
STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Student Code of Conduct of University of Phoenix supports the University's mission to provide access to higher education opportunities that enable students to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve their professional goals, improve the productivity of their organizations, and provide leadership and service to their communities.

Students are expected to conduct themselves ethically, honestly, and with integrity as responsible members of the University's academic community. This requires the demonstration of mutual respect and civility in academic and professional discourse.

A University is a marketplace of ideas and, in the search for truth, it is essential that freedom exists for contrary ideas to be expressed. Accordingly, students are expected to respect the rights and privileges of others and to foster an environment conducive to learning. Students are accountable for their actions and are required to work independently, as well as collaboratively with teams, in achieving learning goals and objectives.

By virtue of membership in the University's academic community, students accept an obligation to abide by this Student Code of Conduct. Conduct, either on or off-campus, that is determined to impair, interfere with, or obstruct the opportunities of others to learn or that disrupts the mission, processes, or orderly functions of the University will be deemed misconduct and shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Misconduct for which students are subject to disciplinary action includes, but is not limited to, the following enumerated violations:

1. Actions, oral statements, and written statements which threaten or violate the personal safety of any member of the faculty, staff, or other students.
2. Harassment that has the effect of creating a hostile or offensive educational environment for any student, faculty, or staff member.
3. Sex discrimination/sexual harassment that has the effect of creating a hostile or offensive educational environment for any student, faculty, or staff member. This includes, but is not limited to, sex discrimination, sexual harassment, unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal and nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature including sexual violence.
4. Stalking or persistently pursuing another person that has the effect of imposing unwelcomed contact and/or communication.
5. Disruptive behavior that hinders or interferes with the educational process.
6. Violation of any applicable professional codes of ethics or conduct.
7. Failure to promptly comply with any reasonable directive from faculty or University officials.
8. Failure to cooperate in a University investigation.
9. Carrying of weapons on campus, at campus-sanctioned events, or when meeting with campus personnel. (This policy is not applicable to students who are law enforcement officers required by law to carry firearms at all times).
10. Using, dealing in, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while in class, at campus-sanctioned events, or when meeting with campus personnel.
11. Failure to maintain confidentiality and respect the privacy of personal or professional information communicated about clients, one's employer, other students or their employers.
12. Falsification, alteration or invention of information, including, but not limited to, any third party document used to apply for financial aid, or lying during a University investigation.
13. Violation of the Student Code of Academic Integrity.
14. Violation of the policy on Acceptable Use of University Computing and Communication Resources for Students and Faculty.
15. Hazing (any action which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any University-sanctioned organization).
16. Violation of University regulations and policies (in addition to those regulations and policies covered by items 1-15 above).
17. Violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations that impacts the University's educational environment.

Student Code of Academic Integrity

University of Phoenix is an academic community whose fundamental mission is the pursuit of intellectual growth. Achievement of this mission is dependent upon the development of autonomous thought and respect for the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty threatens the integrity of individual students as well as the University's academic community.

By virtue of membership in the University's academic community, students accept a responsibility and obligation to abide by this Student Code of Academic Integrity, which is a part of the Student Code of Conduct. Academic integrity violations include all forms of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to the following:

1. Plagiarism - Intentional or unintentional representation of another's words or ideas as one's own in an academic exercise. Examples of plagiarism include but are not limited to:
 - a. The exact copy of information from a source without proper citation and without use of quotation marks or block quotation formatting. If any words or ideas used in a class posting or assignment submission do not represent the student's original words or ideas, the student must distinguish them with quotation marks or a freestanding, indented block quotation (for a quotation of 40 or more words), followed by the appropriate citation in accordance with the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. When a student copies information from a source, he or she must acknowledge the source with quotation marks or block quotes irrespective of whether or not the source has been formally published.
 - b. Paraphrasing statements, paragraphs, or other bodies of work without proper citation using someone else's ideas, data, language, and/or arguments without acknowledgement.
 - c. Presenting work as the student's own that has been prepared in whole or part by someone other than that particular student. This includes the purchase and/or sharing of work.

d. Failure to properly cite and reference statistics, data, or other sources of information that are used in one's submission.

2. Self-plagiarism, double dipping, or dovetailing - Submission of work that has been prepared for a course without fair citation of the original work and prior approval of faculty. Students who submit assignments that were previously submitted in any prior course are subject to the same consequences they would face if they plagiarized these assignments. The use of one's previous work in an assignment requires prior approval from the current faculty member and citation of the previous work.

3. Fabrication - Falsification or invention of any information, citation, data, or document.

a. This includes the invention or alteration of data or results, or relying on another source's results in any assignment without proper acknowledgement of that source. Fabrication includes citing sources that the student has not actually used or consulted.

4. Unauthorized Assistance - Use of materials or information not authorized by the faculty member to complete an academic exercise, or the completion of an academic exercise by someone other than the student. This includes the purchasing of services to partially or fully complete academic work.

a. Students must rely upon their own abilities and refrain from obtaining assistance in any manner that faculty does not explicitly allow. This includes but is not limited to providing or receiving answers to an exam, use of faculty materials or answer keys, or a student having someone take his or her exam.

5. Copyright infringement - Acquisition or use of copyrighted works without appropriate legal license or permission which includes peer-to-peer file sharing.

a. Any unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including peer-to-peer file sharing, including illegal downloading or unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials using the University information technology system may subject a student to civil and criminal liabilities. Refer to: <http://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap5.pdf> for information on federal copyright infringement and remedies.

6. Misrepresentation - Falsely representing the student's situation to faculty when (1) justifying an absence or the need for an incomplete grade; or (2) requesting a makeup exam, a special due date, or extension of a syllabus or class deadline for submitting a course requirement.

7. Collusion - Helping or allowing another student to commit any act of academic dishonesty.

Procedure for Processing Alleged Violations of the Student Code of Conduct:

Please note there are three separate procedures under the Student Code of Conduct: campus code of conduct, student records, and Title IX.

1. Campus Code of Conduct - all violations unless related to student records or sex discrimination/sexual harassment.

a. Alleged Violations are subject to a fair and impartial process and may result in a warning or charge.

i. Investigation - alleged violations will be investigated in a prompt, thorough, and impartial manner. The investigation will gather relevant evidence, including, but not limited to,

pertinent documents and statements from witnesses.

ii. During an investigation a student may be removed from class, campus-sanctioned events, and other University functions after review and consultation with the Office of Dispute Management.

b. Notification - A student who is charged will be notified of the specific charge(s) in writing and will be given ten (10) days to submit a written response to the designated University official.

i. Failure of a student to respond to the Charging Letter will result in suspension from the University following completion of the current course if the student is actively attending classes and is not subject to immediate suspension.

ii. In those instances where it is determined the conduct does not warrant a Charging Letter, a Warning Letter and/or counseling to the student will be provided. Note: A Warning Letter is not appealable.

iii. If this is a drug and/or alcohol related offense the campus must also notify the Office of Dispute Management.

c. Student Response

i. A student response acknowledging guilt will be sent to the Campus Director of Academic Affairs, the Campus Director of Operations, or their designee who will determine the appropriate sanction(s).

ii. A student response denying the charge(s) will follow the committee process outlined below.

d. Ethics Committee:

i. After the campus investigation is completed and the student has responded to the Charging Letter, an Ethics Committee will be convened to review the file, make findings of facts and recommendations to the Campus Director of Academic Affairs or the Campus Director of Operations (or designee).

ii. The Ethics Committee will be facilitated by an impartial University administrator and composed of at least three impartial individuals who have no prior involvement with the student or the investigation: a campus administrator, a faculty member, and a student representative.

iii. The preponderance of the evidence standard of proof (more likely than not) will be used to weigh the evidence and make a recommendation to the Director of Academic Affairs, Director of Operations, or designee about whether a violation occurred and what sanction, if any, is warranted.

iv. Students will be afforded the opportunity to address the Committee via teleconference to make a statement in their defense.

v. Students are not entitled to representation by an attorney or any other third party at any point in the process.

vi. Tape, digital, or other electronic recording of the committee meeting is not permitted.

vii. The Committee members are given a Case Packet with all relevant information for the committee meeting, including any written response received from the student.

viii. The Committee members sign a Confidentiality Statement for Committee Members and, after the Committee's deliberations, the Case Packets are required to

be destroyed in order to maintain confidentiality.

e. Decision - the facilitator delivers a summary report, generally containing findings of fact and recommendations, to the Campus Director of Academic Affairs or the Campus Director of Operations (or designee), who has the ultimate authority to accept, reject, or modify the recommendations of the Ethics Committee and render the decision.

i. The decision will be communicated to the student by the decision maker.

ii. In accordance with the requirements under the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA), upon written request, the University of Phoenix will disclose to an alleged victim of a crime of violence, or a non-forcible sex offense, the results of any disciplinary hearing conducted by the institution against the student(s) who is/are the alleged perpetrator(s) of the crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of the alleged crime or offense, the University of Phoenix will provide the results of the disciplinary hearing to the victim's next of kin, if so requested.

iii. Any decision which affects a student's enrollment or academic status will be communicated to the Registrar's Office for records update.

f. Sanctions:

i. If a violation is found, disciplinary sanctions will be based on the seriousness of the situation and may include, but are not limited to, documented counseling by a University staff member, loss of academic credit, suspension and/or expulsion.

ii. A recommendation of expulsion by the decision maker will be automatically reviewed by the Student Discipline Review Committee (SDRC) in the Office of Dispute Management (ODM) and must be endorsed before the campus communicates that sanction to the student.

g. Appeals:

i. Where a student is found to be in violation of the Student Code of Conduct after receiving a Charging Letter, they may appeal the decision to the SDRC in the ODM within ten (10) days of receiving the campus decision.

ii. The SDRC is comprised of a senior manager from the University, a Regional Director of Academic Affairs, and an Associate or Assistant Dean from the accused student's college (or their respective designee). The decision of the SDRC is final and shall be communicated directly to the student and the campus, except in the case of a decision by the SDRC supporting a campus recommendation of expulsion (see f.ii. above).

iii. If the student is sanctioned with expulsion, the review of the appeal will be conducted by the Senior Management Review Committee (SMRC) in the Office of Dispute Management. The SMRC is comprised of the Provost, the Vice President of University Services, and the Dean of the accused student's college (or their respective designees). The decision of the SMRC is final and will be communicated directly to the student and the campus.

2. An alleged violation of the Student Code of Conduct that relates to student records will be forwarded in writing to the Registrar.

a. Alleged Violations are subject to a fair and impartial process

and may result in a warning or charge.

b. Investigation - alleged violations will be investigated in a prompt, thorough, and impartial manner.

i. The investigation will gather relevant evidence, including, but not limited to, pertinent documents and statements from witnesses.

ii. During an investigation a student may be removed from class, campus-sanctioned events, and other University functions after review and consultation with the Office of Dispute Management.

c. Notification - A student who is charged will be notified of the specific charge(s) in writing and will be given ten (10) days to submit a written response to the designated University official.

i. Failure of a student to respond to the Charging Letter will result in suspension from the University following completion of the current course if the student is then actively attending classes and is not subject to immediate suspension.

ii. In those instances where it is determined the conduct does not warrant a Charging Letter, a Warning Letter and/or counseling to the student will be provided. Note: A Warning Letter is not appealable.

d. Student Response

i. A student response acknowledging guilt will be sent to the Registrar, or their designee who will determine the appropriate sanction(s).

ii. A student response denying the charge(s) will follow the committee process outlined below.

e. Registrar's Committee:

i. After the Apollo Ethics and Compliance Department's investigation is completed and the student has responded to the Charging Letter, a Registrar's Committee will be convened to review the file, make findings of facts and recommendations to the Registrar (a designee may be appointed if the Registrar has recused himself/herself).

ii. The Registrar's Committee will be facilitated by a Manager or Senior Investigator from Apollo Ethics and Compliance. The facilitator must be impartial and have had no prior involvement with the investigation or student.

iii. The Registrar's Committee composition will be at least three impartial individuals who have no prior involvement with the student or the investigation: an Associate Registrar (or designee); a Director or Operations Manager from the Registrar's Office (or designee), and a Director from University Services or a Director of Finance.

iv. The Registrar's Committee will use the preponderance of the evidence standard of proof (more likely than not) to weigh the evidence and make a recommendation to the Registrar or designee about whether a violation occurred and what sanction, if any, is warranted.

v. Students will be afforded the opportunity to address the Registrar's Committee via teleconference to make a statement in their defense.

vi. Students are not entitled to representation by an attorney or any other third party at any point in the process.

vii. Tape, digital, or other electronic recording of the

committee meeting is not permitted.

viii. The Registrar's Committee members are given a Case Packet with all relevant information for the committee meeting, including any written response received from the student.

ix. The Registrar's Committee members sign a Confidentiality Statement for Committee Members and, after the Committee's deliberations, the Case Packets are required to be destroyed in order to maintain confidentiality.

f. Decision - the facilitator delivers a summary report, generally containing findings of fact and recommendations, to the Registrar (or designee), who has the ultimate authority to accept, reject, or modify the recommendations of the Registrar's Committee and render the decision.

i. The decision will be communicated to the student by the decision maker.

ii. In accordance with the requirements under the HEOA, upon written request, the University of Phoenix will disclose to an alleged victim of a crime of violence, or a non-forcible sex offense, the results of any disciplinary hearing conducted by the institution against the student(s) who is/are the alleged perpetrator(s) of the crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of the alleged crime or offense, the University of Phoenix will provide the results of the disciplinary hearing to the victim's next of kin, if so requested.

g. Sanctions:

i. If a violation is found, disciplinary sanctions will be based on the seriousness of the situation and may include, but are not limited to, documented counseling by a University staff member, loss of academic credit, suspension and/or expulsion.

ii. A recommendation of expulsion by the decision maker will be automatically reviewed by the SDRC in the ODM and must be endorsed before the Registrar communicates that sanction to the student.

h. Appeals:

i. Where a student is found to be in violation of the Student Code of Conduct after receiving a Charging Letter, they may appeal the decision to the SDRC in the ODM within ten (10) days of receiving the Registrar's decision.

ii. The SDRC is comprised of a senior manager from the University, a Regional Director of Academic Affairs, and an Associate or Assistant Dean from the accused student's college (or their respective designee). The decision of the SDRC is final and will be communicated directly to the student and the Registrar, except in the case of a decision by the SDRC supporting a Registrar recommendation of expulsion (see g.ii. above).

iii. If the student is sanctioned with expulsion, the review of the appeal will be conducted by the Senior Management Review Committee (SMRC) in the Office of Dispute Management. The SMRC is comprised of the Provost, the Vice President of University Services, and the Dean of the accused student's college (or their respective designees). The decision of the SMRC is final and will be communicated directly to the student and the campus.

3. An alleged violation of the Student Code of Conduct that relates to sex discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual violence will be forwarded to the University's Title IX Coordinator, Camie Pratt, Associate Vice President, Office of Dispute Management, 4025 S. Riverpoint Parkway, Mailstop CF-SX01, Phoenix, AZ 85040, 602.557.3391, TitleIX@phoenix.edu.

a. Alleged Violations are subject to a fair and impartial process and may result in a warning or charge.

i. Alleged violations will be investigated in a prompt, thorough, and impartial manner. The investigation will gather relevant evidence, including, but not limited to, pertinent documents and statements from witnesses.

ii. Investigations will be conducted within 60 days barring any unusual complexity.

iii. During an investigation a student may be removed from class, campus-sanctioned events, and other University functions after review and consultation with the Office of Dispute Management.

b. Notification - A student who is charged will be notified of the specific charge(s) in writing and will be given ten (10) days to submit a written response to the designated University official.

i. Failure of a student to respond to the Charging Letter will result in suspension from the University following completion of the current course if the student is then actively attending classes and is not subject to immediate suspension.

ii. In those instances where it is determined the conduct does not warrant a Charging Letter, a Warning Letter and/or counseling to the student will be provided. Note: A Warning Letter is not appealable.

iii. The complainant(s) shall be notified of when and if a Charge Letter or warning is sent to the respondent(s).

c. Student Response

i. A student response acknowledging guilt will be sent to the Title IX Coordinator (or designee), who will determine the appropriate sanction(s).

ii. A student response denying the charge(s) will follow the committee process outlined below.

d. Title IX Committee:

i. After the investigation is completed and the student has responded to the Charging Letter, opposing parties will be afforded the opportunity to present written witness statements for inclusion in the Title IX Case Packet.

ii. The Title IX Committee will be convened to review the file and make findings and recommendations to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator (a designee may be appointed if the Coordinator has recused himself/herself).

iii. The Title IX Committee will be facilitated by an impartial administrator from the Office of Dispute Management.

iv. The Title IX Committee composition will be at least three impartial individuals who have no prior involvement with the parties or the investigation: a director (or designee), a faculty member, and a student.

v. The Title IX Committee will use the preponderance of the evidence standard of proof (more likely than not) to weigh the evidence and make a recommendation to the Title IX

Coordinator, Deputy Coordinator, or designee about whether a violation occurred and what sanction, if any, is warranted.

vi. Students and complainants will be afforded the opportunity to separately address the Title IX Committee to make a statement in their defense. This may be done via teleconference.

vii. Students are not entitled to representation by an attorney or any other third party at any point in the process. However, in accordance with the HEOA, opposing parties are entitled to have third parties present during the committee process. (Note: The third party cannot be an attorney).

viii. Tape, digital, or other electronic recording of the committee meeting is not permitted.

ix. The Title IX Committee members are given a Case Packet with all relevant information for the committee meeting, including any written response received from the student, opposing parties' statements, all evidence discovered during the investigation, and any written witness statements the parties have submitted.

x. The Title IX Committee members sign a Confidentiality Statement for Committee Members and, after the Title IX Committee's deliberations, the Case Packets are required to be destroyed in order to maintain confidentiality.

e. Decision - the facilitator delivers a summary report, generally containing findings of fact and recommendations, to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator (or designee), who has the ultimate authority to accept, reject, or modify the recommendations of the Title IX Committee and render the decision.

i. The decision will be communicated to the student and the complainant by the Title IX Coordinator or designee.

ii. In accordance with the requirements under the HEOA, upon written request, the University of Phoenix will disclose to an alleged victim of a crime of violence, or a non-forcible sex offense, the results of any disciplinary hearing conducted by the institution against the student(s) who is/are the alleged perpetrator(s) of the crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of the alleged crime or offense, the University of Phoenix will provide the results of the disciplinary hearing to the victim's next of kin, if so requested.

iii. In accordance with the requirements under the HEOA, opposing parties will be informed of the committee determination, including any sanction that is imposed.

iv. Any decision which affects a student's enrollment or academic status shall be communicated to the Registrar's Office for records update.

f. Sanctions:

i. If a violation is found, disciplinary sanctions will be based on the seriousness of the situation and may include, but are not limited to, documented counseling by a University staff member, loss of academic credit, suspension and/or expulsion.

ii. A recommendation of expulsion by the decision maker will be automatically reviewed by the Student Discipline Review Committee in the Office of Dispute Management and must be endorsed before the Title IX Coordinator communicates that sanction to the student.

g. Appeals:

i. Where a student is found to be in violation of the Student Code of Conduct after receiving a Charging Letter, they may appeal the decision to the Student Discipline Review Committee (SDRC) in the Office of Dispute Management (ODM) within ten (10) days of receiving the Title IX Coordinator's decision. Additionally, the complainant has the right to file an appeal.

ii. The SDRC is comprised of a senior manager from the University, a Regional Director of Academic Affairs, and an Associate or Assistant Dean from the accused student's college (or their respective designee). The decision of the SDRC is final and will be communicated directly to the student, complainant, and the Registrar, except in the case of a decision by the SDRC supporting a Registrar recommendation of expulsion (see f.ii. above).

iii. If the student is sanctioned with expulsion, the review of the appeal will be conducted by the Senior Management Review Committee (SMRC) in the Office of Dispute Management. The SMRC is comprised of the Provost, the Vice President of University Services, and the Dean of the accused student's college (or their respective designees). The decision of the SMRC is final and will be communicated directly to the student and the campus.

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