

NSU STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT AND ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITY

Purpose: This code seeks to promote high standards of behavior and academic integrity by setting forth the responsibilities of students as members of the university community. Abiding by the code ensures a climate wherein all members of the university community can exercise their rights of membership.

Code of Student Conduct Statement

The university is a community of scholars in which the ideals of freedom of inquiry, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, and freedom of the individual are sustained. However, the exercise and preservation of these freedoms and rights require a respect for the rights of all in the community to enjoy them to the same extent. It is clear that in a community of learning, willful disruption of the educational process, destruction of property, and interference with the orderly process of the university as defined by the university administration or with the rights of other members of the university cannot be tolerated. Students enrolling in the university assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the university's function as an educational institution. To fulfill its functions of imparting and gaining knowledge, the university retains the power to maintain order within the university and to exclude those who are disruptive to the educational process.

In support of the Code of Student Conduct, any violations of the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility and/or university policies and procedures may result in disciplinary action and/or criminal prosecution. Violations of academic and/or supplementary standards will be handled through the student's academic college, center, or school. Violations of conduct standards, supplementary standards, university policies, and/or procedures will be handled by the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs or by the individual academic college, center, or school as deemed appropriate.

Changes to the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility will be posted on the Student Affairs Web site. Students are required to be familiar with the rules, policies, and Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility.

Nova Southeastern University Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities

Nova Southeastern University, as a community of women and men, is committed to furthering scholarship, academic pursuits, and service to our society. As an institution, our purpose is to ensure all students an equal opportunity to fulfill their intellectual potential through pursuit of the highest standards of academic excellence.

Certain rights and obligations flow from membership in any academic community committed to such goals:

- the rights of personal and intellectual freedom, which are fundamental to the idea of a university
- scrupulous respect for the equal rights and dignity of others
- dedication to the scholarly and educational purposes of the university and participation in promoting and ensuring the academic quality and credibility of the institution

Students are responsible for obtaining, learning, and observing the established university and academic center policies as listed in all official publications. In addition, students must comply with the legal and ethical standards of the institution, as well as those of Broward County, the state of Florida, as well as any other laws, rules, and/or regulations of other jurisdictions. All members of the community should inform the appropriate official of any violation of conduct regulations.

A. Academic Standards

The university is an academic community and expects its students to manifest a commitment to academic integrity through rigid observance of standards for academic honesty. The university can function properly only when its members adhere to clearly established goals and values. Accordingly, the academic standards are designed to ensure that the principles of academic honesty are upheld. The following acts violate the academic honesty standards:

1. Cheating: intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise
2. Fabrication: intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise
3. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty: intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this code
4. Plagiarism: the adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, or statements of another person as one's own without proper acknowledgment

Students are expected to submit tests and assignments that they have completed without aid or assistance from other sources. Using sources to provide information without giving credit to the original source is dishonest. Students should avoid any impropriety or the appearance thereof in taking examinations or completing work in pursuance of their educational goals.

Students are expected to comply with the following academic standards:

1. Original Work: Assignments such as course preparations, exams, texts, projects, term papers, practicum, etc., must be the original work of the student. Original work may include the thoughts and words of another author. Entire thoughts or words of another author should be identified using quotation marks. At all times, students are expected to comply with the university and/or program center's recognized form and style manual and accepted citation practice and policy.

Work is not original when it has been submitted previously by the author or by anyone else for academic credit. Work is not original when it has been copied or partially copied from any other source, including another student, unless such copying is acknowledged by the person submitting the work for the credit at the time the work is being submitted, or unless copying, sharing, or joint authorship is an express part of the assignment. Exams and tests are original work when no unauthorized aid is given, received, or used before or during the course of the examination, re-examination, and/or remediation.

2. Referencing the Works of Another Author: All academic work submitted for credit or as partial fulfillment of course requirements must adhere to each program center's specific accepted reference manuals and rules of documentation. Standards of scholarship require that the writer give proper acknowledgment when the thoughts and words of another author are used. Students must acquire a style manual approved by their center and become familiar with accepted scholarly and editorial practice in their program. Students' work must comport with the adopted citation manual for their particular center. At Nova Southeastern University, it is plagiarism to represent another person's work, words, or ideas as one's own without use of a center-recognized method of citation. Deviating from center standards (see above) are considered plagiarism at Nova Southeastern University.

3. Tendering of Information: All academic work must be the original work of the student. Giving or allowing one's work to be copied, giving out exam questions or answers, or releasing or selling term papers is prohibited.

4. Acts Prohibited: Students should avoid any impropriety or the appearance thereof, in taking examinations or completing work in pursuance of their educational goals. Violations of academic responsibility include, but are not limited to the following:

- plagiarism
 - any form of cheating
 - conspiracy to commit academic dishonesty
 - misrepresentation
 - bribery in an attempt to gain an academic advantage
 - forging or altering documents or credentials
 - knowingly furnishing false information to the institution
- Students in violation will be subjected to disciplinary action.

5. Additional Matters of Ethical Concern: Where circumstances are such as to place students in positions of power over university personnel, inside or outside the institution, students should avoid any reasonable suspicion that they have used that power for personal benefit or in a capricious or arbitrary manner.

B. Conduct Standards

1. Students should not interfere with the rights, safety, or health of members of the university community nor interfere with other students' right to learn. Students are expected to abide by all university, center, and program rules and regulations and all local, state, and federal laws.

Violations of conduct standards include, but are not limited to

- a. theft (including shoplifting at any university service center, e.g., bookstore, food service facility), robbery, and related crimes
- b. vandalism or destruction of property
- c. disruptive behavior/disorderly conduct (e.g., in residence halls and classrooms, or at university-sponsored events, on or off campus)
- d. physical or verbal altercation, assault, battery, domestic violence, or other related crimes
- e. gambling
- f. possession or use of firearms, fireworks, explosives, or other dangerous substances or items
- g. possession, transfer, sale, or use of illicit and/or illegal drugs or alcohol if a minor
- h. appearance in class or on campus under the apparent influence of drugs or alcohol, illegal or illicit drugs or chemicals
- i. any act or conspiracy to commit an act that is harassing, abusive, or discriminatory or that invades an individual's right to privacy; sexual harassment; discrimination and abuse against members of a particular racial, ethnic, religious, on the basis of sex/gender, sexual orientation, marital status or cultural group and/or any other protected group or as a result of an individual's membership in any protected group
- j. sexual misconduct
- k. stalking
- l. unacceptable use of computing resources as defined by the university. Students are also subject to the Acceptable Use of Computing Resources policy at www.nova.edu/common-lib/policies/aucr.policy.html.
- m. impeding or obstructing NSU investigatory, administrative, or judicial proceedings
- n. threats of or actual damage to property or physical harm to others
- o. any activity that may be construed as hazing ("hazing" is defined as: any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of a university) or engaging in, supporting, promoting, or sponsoring hazing or violating university rules governing hazing
- p. failure to pay tuition and fees in a timely manner
- q. embezzlement or misuse of NSU and/or student organizational funds or monies
- r. failure to comply with the directives of NSU officials
- s. violation(s) of the terms or condition of a disciplinary sanction(s) imposed
- t. violation of any policy, procedure, or regulation of the university or any state or federal law, rule, regulation, or county ordinance
- u. fraud, misrepresentation, forgery, alteration or falsification of any records, information, data, or identity
- v. plagiarism

2. Students must have authorization from the university to have access to university documents, data, programs, and other types of information and information systems. Any use of the above without authorization is prohibited.

C. Supplementary Standards

Students are expected to comply with the legal and ethical standards of this institution and those of their chosen field of study, including the Code of Ethics for Computer Usage. The university and each center or program may prescribe additional standards for student conduct. Reasonable notice may be provided when additions or changes are made to the standards for student conduct. Students should refer to their center and/or Student Affairs Web site for policy updates or changes.

D. Violations

Any violation(s) of any of the academic standards, conduct standards, or supplemental standards may result in a complaint being filed against a student to enforce the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility. Deans, associate deans, or directors may, in their discretion, immediately suspend

students pending a hearing on charges of academic, conduct, or supplemental standards violations. Violations of academic, conduct, or supplemental standards are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including, expulsion from the university. Violations of academic standards will be handled through the student's academic college, school, or center. Violations of conduct or supplementary standards will be handled by the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs or by the individual academic college, school, or center as deemed appropriate.

E. Sanctions

If the student is found in violation of the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility and/or university policies and procedures, one or more of the following sanctions may be imposed. The following list is only illustrative. The university reserves the right to take additional disciplinary action as it deems appropriate.

1. **Expulsion:** Permanent dismissal from the university with no right for future readmission under any circumstances. A student who has been expelled is barred from campus and/or visiting privileges.
2. **Suspension:** Mandatory separation from the university for a period of time specified in an order of suspension. An application for readmission will not be entertained until the period of separation indicated in the suspension order has elapsed. Readmission is subject to approval of the university. During the period of suspension, the student is barred from campus visiting privileges unless specific permission is granted by the dean of student affairs or designee.
3. **Temporary Suspension:** Action taken by the dean of student affairs/associate dean of student affairs, which requires a student's temporary separation from the university until a final determination is made of whether or not a student is in violation of the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility.
4. **Final Disciplinary Probation:** A disciplinary sanction serving notice to a student that his/her behavior is in flagrant violation of university standards, under which the following conditions exist:
 - The sanction is for the remainder of the student's career and may be reviewed by the dean of student affairs no sooner than two regular academic semesters or equivalent after the sanction is imposed. After two semesters in attendance, a student may initiate a request in writing for reduction of the sanction to disciplinary probation, but must also demonstrate reason to substantiate the request.
 - Another violation of the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility will at a minimum result in suspension.
5. **Disciplinary Probation:** A disciplinary sanction serving notice to a student that his/her behavior is in serious violation of university standards. A time period is indicated during which another violation of the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility will automatically raise the question of a more severe sanction (suspension or expulsion) if the student is found in violation.
6. **Disciplinary Warning:** A disciplinary sanction serving notice to a student that his/her behavior has not met university standards. This sanction remains in effect for a designated number of semesters of attendance after which it is expunged from the student's file.
7. **Verbal Warning:** A verbal warning is a verbal admonition to the student by a university staff member that his/her behavior is inappropriate. A verbal warning will be noted in the student's file for a period of time after which it is expunged from the student's file.
8. **Fines:** Penalty fees payable to the university for violation of certain regulations with the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility.
9. **Restitution:**
Payment made for damages or losses to the university, as directed by the adjudicating body.
10. **Restriction or Revocation of Privileges:** Restriction or revocation of privileges is the temporary or permanent loss of privileges, including, but not limited to, the use of a particular university facility, visitation privileges, and parking privileges.
11. **Termination or Change of Residence Hall Contract/Accommodation:** Termination or change of residence hall contract/accommodation is a disciplinary sanction that terminates or changes the Residence Hall Contract/Accommodation. This should be accompanied by another form of disciplinary action. It is considered permanent unless lifted by the dean of student affairs/associate dean of student affairs/director of residential life or designee.
12. **Counseling Intervention:** When extreme behavior indicates that counseling may be beneficial, the student may be referred to counseling.

13. Other Appropriate Action: Disciplinary action not specifically outlined above, but approved through the dean of student affairs/associate dean of student affairs or designee.

14. Parent/Legal Guardian Notification: NSU personnel reserve the right to contact or notify a student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a minor student, under 21 years of age, in writing or by phone, when alcohol or drug violations of university policy occur, for other violations of NSU policy and procedure, and/or when NSU personnel determine a student's safety and/or welfare is at risk.