

Annexure B: Student Code of Conduct

Approver	Senate
Sponsor	Vice-Chancellor
Owners	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education and Student Experience) Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Secretary	Academic Secretary
Code Type	Institutional
Code Category	Academic Governance

1 Purpose

- 1.1 Within the context of the core values of the Code of Ethical Conduct Framework, this Student Code of Conduct sets out the fundamental rights and responsibilities of students at the University.
- 1.2 The University recognises that excellence in learning and teaching requires students to be active participants in their educational experience. It upholds the ethos that in addition to the University's role of awarding formal academic qualifications to students, the University must strive to instil in all students independent scholarly learning, critical judgement, academic integrity and ethical sensitivity.
- 1.3 The University also recognises that students are central to a dynamic University community. In doing so, the University recognises the importance of student rights, freedom of speech and academic freedom, wellbeing, responsibilities and opinion, and encourages diversity within the student body.
- 1.4 Students retain their fundamental rights as set out in relevant legislation and in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. Everything in this Code is limited by anything to the contrary in relevant State and national legislation, and the University's statutes, by-laws, regulations and rules.
- 1.5 The breach of any student responsibility does not automatically invalidate any student rights. Consideration of student rights and responsibilities will be dealt with through the appropriate University policies and procedures.
- 1.6 This Student Code operates within the context of, and subject to, State and Commonwealth legislation, including anti-discrimination and harassment legislation. It is not possible to mention every circumstance or applicable Policy in this Student Code. If a circumstance or situation arises which is not expressly mentioned, individuals are expected to act in accordance with the underlying principles of this Student Code of Conduct.

2 Definitions

In this Annexure B and any associated procedures,

academic freedom is as defined in the UWA Code for the Protection of Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom

affirmative action obligations are as specified in State and national legislation

grievance, appeal and complaint are as defined in the relevant University code

services do not include certain targeted equity and support services

student is an individual enrolled at the University in one or more units towards a higher education award course or an enabling course, or undertaking units through University Extension other than on an audit-only basis

student organisations unless specified otherwise in a specific policy referred to in this Code, means the Student Guild, which includes organisations within the Guild such as the Postgraduate Students Association

open spaces of the campus do not include areas that have been booked for specific events;

University is The University of Western Australia, and any and all subsidiary or associated entities.

University Community refers to all individuals who engage in University activity and/or use University property.

3 Scope

- 3.1 The scope of this Code applies to:
- (a) all students of the University including —
 - (i) Undergraduates and postgraduates enrolled in a course undertaking coursework study;
 - (ii) Students enrolled in non-award courses, including micro-credentials and extension courses, and other entities of the University; and
 - (iii) Higher Degree by Research students.
- 3.2 Students who are also employed by the University must adhere to the Staff Code of Conduct when acting in their capacity as a member of staff.

4 General and Fundamental Student Rights and Responsibilities

- 4.1 Every student enrolled at UWA has the right:
- (a) to be recognised as an individual member of the University community, with all associated rights of access to University services and facilities;
 - (b) to be treated fairly and ethically, with respect and dignity;
 - (c) to study in a supportive and encouraging environment;
 - (d) to pursue resolution when the individual student's rights referred to in this Code are in tension with the rights of others, under the rights of representation and grievance specified within the Code;
 - (e) to assemble in a peaceful manner in the general open spaces of the campus;
 - (f) to fair and transparent process, including procedural fairness, independent advocacy and support, proportionate and equitable outcomes, and expect clear explanations for decisions that affect them;
 - (g) to access relevant evidence and an opportunity to respond, and to have the University's records concerning them managed securely, with access limited to authorised persons and content restricted to information deemed relevant under University policy or legislation;
 - (h) to protection against retrospective amendment of any statute, by-law, regulation, rule, policy or administrative guideline;
 - (i) to have access to the statutes, regulations, rules and policies of the University which apply to them;
 - (j) to be informed of the existence of this Code and to have adequate access to it; and
 - (k) to expect the University to discharge its duty of care to the wellbeing of all students on campus or studying remotely.
- 4.2 Every student has the responsibility:
- (a) to conduct themselves in a manner conducive to the proper functioning of the University, recognising that a primary function of the University is the pursuit of academic excellence.
 - (b) to recognise the rights of others, including the rights of every other student covered by this Code as well as the rights of staff and visitors;
 - (c) to obey the laws of the land and the University's land;
 - (d) to respect and uphold principles of scholarly integrity;
 - (e) to make themselves aware of and comply with statutes, regulations, rules and policies of the University which apply to them;
 - (f) to ensure that their student record is accurate at all times;
 - (g) to uphold the reputation of the University while engaged in University activities;
 - (h) to use the University's name, reputation, or crest responsibly and only with prior written permission;
 - (i) to use and care for all University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner, mindful of the need for resources to be shared by all members of the University community. This includes buildings, equipment and grounds, the University libraries, information and communication technology resources, both on-campus and off-campus venues, including online and off-campus activities;
 - (j) to keep their University student ID and passwords secure and must not disclose their password to anyone else;
 - (k) not to purport to speak or act on behalf of the University unless explicitly authorised to do so;
 - (l) to uphold the principle that antisemitism has no place at the University and ensure all students can learn and participate free from hate, intimidation, or vilification. While students may advocate lawfully, they must not target or harass Jewish individuals or groups, and must not engage in any form of discriminatory, hateful, or prejudicial behaviour, including antisemitism, racism, sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia, transphobia, or religious vilification;
 - (m) to contribute to a safe, respectful, and inclusive University community by treating all staff and students with courtesy and fairness; avoiding discrimination, harassment, bullying, hostility, or any form of prejudicial behaviour; refraining from sexual harassment or inappropriate conduct in any medium; and ensuring their actions support the health, safety, and wellbeing of themselves and other members of the University Community. They are expected to be fit for study, follow relevant

safety laws and standards, report hazards or incidents, act to uphold inclusive and respectful environments, and respond to complaints or disclosures with empathy and trauma-informed care; and

- (n) not to engage in any form of gender-based violence, including actions, behaviours, or threats that cause physical, psychological, sexual, or economic harm to another person on the basis of gender, gender identity, or perceived gender.

5 Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech

5.1 Every student must adhere to the Code for the Protection of Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom.

6 Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

6.1 Every student has the right:

- (a) to study in an environment committed to the principles of equity and equality of opportunity, the recognition of diversity, and the fulfilment of affirmative action obligations;
- (b) to have access to education, services and representation regardless of: gender or gender history, sexual orientation, race, relationship status, pregnancy, political conviction, religious conviction, impairment, family responsibilities or family status, age, language, ethnicity, national or social origin, socio-economic status, property, or birth or other status;
- (c) to be free from all sexual, physical and racial harassment;
- (d) to have consideration given to the making of alternative arrangements for academic commitments to allow for religious or other cultural observance, or family responsibilities; and
- (e) to have consideration given to the making of alternative arrangements for academic commitments to allow for any impairment or any medical condition.

6.2 Every student has the responsibility:

- (a) to act at all times in a way that respects the rights and privileges of others;
- (b) to respect the equity and diversity of all members of the University community;
- (c) to respect University property and the property of others; and
- (d) to make requests for alternative arrangements in a timely manner in order to facilitate consideration.

7 Access to Education

7.1 Every student has the right:

- (a) to be considered for selection into courses or units on the basis of criteria that are valid, explicit, fair and reliable;
- (b) to be free of course-related fees and charges other than those levied in accordance with relevant legislation and University policy;
- (c) to reasonable access to academic staff for assistance as well as to the various academic support services; and
- (d) to access relevant information provided by the University, including that concerning financial assistance provided or promoted by the University, such as grants, scholarships and loans.

7.2 Every student has the responsibility:

- (a) to disclose to the University (or its agent) all information required for assessment of an application for admission to a course and other requests for services and provide truthful statements about their qualifications and experience; and
- (b) to complete administrative obligations in a timely manner and pay any fees, charges or fines as they fall due or in the case where the student is unable to pay, to contact the relevant staff member in order to make alternative arrangements for payment.

8 Quality of Education

8.1 Every student has the right:

- (a) to expect to be informed of the content of the University's course offerings prior to their enrolment;
- (b) to expect the University to provide a high quality of education including a high quality of teaching, supervision, curriculum and unit content, a commitment to inclusivity, and good access to staff;
- (a) to access accurate, timely and sufficient information regarding enrolment and other administrative procedures;
- (b) to access accurate, timely and sufficient information concerning each unit in which they might enrol, including timetabling, assessment details, fees and attendance requirements;
- (c) to have the content and outcomes of each unit, and any relevant information communicated effectively and clearly in the language(s) approved for that unit;
- (d) to assessment that is valid, educative, explicit, reliable and fair;

- (e) to have their intellectual property and copyright recognised;
- (f) to expect the University to provide a safe and accessible environment, including facilities, equipment and grounds;
- (g) to transparency regarding agreements and funding arrangements, between the University and any other entity, which might inappropriately impact on a unit or course in which they are enrolled, or research project on which they are engaged; and
- (h) to have the opportunity to contribute feedback on the teaching and supervision they experience and to make suggestions for future course planning and to do so under full protection of academic freedom.

8.2 Every student has the responsibility:

- (a) to bring an open and enquiring mind and enthusiasm to their studies;
- (b) to participate actively in the teaching and learning and research environment, in particular by attending classes as required, complying with workload expectations, and submitting required work on time;
- (c) to be aware of all related policies, unit or subject information made available to them and to raise any questions or concerns with the appropriate staff member in a timely manner, also to make their learning needs known to appropriate staff members in a timely manner;
- (d) to take an active part in the management of their enrolment with the University and monitor their own progress within the teaching-learning environment;
- (e) to understand that despite all efforts to promote successful teaching and learning outcomes, student work may still not reach the standard required to pass a unit;
- (f) to recognise the fundamental principle of academic freedom in accordance with the UWA Code for the protection of academic freedom and freedom of speech, and to seek to safeguard this principle and freedom;
- (g) to adhere to the principles of ethical scholarship and academic integrity during the course of their studies at UWA;
- (h) to contribute fair and honest feedback on the teaching and supervision they experience when requested to do so; and
- (i) to display respect by behaving in a manner that will not unreasonably impair the freedom of others to pursue their studies or work and to participate in life at the University.

9 Student Representation

9.1 Every student has the right:

- (a) to have their opinion represented through the Student Guild on all matters affecting students.
- (b) to representation, where possible, on major decision-making bodies of the University either through direct election or by nomination through a recognised student body; and
- (c) to have the right, notwithstanding the existence of formal representation, to convey personal or collective opinion to the Vice-Chancellor.

10 Student Grievances, Appeals and Complaints

10.1 Every student has the right:

- (a) to be able to appeal or register a complaint or grievance against any academic assessment, academic procedure, administrative procedure, perceived discrimination or harassment, or the abrogation of any right stated in this Code;
- (b) to a clearly-documented process for dealing with a review and an appeal, complaint or grievance which is confidential, non-discriminatory, unbiased, and accountable; offers the opportunity for them to be accompanied to hearings by a person of their choice; and leads to resolution within a reasonable time;
- (c) in respect to an appeal, complaint or grievance, to receive reasons for resulting decisions; to be advised of opportunity for further appeal; and to experience no repercussions as a result of participation in the process; and
- (d) to seek guidance from a Student Assist Officer, school staff, and/or an Equity and Diversity Adviser as appropriate when submitting an appeal, complaint or grievance.

10.2 Every student has the responsibility to familiarise themselves and comply with the review, appeal, complaint or grievance procedures.

11 Breaches of the Student Code of Conduct

11.1 Students who breach the Student Code of Conduct will be subject to disciplinary action according to the Regulations for Student Conduct and Discipline.

11.2 The University reserves the right to investigate any alleged conduct, behaviour, action or inaction that it considers to be of a serious nature, notwithstanding that it may be outside the scope of this Student Code of Conduct.

12 Compliance Monitoring

12.1 The Director, Student Life and Community is accountable for:

- (a) Monitoring compliance with the Student Code.
- (b) Reviewing the Code regularly to ensure alignment with legal obligations, University values and best practice.
