

# BP – 3.3

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

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### **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

The College is a teaching and learning community with specific expectations regarding student conduct. The Board directs the President to provide a safe and healthy environment that facilitates the College's mission and promotes civility through the core values of diversity, integrity, learning, quality, respect, and trust.

The freedom to debate and discuss the merits of competing ideas does not, of course, mean that individuals may say whatever they wish, wherever they wish. Therefore, the College may restrict expression that violates the law, that falsely defames a specific individual, that constitutes a genuine threat or physical harassment, that unjustifiably invades substantial privacy or confidentiality interests, or that is otherwise directly incompatible with the functioning of the College.

In addition, the College may reasonably regulate the time, place, and manner of expression (without regard to viewpoint) to ensure that it does not disrupt the ordinary activities of the College. However, these restrictions on conduct may be applied only when absolutely necessary and in a way consistent with the constitutional rights of the individuals involved. It is vitally important that these exceptions never be used in a manner that is inconsistent with the College's commitment to a completely free and open discussion of ideas.

The Board directs the President to develop and implement a Student Code of Conduct (Code). The primary purpose of the Code shall be to educate students about their rights and responsibilities as members of the student body. When a student's conduct departs from expectations delineated by the Code, adversely affects the learning environment or the pursuit of the College's educational objectives, the Code sets forth appropriate student sanctions and disciplinary actions that may be used to resolve the behavior and to help students learn from mistakes.

Consistent with its educational mission, the Board further desires to promote student understanding of the balance between individual privileges and college responsibilities, as well as to provide everyone in the College community a safe environment that is conducive to student learning and success.

#### **The Board expects students to:**

- Familiarize themselves with and to be accountable for information contained in all of the College's student publications (general catalog, student handbooks, bulletins, syllabi, etc.) relating to student responsibilities.

- Respect the rights of others in the College community.
- Respect the freedom to teach and the freedom to learn.
- Develop and demonstrate effective workplace and classroom behaviors.

In general, all students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that promotes and supports both students' and the College's educational endeavors and objectives.

**The goals of the Code shall be to:**

- Cultivate the College community's commitment to the rights, conduct, responsibilities, and behavioral expectations of students and staff.
- Protect the rights of students, faculty and staff in the College community.
- Discipline and sanction students in a manner that is fair and fosters learning, ethical behavior, social development, integrity and responsibility.

**Prohibited Conduct:**

The President shall ensure that the following misconduct on College premises or off of College property but occurring at College-sponsored activities, shall be prohibited:

- (1) Sexual and other unlawful harassment;
- (2) Cheating, plagiarism, knowingly furnishing false information, forgery, alteration, or any use of identification or other objects with an intent to defraud;
- (3) Failure to comply with the lawful directions of any College official, faculty, staff or law enforcement officers acting in the performance of their duties;
- (4) Seizing, holding, commandeering, obstructing, or damaging any property or facilities of the College;
- (5) Use of alcoholic beverages including the purchase, consumption, possession or sale of such items on the College campus or violation of any rules and regulations relating to the use of alcoholic beverages with regard to College related activities;
- (6) Possessing, using, selling or distributing any type of illegal drugs or legal drugs without valid prescription for same for illegal purposes or violating any College rules or regulations relative to controlled drugs and other controlled substances;
- (7) Possessing any firearm or weapon pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Section 14-269.2;
- (8) Possessing any dangerous chemical or explosive elements or component parts thereof not used by the student for lawful College studies;
- (9) Gambling, conducting or holding a raffle or lottery except in cases where the President authorizes a lawful raffle;

- (10) Littering, defacing, destroying or damaging property of the College or property under its jurisdiction or removing or using such property without authorization;
- (11) Violating any local, state or federal laws.

**Authority for Disciplinary Action:**

The President shall implement a disciplinary system for students that is consistent with this Policy and student rights.

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