

# University of West Georgia

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT 2018-2019



# **Student Code of Conduct**

The following misconduct are subject to sanctions. Attempts to commit acts prohibited by this code shall be dealt with in the same manner as completed violations. This is not intended to be a complete or exclusive description of inappropriate conduct. Any inappropriate conduct is subject to disciplinary action, even if such conduct is not specifically described herein, elsewhere in the student handbook, or in other university publications.

## **1.00 LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL LAWS**

Failure to abide by local, state, and federal laws.

## **2.0 ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

All forms of academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to cheating, excessive collaboration, fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitating or allowing academic dishonesty in any academic exercise.

**2.1** Cheating: Cheating means using, attempting to use or aiding others in using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids. It also means excessive collaboration or gaining unauthorized access to unauthorized materials.

**2.2** Fabrication: Fabrication means falsification or unauthorized invention of any information or citation.

**2.3** Plagiarism: Plagiarism means representing the words or ideas of another as one's own. Direct quotations must be indicated and ideas of another must be appropriately acknowledged. Plagiarism also includes "self-plagiarism" which includes the reuse of one's own work without acknowledging that one is doing so or citing the original work.

**2.4** Excessive Collaboration: Excessive collaboration means the end result of all idea swapping, sharing, brainstorming, and conferring has obliterated one student's voice and replaced it with that of another. Student writers collaborate excessively when they abandon, wittingly or unwittingly, their own words and adopt, claiming them as their own, the ideas or exact phrasing of their collaborator.

**2.5** Any other acts deemed academically dishonest not specifically named above.

*See the University Honor Code for additional examples of academic dishonesty.*

## **3.0 DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR**

**3.1** Interfering with normal University sponsored activities, including, but not limited to, studying, teaching, research, campus events, University administration, student conduct proceeding, or public service activity, police, or emergency services.

- 3.2** Classroom disruptions: Any classroom behavior that interferes with the instructor's ability to conduct class or the ability of other students to learn. Examples of disruption include, but are not limited to, the following: allowing personal electronic communication devices to ring, beep, or vibrate, making or receiving phone calls or pages, or engaging in conduct that causes or provokes a disturbance that disrupts academic pursuits, or infringes upon the rights of others. (In relation to this section, instructors may also include in their syllabus specific behaviors they consider to be inappropriate for a particular course.)
- 3.3** Other prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to, obstructing the free movement of others, interfering with the use of University facilities, the abuse or unauthorized use of sound amplification equipment, and interfering with the freedom of expression or educational pursuits of others.

*See the University policy governing the use of sound amplification equipment, freedom of expression, and scheduled demonstrations and marches in Rights and Regulations.*

*See the UWG Policy page ([www.westga.edu/policy](http://www.westga.edu/policy)) for the most up-to-date information regarding Disruptive Behavior.*

#### **4.0 DISORDERLY CONDUCT**

- 4.1** Physical violence/endangerment of any person or persons.
- 4.2** Harassment or threat of harm, whether physical, verbal, oral, or written that is beyond the bounds of protected speech, directed at a specific individual(s), and is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it denies or limits an individual's ability to work, or to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity.
- See the University policy governing Electronic Communication and Sexual Misconduct in Rights and Regulations.*
- 4.3** Interfering with or failing to cooperate with any properly identified University official(s).
- 4.4** Failure to comply with the request of a University officer acting within the scope of his or her responsibility.
- 4.5** Retaliation in any form against someone who exercises his or her right to make a complaint, or against any individual who provides information related to any such complaint.
- 4.6** Engaging in obscene or indecent conduct that is beyond the bounds of freedom of expression and damages, befouls, or disturbs public property or the property of another so as to create a hazardous, unhealthy, or physically offensive condition.
- 4.7** Entering or attempting to enter any event, sponsored or supervised by the University, without credentials for admission; for example, a ticket, identification card, invitation, or any reasonable qualifications established for attendance.

#### **5.0 WEAPONS**

Unauthorized use, possession or storage of any weapon on University premises or at University sponsored activities except for HB 792 and HB 280. Weapon means any object or substance designed, or used to, inflict a wound, cause injury, or incapacitate, including, but not limited to pellet guns, BB guns, bludgeons, metal knuckles, switchblade knives, and knives designed for the purpose of offense or defense.

See the University guidance concerning weapons and HB 280 at <https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php>

See the USG guidance concerning HB 280 at <http://www.usg.edu/hb280>.

See the UWG Policy page ([www.westga.edu/policy](http://www.westga.edu/policy)) for the most up-to-date information regarding Weapons.

## **6.0 HAZING**

All rites and ceremonies of induction, initiation, or orientation into University life or into the life of any University groups (i.e. student organizations, sports teams, intramural clubs, and extra-curricular activities) that tend to occasion or allow physical, mental, or emotional suffering. It is not necessary to have direct proof of a person's initiation, or continued membership, for a charge of hazing to be upheld.

See the University policy concerning Hazing in *Rights and Regulations*.

## **7.0 ALCOHOL MISUSE**

**7.1** Consumption, possession, being in the presence of, or transportation of alcoholic beverages by any student under legal age.

**7.2** Consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages on University premises or at University sponsored activities, except in rooms occupied by students of legal age in residence halls, not designated as substance-free, or when authorized at social functions in designated areas.

**7.3** Furnishing alcoholic beverages to any person under legal age.

**7.4** Open display of alcoholic beverages on campus other than in approved areas during authorized functions.

**7.5** Being in an intoxicated condition as manifested by disorderly, obscene, or indecent conduct or appearance.

**7.6** Driving under the influence of alcohol.

**7.7** Concealment of alcoholic beverages for the purpose of bringing them into a University sponsored activity or facility where alcohol is not permitted.

**7.8** Violation of the University's Alcohol Use Policy or Tailgating Policy (located in Rights & Regulations section of the Student Handbook).

See the University policy concerning Medical Amnesty in *Rights and Regulations*.

## **8.0 DRUG MISUSE**

**8.1** Activity or conduct involving drugs that is in violation of local, state, or federal law. This includes, but is not limited to, manufacture, cultivation, distribution, sale, and/or other misuse of any controlled or illegal substance. Controlled substances include prescription medications.

**8.2** Activity or conduct involving drugs that is in violation of local, state, or federal law. This includes, but is not limited to purchase, possession, and/or other misuse of any controlled or

illegal substance. Controlled substances include prescription medications.

- 8.3 Possession of drug paraphernalia. Drug paraphernalia includes, but is not limited to, any legitimate object constructed or modified for the purpose of making, using, or concealing any illegal drug or controlled substance illicitly. Controlled substances include prescription medications.
- 8.4 Being in the presence of any activity involving drugs that is in violation of local, state, or federal law. This includes, but is not limited to, manufacture, cultivation, distribution, sale, purchase, possession and/or other misuse of any controlled or illegal substance. Controlled substances include prescription medications.

*See the University policy concerning Medical Amnesty in Rights and Regulations.*

## **9.0 FIRE AND OTHER EMERGENCIES**

- 9.1 Intentionally setting, or causing to be set, any unauthorized fire on University premises or at University sponsored activities.
- 9.2 Intentionally initiating, or causing to be initiated, any false report or warning of fire, explosion, or other emergency on University premises or at University sponsored activities.
- 9.3 Tampering with, misusing, or damaging fire safety equipment.
- 9.4 The unauthorized possession, sale, furnishing or use of any incendiary device on University premises or at University sponsored activities.

## **10.0 EXPLOSIVES/FIREWORKS**

Possession, use, furnishing, or sale of explosives on University premises or at University sponsored activities, including the unauthorized use or possession of fireworks.

## **11.0 THEFT**

Theft, or attempted theft, of property, or of services, including keeping in one's possession items of stolen, lost, or mislaid property, or the selling of such property.

## **12.0 MISUSE OF PROPERTY**

Damaging, destroying, removing, or otherwise misusing property belonging to the University or another person.

## **13.0 DECEPTION**

- 13.1 Any misuse of any University records, forms, or documents through forgery, unauthorized alteration, reproduction, or other means.
- 13.2 Any giving or receiving false information to the University or to any University official, administrator, or administrative unit.
- 13.3 Providing false information to law enforcement officials.

**13.4** Possession of any fake or altered identification, or any other identification that belongs to another person.

**13.5** Any attempt to perpetrate a fraud against the University or a member of the University community.

#### **14.0 IDENTIFICATION CARDS MISUSE**

**14.1** Altering, or transferring to another, a UWG student identification card, meal card, or any other form of identification.

**14.2** Failure to present and surrender a student identification card when requested by University officials, including University Police personnel and residence hall staff, acting in the performance of their duties.

#### **15.0 SMOKING/TOBACCO**

In March 2014, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia adopted a tobacco and smoke-free campus policy to make USG 100% tobacco-free effective October 1, 2014, therefore the use of any tobacco product is prohibited at the University of West Georgia. "Tobacco Products" are defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipes, all forms of smokeless tobacco, clove cigarettes and any other smoking devices that use tobacco, such as hookahs, or simulate the use of tobacco, such as electronic cigarettes.

Please see the University System of Georgia policy for more details at [www.usg.edu/tobaccofree/](http://www.usg.edu/tobaccofree/)

#### **16.0 LITTERING**

Disposing of any form of litter on University premises or at University sponsored activities other than in designated receptacles.

#### **17.0 ANIMALS**

**17.01** Bringing into University buildings any animal, except those approved as service animals or those required for research or class experiments or presentations is prohibited.

*Students seeking an exemption to this policy for medical or emotional needs should work with accessibility services and complete all necessary paperwork prior to bringing an animal into any University buildings.*

**17.02** Intentional abuse, inappropriate handling, or causing death to wildlife and/or other animals.

#### **18.0 MISUSE OF UNIVERSITY FACILITIES AND/OR SERVICES**

**18.1** Unauthorized presence in or use of University premises, facilities or property; remaining without authorization in any University facility after normal closing hours.

**18.2** Unauthorized use, duplication, or possession of University keys.

**18.3** Making reservations to use University space in the student's name with the intention of use by outside groups or organizations.

**18.4** Abuse or misuse of University resources.

18.5 Abuse or misuse of University services.

#### **19.0 MISUSE OF THE UNIVERSITY NAME**

Unauthorized use of the University's name, seal, logo, mascot, or any other words or symbols implying affiliation with the University.

#### **20.0 SOLICITATION (UNAUTHORIZED SALES)**

Unauthorized solicitation or selling on University premises or at University sponsored activities. *See the University policy governing advertising, solicitation, and selling in Rights and Regulations.*

#### **21.0 INSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURE MISCONDUCT**

- 21.1 Failure to pay fees, charges, and fines within the specified time.
- 21.2 Failure to maintain one's current local address with the Registrar.
- 21.3 Failure to respond to, and cooperate with, University officials in the carrying out of the conduct process.
- 21.4 Violating the terms of any sanction imposed in accordance with this code.
- 21.5 Failure to report for any conference, meeting, or appointment when required to do so by any University official acting in the performance of his or her duties.
- 21.6 Failure to comply with interim suspension measures.

#### **22.0 MOTOR VEHICLE MISUSE**

Violation of campus motor vehicle regulations and the traffic code published by Parking and Transportation Services.

#### **23.0 OTHER PUBLISHED UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

Violation of University regulations or policies, as approved and published by various units of the University. These include, but are not limited to, the University policy prohibiting sexual misconduct and discrimination, as well as policies administered by the Center for Student Involvement, Information Technology Services, or other University entities regarding the use of University facilities, vehicles and amplification equipment, as well as campus demonstrations.

- 23.1 Violation of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management policies (<http://www.westga.edu/vpsa/index.php>)
- 23.2 Violation of Information Technology Services (ITS) policies. (<http://www.westga.edu/its/>)
- 23.3 Violation of Center for Student Involvement policies.
- 23.4 Violation of Campus Center policies (<http://www.westga.edu/urec/index.php>)
- 23.5 Violation of Housing and Residence Life policies (including Housing and Greek Village regulations). ([www.westga.edu/housing](http://www.westga.edu/housing)).
- 23.6 Violation of other published University policies not specifically named above.
- 23.7

## **24.0 JOINT RESPONSIBILITY FOR MISCONDUCT**

- 24.1** Encouraging others, conspiring with, or cooperating with others, in the violation of University rules or regulations.
- 24.2** Acting in concert or passive participation to violate University conduct regulations.
- 24.3** Allowing, condoning, permitting, or providing opportunity for a guest to violate University conduct regulations.

## **25.0 BULLYING**

See UWG Policy 3.8.2 – Bullying Involving Students