

Code of Student Conduct

Introduction and purpose

The code of student conduct is established to foster and protect the core missions of the university, to foster the scholarly and civic development of the university's students in a safe and secure learning environment, and to protect the people, properties and processes that support the university and its missions. The core missions of the university are teaching, learning, service and research.

The code governs all campuses of the university.

Definitions

"University premises" means all lands, buildings, and facilities owned, leased, or operated by the university. The term "student" means an individual who has paid an acceptance fee, registered for classes, or otherwise entered into any other contractual relationship with the university to take instruction.

A safe and secure environment allows for a positive learning environment. In turn, a positive learning environment promotes student learning.

To successfully achieve these outcomes, it is necessary to develop a clear set of student expectations.

1 **Student expectations:** Students will

- ❖ Attend all classes on time.
- ❖ Be prepared for class with the appropriate materials and homework completed.
- ❖ Students will not participate in cheating or plagiarizing their work or the work of others.
- ❖ Be honest with all staff and students.
- ❖ Express themselves without the use of profane language or offensive gestures.

- ❖ Participate in positive group activities and will not be involved in any swarming, bullying, intimidating or harassing of staff or students.
- ❖ Show respect for others by not participating in teasing and ridiculing.
- ❖ Show respect for others by not wearing clothing with inappropriate messages (i.e., profane language, racial or sexual references, references to alcohol/illegal drugs or gang related).
- ❖ Respect the personal property of others.
- ❖ Respect and follow direction from all staff of the institution/University.
- ❖ Respect the safety of others by not bringing real or imitation weapons to institution/University or in the hostel/campus.

2 Attendance and Preparation for Class

It is understood that student achievement is a direct result of attending and participating in classroom instruction and classroom activities. It is, therefore, a requirement for students to attend all classes on time and with the appropriate materials. Students who come late will not be awarded attendance and may be denied entry to the class. Attendance and internal assessment are two valuable tools to monitor the academic progress of a student. To avoid anxiety and stress before the examination, one should maintain a good record of attendance and internal assessment. Though 100% attendance is essential, 25% absenteeism is permitted to cover ill health and family commitments.

3 Classroom Behaviour

Every student has the right to an uninterrupted and safe instructional environment. Behaviours which interfere with student learning will not be tolerated.

Mobile phones: Use of mobile phone in the class, laboratory, library and in the hospital wards during working hours is not allowed.

- ❖ Wearing caps and shorts, eating, chewing and drinking during the class is strictly forbidden.
- ❖ All students must be in possession of their identity cards. Any loss should be promptly reported to the Dean. The cards must not be mutilated, defaced or rendered ineffective for identification. The card must be returned at the termination of course / withdrawal from the institute.

4 **Conduct during Examination**

Students are expected to strictly abide by the rules and regulations as specified in the hall ticket issued by the university/Institution and the candidate found guilty of any violation shall not be permitted to take practical and viva examination till appropriate authority clears.

5 **Graffiti / Vandalism (property and /or equipment)**

Students are responsible for any textbooks, library books, or any equipment loaned to or used by them. If misused or damaged, students will be responsible for charges to repair or replace. If repayment is not received, students will have in-school privileges removed or suspended.

Interfering or tampering with any of the office records of college / university is a serious offence and will result in suspension / rustication.

6 **Dress Code**

Students will wear clean, neat and presentable clothing. Following is the dress code of MAHE. Visiting students are also expected to observe the dress code. Students are advised to follow the following dress code while attending the colleges for lectures / practicals / dissections / library / labs and formal functions of the institution.

The dress should be neat, clean and pressed.

- **Recommended for Boys**

Clean and pressed Trousers and collared shirt; shoes and socks.

- **Recommended for Girls**

- ❖ Clean and pressed Salwar or churidhar with kameez / trousers with formal shirt and formal footwear.
- ❖ It is also recommended that students avoid torn (intentional/otherwise), dirty dresses and related accessories, which is not in keeping with the decorum of the institution.
- ❖ In case of violation of the dress code, the student concerned will be asked to leave the academic session.

For Health Sciences: Aprons (extending to mid-thigh or below) and name tags are compulsory for boys and girls especially during dissection / practicals / demonstration. Wearing the apron outside the campus is discouraged.

7 **Weapons or Replicas of Weapons**

- ❖ Weapons or replicas of weapons are not permitted on University Campus at any time. Criminal charges will be filed in every instance, as well as suspension or expulsion.
- ❖ Involvement in any criminal offence under Indian Legal System will result in suspension or expulsion from the college.
- ❖ Engaging in trade /trade activities within the premises / campus is prohibited.

8 **Illegal Drugs and Alcohol (possession\personal use\providing for others)**

Illegal drugs and/or alcohol are not permitted on university property or on any college excursion. If students are found to be experiencing difficulties with substance abuse, they will be referred for counseling, drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs. Persistent disregard or denial of medical assistance could result in criminal charges and possible expulsion.

9 Smoking

Smoking is not permitted in any college/hostel/campus. Fine will be levied for each infraction.

10 Policy on Substance Abuse

Objective: To prevent substance abuse and to create a secure, conducive atmosphere for learning among the students in the campus.

MAHE adheres to the following guidelines concerning the possession, use and/or distribution of substances of abuse: Cannabis, Heroin, Benzodiazepines, barbiturates, Flunitrazepam, Cocaine, Ketamine, Psilocybin, Lysergic acid diethylamide, Amphetamine, Methamphetamines, MDMA, Phencyclidine, GHB, Methaqualone, Inhalants and any other drugs and substances mentioned in The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Act 1985.

- ❖ The possession, use and/or distribution of substances of abuse are prohibited on premises owned or controlled by the University.
- ❖ University squads will carry out random checks on students/residential premises for substance of abuse.
- ❖ Possession, use and/or distribution of substances of abuse will attract appropriate disciplinary action which may include expulsion. Offenders will also come under the purview of **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985 (NDPS Act)** and will be liable for penal action.

Disciplinary procedures:

A student violating the MAHE policy on substance abuse will face:

- ❖ Immediate suspension from the college, pending enquiry.
- ❖ Parent/legal guardian will be informed immediately and will be expected to meet the Head of Institution (HOI) at the earliest.
- ❖ The Institutional disciplinary committee will conduct an enquiry and submit the report to the HOI who will initiate further action in consultation with the Director Student Affairs MAHE.

Policy Matters on Alcohol & Tobacco:

- ❖ The University campus is declared as “Alcohol /Tobacco free campus”
- ❖ If a student is found possessing/consuming Tobacco/Alcohol in the premises owned or controlled by the University, the Disciplinary Committee (DC) will take appropriate action.

11 Risky Behaviour

- ❖ Students are strongly discouraged from owning and riding motor cycles
- ❖ Students riding noisy two wheelers are warned that their vehicles will be locked/seized by the security/police.
- ❖ As the Arabian Sea is rough throughout the year, it is dangerous to venture into these waters. Hence students are strongly advised not to venture out/swim in the sea.

12 Fighting / Criminal Assault

Any student involved in or encouraging the involvement of another student in fighting will be suspended. Persistent involvement will result in expulsion from the college.

13 Respect for Authority

Students will demonstrate respect for all staff and students. Students are expected to recognize and comply with the authority held by the institution/university and its staff. Requests made to them by staff are expected to be followed and adhered to. Failure to follow such requests could lead to intimation of parents, loss of privileges, suspension or expulsion.

14 Harassment\Threatening

Harassment will not be tolerated. Harassment, whether written, verbal, sexual (including homosexuality and pornography), physical, emotional, or racial, is a serious offence and will be treated as such.

15 Bullying\Intimidation\Swarming

No student will participate in or initiate any form of bullying, intimidation or swarming. Persistent disregard would result in suspensions, expulsions, and/or criminal charges.

16 Ragging

Ragging within or outside the educational institution is prohibited. Ragging is an offence under the penal code and the Karnataka Education act 1983. Whoever directly or indirectly commits, participates in, abets or instigates ragging inside or outside the educational institution shall be suspended, expelled or rusticated from the institution and shall also be liable to fine. The punishment includes rigorous imprisonment, cancellation of admission, suspension from attending classes, withholding/ withdrawing fellowship/scholarship and other financial benefits, withholding or cancelling the results.

Ragging includes display of noisy, disorderly conduct, teasing, rough or rude treatment, indulging in rowdy, indisciplined and obscene activities which cause or are likely to cause annoyance, undue hardship, physical or psychological harm or mental trauma or raise apprehension or fear in a fresher or other students, or forcing a student to do any act which such a student is not willing to do or which causes him/ her shame or embarrassment or danger to his/her life or indulging in eve teasing.

17 Any form of Cybercrime (Illegal activity committed on the internet) by the student is strictly prohibited and will result in suspension / loss of privileges and as per the law of the land.

18 Identity Card

Students are expected to possess the identity card issued by the University at all time and are required to produce the same when asked for by the institutional and University authorities / District Police Authority.

19 Public Demonstration of Affection

Public demonstration of affection is not permitted in the campus. The Security personnel on duty are authorized to check the identity card of students who are involved in public demonstration of affection. Parents of the involved students will be informed and appropriate disciplinary action will be initiated amounting to suspension / loss of privileges.

20 Dismissal / Denial of Award of the Degree

The University reserves its right to dismissal / denial of the award of the degree to the student under the following circumstances:

- ❖ Involvement in criminal case which brings disgrace to the image of the University.
- ❖ Involvement in case of Ragging.
- ❖ Repeatedly violating the Code of Conduct and showing no improvement after several warnings.
- ❖ Violating the ethics of the profession.
- ❖ Involvement in anti-national / anti-social activities.
- ❖ Certified by qualified professional and approved by the University that the student is mentally ill and is unfit to pursue the profession.
- ❖ Students who do not show any improvement in academic progress despite all the support, found to be involved in substance abuse and refuse rehabilitation.
- ❖ Involvement in Sexual Harassment.
