

CODE OF CONDUCT



Conduct and Discipline

Students enrolling at WCU assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the university's function as an educational institution of higher learning. All WCU community members assume the responsibility for knowing and abiding by the academic honor and student conduct codes. The codes were designed to provide insight and guidance into the expected behaviors and decisions of students, as well as to support and foster a safe, respectful, and ethical learning environment. The codes are not intended to be exhaustive.

The university expects its students to conduct themselves as responsible individuals, considerate and respectful of the rights and interests of others. The university's mission reflects an intention to partner with students in their preparation for a professional career and part of the education experience for students pertains to the kind of behavior that is acceptable in professional settings. Honesty, integrity, and respect for others are integral to the expectations of student conduct. If a student's conduct does not conform to the university's standards outlined in the code of conduct, university officials will follow a course of action deemed appropriate up to and including dismissal from a course and potentially suspension or dismissal

is not intended for the express benefit of the learning experience and approved by the faculty. Disruptive behavior, including conversations unsanctioned by the faculty, is unacceptable.

Officially recognized student organizations are held to the university and professional standards and codes of conduct and could be responsible for behavior that violates WCU policies and procedures.

Authority

This Code of Conduct applies to all students, including those applying for admission. WCU has authority over student conduct that occurs on university property or in connection with university-related or sponsored activities, whether on or off university property.

Prohibited Behavior

Students may be held accountable for committing or attempting to commit any of the violations listed below. Students may also be held accountable for assisting, facilitating, or participating in the planning of an act that violates the Code of Conduct. The following list includes examples of violations of the conduct code that are subject to disciplinary action. The list is not intended to be exhaustive.

1. Suspicion, charges, or violations of federal, state, or local law on campus or off campus during participation in university-related or sponsored activities.
2. Violations or attempted violations of WCU codes, policies, rules, and regulations.
3. Violations or attempted violations of clinical affiliates' policies, rules, and regulations.
4. Abusive behavior, including but not limited to:
 - a. Verbal abuse, including but not limited to hostile or aggressive manner, profanity, derogatory or inflammatory language, defamation, coercion.
 - b. Behavior that poses a threat or danger to self and/or others or potentially disrupts the WCU community, including but not limited to hazing, bullying, sexual harassment, hate violence, intimidation, harassment, violence, assault in any form, stalking, or threats even in jest.
 - c. Terrorizing behavior, defined as behavior that causes a reasonable person to fear bodily harm or death.

Code Of Conduct (cont.)

5. Disorderly and/or disruptive conduct, including but not limited to:
 - a. Obstruction of teaching, university activities and events on or off campus, individual or group activities, on or off campus, that violate and/or disturb others' rights and/or safety, activities, and events on university property. The use of cell phones or any technology that is not intended for the express benefit of the learning experience and approved by the faculty is prohibited. Disruptive behavior, including conversations unsanctioned by the faculty, is unacceptable.
 - b. Incivility towards faculty, either in writing or verbally, to seek extra credit points, the ability to resubmit previously graded assignments, or to have work regraded for the sole purpose of improving grades without legitimate academic justification is unacceptable.
6. Dishonesty, including but not limited to:
 - a. Academic Dishonesty (see the academic honor code for more information)
 - b. Falsifying information, including but not limited to the falsification of citations or fabrication of research,
 - c. Forgery
 - d. Alteration or misuse of documents, records, or IDs
 - e. Fraud
 - f. Unauthorized multiple submissions, defined as the submission for credit in a WCU course of any work that has been previously submitted in identical or similar form without the informed permission or consent of the instructor in the WCU course in which the multiple submission is alleged to have occurred.
7. Failure to comply with directions or requests from university officials.
8. Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, gender transition status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), genetic information (including family medical history), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services (including protected veterans). Harassment is defined as conduct that is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by the university.
9. Property damage/vandalism or attempted property damage/vandalism.
10. Theft or attempted theft.
11. Conduct that threatens the health or safety of oneself or others.
12. Unauthorized entry into university property.
13. Use, possession, and sale of alcohol or illegal drugs in any form on all university property, including university-owned and leased buildings and parking lots. This includes the use, possession, or sale of cannabis. Notwithstanding state law, the use, distribution, and possession of cannabis, also known as marijuana, remains illegal under federal law with narrow exceptions. The federal Controlled Substances Act criminalizes the possession and distribution of Schedule I controlled substances, including cannabis, with a limited exception for certain federally approved research. The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and the Drug-Free Workplace Act require that WCU, as a recipient of federal funding, establish policies that prohibit illicit marijuana use, possession, and distribution on campus and in the workplace.
14. Misuse of university property.
15. Making a video recording, [Tm rtds /1j EMC ET EMC /P <</Lang \(en-US\)/MCID 100 >>BDd leaproperty.](#)

Code Of Conduct (cont.)

- i. The improper use of artificial intelligence to generate content submitted for a grade.
Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology can be used as a tool to support learning, such as generating topic ideas or providing feedback on grammar and punctuation. Students may integrate AI-generated content with their ideas

Code Of Conduct (cont.)

Title IX Nondiscrimination Policy and Notice of Nondiscrimination

WCU does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations, including in admission and employment.

WCU's Title IX nondiscrimination statement is provided: on the website under <https://westcoastuniversity.edu/legal/title-ix>; in the catalog, in the student handbook, and in the employee handbook. The Title IX policy and grievance procedures are provided on the website under: westcoastuniversity.edu/legal/title-ix.

Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the WCU Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinators, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both. Contact information for OCR is available here: <https://ocrcas.ed.gov/contact-ocr>.

To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please refer to the Title IX Coordinator or the Deputy Coordinators.

The Title IX Coordinator is:

Audrey Kaplan, Vice President Compliance and Risk Management
151 Innovation Dr. Irvine, CA 92617
akaplan@westcoastuniversity.edu / Tel: 949-743-5765

The Deputy Title IX Coordinators are:

Mandy DeJong, Senior Compliance Liaison
151 Innovation Dr. Irvine, CA 92617
mdejong@westcoastuniversity.edu / Tel: 949-783-4952

This deputy coordinator is responsible for providing modifications/supports for pregnancy or related conditions for students.

Nina Khiev, Regulatory Compliance Associate
151 Innovation Dr. Irvine, CA 92617
nkhiev@westcoastuniversity.edu / Tel: 949-783-4826

This deputy coordinator is responsible for providing guidance to students who have questions about Title IX regarding the actions of other students.

Leslie Zarrelli, Executive Director, HR Business Partner
151 Innovation Dr. Irvine, CA 92617
lzarrelli@westcoastuniversity.edu / Tel: 202-794-7768

This deputy coordinator is responsible for providing modifications/supports for pregnancy or related conditions for employees/faculty and for any Title IX complaints that include an employee as a party, but no student as a party.