Non-Academic Misconduct

Guide to Student Code of Conduct for Students

Students have an obligation to familiarize themselves with the Code of Student Conduct to ensure they are aware of their rights, responsibilities, and expectations to the University community.



What is Non-Academic Misconduct?

Non-academic misconduct is conduct by a student that has, or could reasonably be seen to have a negative effect on the functioning of the university, or the health, safety, rights, or property of the university community. Non-academic misconduct falls under the Student Code of Conduct.

What is the Code of Student Conduct?

The Code of Student Conduct (Code) outlines the non-academic behavioural expectations for students and the process when infractions of the Code arise. The Code is dynamic and may change. In addition the <u>Code of Student Conduct</u> (link), there are other policies that students should be familiar with, including (with link):

- Sexualized Violence Policy
- Statement on Prohibited Discrimination
- <u>Discipline Procedures Concerning Allegations of Academic Offences</u>
- Resident Code of Conduct



Ombudsperson
OMBUDS@DAL.CA
902-494-2665



Human Rights & Equity Services HREHP@DAL.CA 902-494-6672



Student Health& Wellness
Centre
902-494-2171
2nd floor,
LeMarchant Place

Where does the Code Apply?

Code applies to non-academic misconduct by a student or group of students that happens:

- On University property
- Off University property: including online, university activities, representing the university
- In context of an academic program: in-person/online, lectures, tutorials, placements, etc.

Student Conduct Office

If you have questions about submitting a complaint, cannot submit a complaint through online process, or have questions about information on the page contact sco@dal.ca

What Type of Conduct is covered by the Code?

Abuse of process	Misconduct against animals
Alcohol, cannabis and drug use	Misconduct against property
Smoking	Misuse of university information technology
Contravention of policy or law	Misuse of social media
Disruption or interference	Unauthorized entry and/or presence
Hazing	Aiding in the commission of an offence
Possession or improper use of dangerous objects and substances	Misrepresentation, failing to provide or providing false information
Misconduct again person and dangerous activity: assault, harassment, discrimination	Situations not specifically covered

Report of Misconduct: Complaint Procedure



—

Formal Code complaint made by complainant or University.

If No, informally resolved.

If Yes, Manager, Student Conduct, connects with involved parties & collects facts.

NOTE:

Manager of Student Conduct – Melyssa Kerr

Connecting
with Melyssa is
a good first
step
melyssa.Kerr@
dal.ca



If conditions for Code apply, interim accommodations & measures for complainant & respondent set.

If conditions not met, advising on campus/community supports.



Manager, Student Conduct, engages with parties to review facts & determine complaint resolution stream.

Resolution stream may be informal (noninvestigative) or formal (investigative).

Informal Procedure: Non-Investigative Stream

An informal non-investigative stream involves the resolution of a complaint and could possible include remedial, educational, and/or restrictive outcomes.

If a respondent does not agree to an informal resolution plan, the investigative stream is engaged. If a respondent agrees to an informal resolution plan, the process unfolds the following way:

1

Informal resolution requirements provided to Student Affairs to ensure completion.

2

Respondent successfully fulfills requirements of the informal resolution plan.

3

Complaint is resolved.

Formal Procedure: Investigative Stream

A formal investigative stream involves an investigator conducting an investigation (within 60 days) and preparing a confidential report. The report is provided to the complainant, respondent, Manager, Student Conduct, and Vice Provost Student Affairs (VPSA).

The investigation report makes a finding based on the balance of probabilities whether or not the respondent has committed non-academic misconduct. The reasons for the finding are outlined in the report.

The investigative stream requires the consent of both the complainant and respondent. The process unfolds the following way:

1

VPSA consults with relevant parties to determine if breach in Code.

If no, advising for campus/community supports.

If yes, VPSA will identify if remedial or educational outcome.

2

If remedial or educational outcome appropriate, informal resolution recommended (see above).

If remedial or educational outcome not appropriate, VPSA recommends measures for consideration by Senate Discipline Committee.

3

Once referred to Senate Discipline Committee, a hearing will be scheduled & disciplinary measures imposed.

Senate Discipline Committee ruling provided to Student Affairs to ensure completion.

LINK TO: Code of Student Conduct: Complaint Procedure Flow Chart

Types of Sanctions

The University's approach in any Code process is to be educational and/or restorative. The intent of this approach is to help students to understand why their behaviour was inappropriate, appreciate the impact of their behaviour on others, and effect positive change.

Sanctions imposed are proportionate to the type of misconduct. Misconduct is assessed on a case-by-case basis and takes into account the circumstances surrounding an incident. The severity of a sanction will be affected by whether a student has been involved in previous misconduct incidents, a student's willingness to co-operate, admit to wrongdoing, and modify their behaviour.

Sanctions may be remedial/educational or disciplinary. Below is a list of possible sanctions, but it is not limited to those listed:

Remedial/Educational	Disciplinary
Impact letter/statement or video	Mandatory training
Facilitated discussion with Manager, Student Conduct and complainant	Imposition of certain conditions, restitution, suspension or expulsion
Education or training	Denial of specified privileges
	Probation

Disclosures and reports of non-academic misconduct will be kept confidential to the greatest extent possible, within limitations of the Code of Student of Conduct. Review Page 16 on Code of Student Conduct - Disclosures and Reports Generally

Appeals

If you disagree with the University's decision and imposed sanctions, you have the option to appeal the Senate Discipline Committee's decision to the Senate Appeals Committee.

The appeal process aligns with the procedures of the Senate Appeals Committee. If you are considering appealing the decision and sanctions, take the time to review the appeals <u>procedure</u>.

Before you make your decision, you may also want to consult and seek the advice and support of an advocate and connect with the Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service.



DALHOUSIE STUDENT STUDENT ADVOCACY SERVICE (DSAS)

Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service (DSAS) Advocates can attend attend meeting with you. You can have support and someone with you to provide advice!

Whether you need support at the beginning of a non-academic misconduct at the beginning, during, or following a decision, Advocates can support you at any stage and offer you advice and guidance on the process and procedure.

Email dsad@dal.ca anytime to consult and reach out for support.