

13.02.99.R0.06 Standards of Student Conduct

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Procedure Statement

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to obey all federal, state, and local laws, in addition to the rules and procedures of the university.

Reason for Procedure

The standards of Student Conduct including disciplinary rules and procedures are designed to provide and conform to the basic tenets of due process, as developed by institutions of higher education. As such, the university distinguishes these procedures and regulations as an educational and growth process which is not intended to conform to adversary proceedings as in a court of law. These Standards of Student Conduct are subject to change without notice.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. DELINEATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1.1 The Division of Student Access and Success, by delegation of the president of the university, is designated as the agency within the university which has student conduct as one of its primary responsibilities. The Dean of Campus Life and Student Development is responsible to the Vice President for Student Access and Success and the President for recommending policies relating to student conduct and for formulating and recommending rules and enforcement procedures within the framework of existing policies, for disposal or referral of such individual cases as may properly come before it, and for recommending to the Vice President for Student Access and Success and the President changes in the administration of any aspect of the Standards of Student Conduct.

- 1.2 The University Discipline Committee, selected and appointed by the President, is designated as the agency within the university which has authority for the disposition of infractions or breaches of conduct and violations of university rules and procedures. The committee shall be responsible to the President for disposal of such cases as may properly come before it, and shall serve as the chief appellate body of the institution in this area.

1.2.1 The committee shall consist of faculty members and students appointed by the President. The Dean of Campus Life and Student Development will serve as an administrative advisor for disciplinary hearings. Members of the committee may be re-appointed. The President may appoint temporary members of the committee to serve during summer sessions or at such other times as is necessary to assure full membership of the committee.

1.2.2 The committee, or the Dean of Campus Life and Student Development, may delegate jurisdiction to student judicial bodies. Recognized judicial bodies are:

1.2.2.1 Living group judiciary bodies;

1.2.2.2 Judicial boards of Panhellenic, Interfraternity Council, or the National Pan-Hellenic Council; and

1.2.2.3 Student Court.

2. STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Texas A&M University-Commerce affirms that the student, upon enrollment, does not lose the right of, nor is he/she exempted from, fulfilling the obligations and duties of a citizen. The rights and responsibilities of students are held to include:

2.1 Rights

2.1.1 The right to develop the student's potential to the best of the student's abilities.

2.1.2 The right to inquire about and to recommend improvement in policies, regulations, and procedures affecting the welfare of students through the full use of the appropriate facilities provided in the student government and in the university offices.

2.1.3 The right to an informal advisor, a fair hearing, and appeal when a disciplinary action is applied to the student as an individual or as a group member.

2.2 Obligations and Responsibilities

2.2.1 The obligation to be fully acquainted with published regulations and of complying with them in the interest of an orderly and productive community.

2.2.2 The obligation of knowing that the student's conduct reflects not only upon the student, but also upon the institution and its citizenry and is judged in this manner.

2.2.3 The obligation to follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior commensurate with aspiration implied by a college education.

2.2.4 The obligation to respect the rights and property of others, including the administration, faculty, and other students of the university.

3. DISCIPLINE

3.1 Breaches of Conduct

The university regards the following as illustrations of misconduct by individuals or groups, which may result in review by the appropriate disciplinary agencies.

3.1.1 Academic cheating and plagiarism.

3.1.2 Furnishing false information to the university.

3.1.3 Forgery, alteration, unauthorized possession or misuse of university documents, records, identification cards or existing copyright laws. This would include faculty publications and laboratory materials related to the educational process.

3.1.4 Malicious destruction, damage, unauthorized possession or misuse of university property, including library and laboratory materials, or of private property on the campus.

3.1.5 Participating in hazing, acts which are degrading or injurious, or acts in which another is held against his/her will.

3.1.6 Abuse, whether physical, mental or otherwise, of another person in the university community, including members of the administration, faculty, staff, the student body and citizens of Commerce.

3.1.7 Possession, consumption, sale, manufacture, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages on university property is prohibited, except in those areas of university housing where possession and consumption is allowed (Ref. University Housing Policy) and where possession and consumption are allowed by University Procedure [34.03.01.R0.01](#) *[Alcoholic Beverages on University Property](#)*.

3.1.8 Possession, consumption, sale, or manufacture of illicit drugs and narcotics, including marijuana, and drug paraphernalia.

3.1.9 Disorderly conduct which inhibits or interferes with the educational responsibility of the university community or the university's social-educational activities.

3.1.10 Malfeasance or misuse of elective or appointive office in a student organization, which is detrimental to the organization, its members, or the welfare of the university community.

3.1.11 Violation of visitation and/or closing hours as recommended by the living-group governmental bodies and approved or established by the university administration.

- 3.1.12 Possession of weapons on university property; for example, knives (in threatening or violent manner), firearms, explosives, incendiary bombs, etc. Interpretation of this policy may be obtained from the University Police Department.
- 3.1.13 Violation of local, state, and federal laws, on or off campus.
- 3.1.14 Recurring incidents which are in violation of university rules and procedures and/or other such persistently irresponsible behavior that brings into question the student's serious intent to pursue an education.
- 3.1.15 Failure to respond to a summons by letter, telephone call, or personal messenger from a university administrative official or faculty member.
- 3.1.16 Failure to meet financial obligations incurred by the student to the university.
- 3.1.17 Theft or unauthorized possession of student property, including textbooks.
- 3.1.18 Entering a university building without authorization.
- 3.1.19 Sexual or racial harassment.
- 3.1.20 Sexual assault.
- 3.1. 21 Assault, whether simple, aggravated, physical or otherwise, to another person in the university community, including members of the administration, faculty, staff, the student body, and public citizens.
- 3.1.22 Such other violations of policies included in official publications of the university; for example, the university catalog, traffic regulations brochure, intramural catalog, etc.
- 3.1.23 Any student who engages in or makes life threatening gestures will be required to report as soon as possible to the Director of the University Counseling Center or designated representative. The director may require such students to obtain, at their own expense, a psychiatric evaluation to determine fitness to continue their current or future enrollment at Texas A&M University-Commerce. **Failure to consult or comply with the Director of the Counseling Center or his/her representative or to comply with evaluation requirements and recommendations made by the University Counseling Center or outside agency may result in disciplinary action.**
- 3.1.24 Failure to comply with the directions of a university administrative official or faculty member.
- 3.1.25 Complicity is condoning, supporting, or encouraging any violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Students who anticipate or observe any violation of the Code are expected to remove themselves from association or participation in any such inappropriate behavior.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

System Policy [13.02 Student Rights and Obligations](#)

University Procedure [13.02.99.R0.01 Administration of Discipline](#)

University Procedure [13.02.99.R0.04 Appeal Procedures](#)

University Procedure [13.02.99.R0.05 Disciplinary Records](#)

University Procedure [13.02.99.R0.07 Disciplinary Actions](#)

University Procedure [13.02.99.R0.08 Group Offenses](#)

[Student Guidebook](#)

Contact Office

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