

The Liberty Way Non-Academic Conduct

Non-Academic Conduct

Non-academic life comprises a significant portion of the time a student spends at Liberty and the University expects students to take responsibility for their behavior and choices. When those choices violate the Honor Code, the university has a responsibility to administer discipline with love and mercy.

Harassment

Sexual Harassment

Liberty University is committed to providing students and employees with an environment free of harassment in any form. Any act of harassment (i.e., physical, psychological, verbal or sexual) that threatens a person or persons is considered a serious offense and will not be tolerated.

The University provides educational programming to promote the awareness of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual harassment and other sexual offenses. Any person or group who commits acts of harassment based upon race, ethnicity, gender or disability on or off campus will be subject to disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal from the University.

Behavior that constitutes sexual harassment, which is a form of sexual discrimination prohibited by [Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972](#) and [Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act](#), includes but is not limited to, unwanted sexual attention, requests for sexual favors and/or other verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature, which negatively affects another person.

- Reporting Process

Any student who believes that he/she has been the subject of harassment in any form should immediately report the incident to the Office of Student Conduct or the Student Care Office. The student will be given the opportunity to express his/her concerns and will then be informed of the recourse available to him/her under school policy and local and state statutes.

- Consequences

Students who engage in any harassment behavior are subject to disciplinary action, which may result in community service or dismissal from the University. Since the University takes such charges seriously, where the results of an investigation reveal a complaint of harassment/sexual

harassment to be frivolous or groundless, the individual having made such a complaint may be subject to the same disciplinary action.

Racial Harassment & Discrimination

Liberty University insists that all members of the University Community are entitled to and shall be afforded an environment free of racism—whether overt or subtle. Therefore, members of the Community will not tolerate racial discrimination or harassment of any kind.

Behavior that constitutes racial discrimination or harassment is prohibited by [Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act](#). This includes, but is not limited to, racial/ethnic slurs, coarse jesting with racial/ethnic overtones and other forms of communication resulting in disparagement or intimidation

- Reporting Process
 - ◆ Report the incident to the [Office of Student Conduct](#) or the Center for Multicultural Enrichment
 - ◆ Student Conduct Officers will review the racial discrimination/harassment policy with the complainant
 - ◆ A Racial Discrimination/Harassment Grievance Form will be filed
 - ◆ Complainant must decide if he/she wants to pursue a formal complaint, which may result in disciplinary action
 - ◆ Investigation
 - ◆ The Student Conduct Review Committee will examine the results of the investigation and determine the best course of action
 - ◆ The Student Conduct Officer will conduct a final interview with complainant
- Consequences

Any Liberty University student who commits racial discrimination or harassment is subject to disciplinary action, which may result in 18 or 30 points (see Sec. V), along with possible fines, and community service and/or possible administrative withdrawal. In addition, since the University takes such charges seriously, where the results of an investigation reveal a complaint of racial discrimination or harassment to be frivolous or groundless, the individual having made such a complaint may be subject to the same disciplinary action.

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault means "any unwanted forced sexual contact." Areas of sexual assault include, but are not limited to the following:

- ◆ Any forced sexual contact or relations
 - ◆ Rape (which includes date and acquaintance rape) - sexual relations that constitute the lack of consent, committed either by force, intimidation or through the use of the victim's mental or physical incapacity
 - ◆ Any coercion of a sexual nature
- Reporting Process

Any person wishing to report a suspected violation of this policy may contact any of the

following:

- ◆ [LUPD](#): 582-3911
- ◆ [Office of Student Conduct](#): 582-4138
- ◆ [Student Care Office](#): 592-4138
- ◆ [LU Health Services](#): 200-6370
- ◆ Lynchburg Police Department: 847-1614
- ◆ The Rape Companion Program (SARP): 947-7273

Students who would like assistance in contacting local authorities may request such help from campus authorities. The University will provide prompt, compassionate and discreet support services to victims of sexual assault and will strictly enforce its Sexual Assault Policy. The University will also inform the student of the recourse available to him/her under school and state statutes. The student has the option to pursue on-campus discipline. The Division of Student Affairs will proceed with the on-campus disciplinary procedures.

- Consequences

Any Liberty University student who has engaged in sexual assault is subject to disciplinary action, which will result in dismissal for a minimum of two semesters. He/she will also be restricted from campus.