, forms, or documents through forgery, unauthorized alteration, reproduction, or other means;
 - any giving or receiving of false information to the University or to any University official, administrator, or administrative unit;
 - providing false information to law enforcement officials;
 - possession of any fake, altered, or any other identification that belongs to another person;
 - any attempt to perpetrate a fraud against the University or a member of the University community
9. Disorderly Conduct
- all lewd, obscene, indecent behavior, or other forms of disorderly conduct;
 - any abuse or unauthorized use of sound amplification equipment;
 - any conduct which materially interferes with the normal operation of the University, or with the requirements of appropriate discipline.
10. Disorderly/Improper Assembly
- any assembly for the purpose of causing a riot, destruction of property, or disorderly diversion, which interferes with the normal operation of the University;
 - any obstruction to the free movement of other persons about campus or the interference with the use of University facilities

11. Drugs

- the possession, use, manufacture, cultivation, distribution, sale, and/or misuse of any controlled or illegal substance, designer drug, or synthetic cannabinoid (i.e. Spice or K2)
- the possession and/or use of any drug paraphernalia, i.e. bowls, hookah pipes, bong, “homemade” smoking devices, any other smoking device or smoking paraphernalia;
- any activity or conduct involving drugs that is in violation of local, state, or federal law.

12. Failure to Comply

- failing to respond to a lawful request by properly identified University officials or law enforcement officials in the performance of their duties;
- failing to report for a conference, meeting, or appointment with any University official or faculty member;
- failing to appear and cooperate as a witness in a disciplinary case when properly notified;
- failing to comply with any disciplinary condition imposed on a person by any student conduct body or administrator;
- fleeing from law enforcement or university officials,
- failing to follow established University policies or guidelines

13. False Representation

- any unauthorized claim to speak and/or act in the name of Troy University or any organization, student, University officials or faculty members

14. Fire Safety

- any failure to evacuate or immediately respond to a fire alarm;
- participation in creating or causing a false fire alarm;
- participation in tampering, disconnecting, or altering any fire alarm system, equipment or component;
- failure to follow the instructions of staff and emergency personnel during fire alarms;
- the possession, use, manufacture, and/or sale of any incendiary device;
- participation in setting or causing to be set any unauthorized fire;
- the possession and/or use of any type of fireworks

15. Gambling

- Engaging in any form of gambling that is in violation of the law.

16. Harassment

- speech or other expression (words, pictures, symbols) that constitutes fighting words and is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere, limit, or deny one’s ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program. Fighting words may include, but are not limited to, words, pictures or symbols that:
 - are directed to an individual or individuals based on that person’s race, color, sex, religion, creed, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, disability, veteran status or national origin, and
 - threaten violence, tend to incite an immediate breach of the peace or provoke a violent response
- In the context of this policy, fighting words are those which are commonly understood to convey direct and visceral hatred or contempt for human beings. When determining whether speech is such as would provoke a violent response or incite an immediate breach of the peace, it is not necessary to show that that the person(s) addressed by the speech was or were actually incited to violence or hostile action. Conduct will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, considering all circumstances involved