

(Established under Maharashtra Act No. LXIII of 2017)

Student Code of Conduct

Introduction

This Code shall apply to all kinds of conduct of students that occurs on the University premises including. University sponsored activities, functions hosted by other recognized student organizations and any off campus conduct that has or may have serious consequences or adverse impact on University's Interests or reputation. At the time of admission, each student must sign a statement accepting this Code and by giving an undertaking that he / she shall be regular and must complete his / her studies in the University. In the event, a student is forced to discontinue studies for any legitimate reason, such a student may be relieved from the University subject to written consent of the Deans. As a result of such relieving, the student shall be required to clear pending hostel / mess dues and if a student had joined on a scholarship, the said grant shall be revoked. University believes in promoting a safe and efficient climate by enforcing behavioural standards. All students must uphold academic integrity, respect all persons and their rights and property and safety of others; etc.

Code of Conduct Guidelines:

All students must deter from indulging in any and all forms of misconduct including partaking in any activity off-campus which can affect the University's interests and reputation substantially.

The various forms of misconduct include:

- 1. Any act of discrimination (physical or verbal conduct) based on an individual's gender, caste, race, religion or religious beliefs, colour, region, language, disability, or sexual orientation, marital or family status, physical or mental disability, gender identity, etc.
- 2. Intentionally damaging or destroying University property or property of other students and/ or faculty members.
- 3. Any disruptive activity in a classroom or in an event sponsored by the University.
- 4. Unable to produce the identity card, issued by the University, or refusing to produce it on demand by campus security guards.
- 5. Participating in activities including –

- Organizing meetings and processions without permission from the University.
- Accepting membership of religious or terrorist groups banned by the University / Government of India.
- Unauthorized possession, carrying or use of any weapon, ammunition, explosives, or potential weapons, fireworks, contrary to law or policy.
- Unauthorized possession or use of harmful chemicals and banned drugs.
- Possession / consumption of tobacco products on the campus of the University.
- Possessing, consuming, distributing, selling of alcohol in the University and / or throwing empty bottles on the campus of the University.
- Parking a vehicle in a no parking zone or in area earmarked for parking other type of vehicles.
- Rash driving on the campus that may cause any inconvenience to others.
- Not disclosing a pre-existing health condition, either physical or psychological, to the Chief Medical Officer which may cause hindrance to the academic progress.
- Theft or unauthorized access to others' resources.
- Misbehaviour during any activity of the University.
- Engaging in disorderly, lewd, or indecent conduct, including, but not limited to, creating unreasonable noise; pushing and shoving; inciting or participating in a riot or group disruption at the University.
- Students are expected not to interact, on behalf of the University, with media representatives or invite media persons on to the campus without the permission of the University authorities.
- Students are not permitted to either audio or video record lectures in classrooms or actions of other students, faculty, or staff without prior permission.
- Students are not permitted to provide audio and video clippings of any activity on the campus to media without prior permission.
- Students are expected to use the social media carefully and responsibly. They cannot post derogatory comments about other individuals from the University on the social media or indulging in any such related activities having grave ramifications on the reputation of the University
- . Theft or abuse of the University computers and other electronic resources such as computer and electronic communications facilities, systems, and services which includes unauthorized entry, use, tamper, etc. of University property or facilities, private residences of staff / professors etc. offices, classrooms, computers networks, and other restricted facilities and interference with the work of others is punishable.
- Damage to, or destruction of, any property of the University, or any property of others on

the University premises. Every student is responsible to maintain the University-issued property in good condition. In case of loss, vandalism, or exceptionable damage to the University property, the student will be liable to pay charges including fines as may be prescribed under the policies.

- Making a video / audio recording, taking photographs, or streaming audio / video of any person in a location where the person has a reasonable expectation of privacy, without that person's knowledge and express consent.
- Indulging in any form of Harassment which is defined as a conduct that is severe and objectively, a conduct that is motivated on the basis of a person's race, colour, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition.
- 6. Students shall refrain from verbal, non-verbal and/or physical misconduct of a sexual nature in their interactions with other students, Faculty, other employees and visitors at the University. The University has a zero-tolerance policy towards sexual harassment. The University fully complies with 'The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act, 2013' passed by the Government of India, and is committed to create a work environment that is free from sexual harassment of any kind, whether verbal, physical or visual. The University policy provides guidelines for prompt redressal of complaints related to sexual harassment including expulsion/termination of the offender and/or filing appropriate FIRs for the offense.
- 7. Students, both boys and girls, are expected to come to the University decently dressed up. They are expected to adhere to the cultural values and ethos of the University.
- 8. Students are expected to be punctual to classes. Latecomers will be admitted only in exceptional cases and with the permission of the HODs.
- 9. Loitering on verandas, corridors, staircase and other passages is discouraged as it disturbs the academic atmosphere in the campus. Strict action will be initiated against students who are found unnecessarily near the canteens, hostel blocks, playgrounds and other such places inside the University campus.
- 10. While inside the class, students are expected to avoid unnecessary gossip, as this would disturb their focus and attention, besides causing nuisance to the concerned faculty.
- 11. Students are expected to read all the circulars put up on the Notice Board, and act accordingly.
- 12. Possession of cell phones inside the examination hall is strictly banned. Bringing and keeping cell phones, cash and other valuables in their bags at the time of University examinations will be at students' own risk. University authorities cannot help in cases of theft and consequent loss. Students are advised not to bring cell phones and other valuables at the

time of University examinations.

- 13. Malpractices/Cheating during test/examination or knowingly furnishing false information are prohibited and strictly dealt with.
- 14. Students shall not involve in any form of ragging inside or outside the University campus. Ragging in any form is a serious offence and those found indulging in it will be summarily expelled from the University as per the directions of the Government. Do not rag and get ragged. All instances of ragging, including eve teasing, whether inside or outside the campus, must be brought to the notice of the competent authorities, either in writing or oral. The University has implemented systems and procedures to actively comply with the orders of the Honorable Supreme Court and the UGC Rules of 2016.
- 15. Boys and girls are expected to observe norms of dignity and maturity in their interrelationships and conducts.
- 16. Students are strictly forbidden from participating in political agitations of all kinds.
- 17. If a student attends any political meeting or engages in political agitation and conducts himself/herself in a way that is detrimental to the corporate life or functioning of the University, severe action will be taken. The Vice Chancellor is empowered to expel or suspend the student or refuse issuing all or some of the certificates due to him/her.
- 18. Students should not resort to any method of protest for whatever reason. They should highlight their problems and issues to the Grievance Redressal Cell and the Vice Chancellor for getting the grievances redressed.
- 19. Hostel Discipline: Rules and regulations are laid down for conduct in Hostels has to be strictly followed by each student. More information on hostel guidelines is available in the hostel guidelines.

Process of Disciplinary Action and Appeal:

- If there is a case against a student for a possible breach of code of conduct, then the Disciplinary Committee will recommend a suitable disciplinary action who shall inquire into the alleged violation and accordingly suggest the action to be taken against the said student.
- The committee may meet with the student to ascertain the misconduct and suggest one or more of the following disciplinary actions based on the nature of misconduct.

WARNING - Indicating that the action of the said delinquent student was in violation of the Code and any further acts of misconduct shall result in severe disciplinary action. RESTRICTIONS - Reprimanding and Restricting access to various facilities on the campus for a specified period of time. However, any future misconduct along with failure to comply with any conditions imposed may lead to severe disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion.

EXPULSION - Expulsion of a student from the University permanently. Indicating prohibition from entering the University premises or participating in any student related activities or campus residences etc.

MONETARY PENALTY - May also include fines and/or suspension or forfeiture of scholarship / fellowship for a specific time period.

SUSPENSION - A student may be suspended for a specified period of time which will entail prohibition on participating in student related activities, classes, programs etc. Additionally, the student will be forbidden to use various University facilities unless permission is obtained from the Competent Authority. Suspension may also follow by possible dismissal, along with the following additional penalties. a) Ineligibility to reapply for admission to the University for a period of three years. b) Withholding the grade card or certificate for the courses studied or work carried out.

• APPEAL: If the delinquent student is aggrieved by the imposition of any of the aforementioned penalties, he / she may appeal to the Vice Chancellor. The VC may decide on one of the following:

Accept the recommendation of the committee and impose the punishment as suggested by the Committee or modify and impose any of the punishments as stipulated in this Code which is commensurate with the gravity of the proved misconduct. Refer the case back to the committee for reconsideration. In any case the VC's decision is final and binding in all the cases where there is a possible misconduct by a student.

Registrar
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