



University of
Nottingham

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Code of Discipline for Students

A guide for University of Nottingham students

Understanding our Code of Discipline

At the University of Nottingham you are part of a 45,000-strong community of students from over 150 countries. You are also a member of broader communities – your school, the wider university, and the city of Nottingham. It is important that everyone understands how to interact with each other so that everyone's time here at Nottingham is as positive as possible. As a University, we are committed to providing a safe and friendly environment. We want you to feel at home and we expect every member of our community to be treated – and treat others – with respect. This means that you have to ensure that your behaviour shows proper concern for the impact you have on others and for the reputation of the University.

The Code of Discipline for Students is in place to ensure that good standards of communal life are maintained. By registering with the University, you have agreed to comply with this code. You are expected to adhere to the regulations, procedures and policies of the University, to show respect for the persons within, and for the property of, the University and the wider community, and to behave in a way that does not interfere with the proper functioning or activities of the University. Where we believe that the

behaviour of a student falls below the expected standards, the procedures in our Code of Discipline will be instigated. The Code extends to alleged misconduct by a student occurring on or off University premises (including via electronic means, such as email and social media) and where the affected party is the University itself, a member of our community, or a visitor.

You can find the full code of discipline online nottingham.ac.uk/governance/documents/code-of-discipline.pdf and you should take some time to familiarise yourself with it. This shorter guide is an overview of the types of behaviour we see as unacceptable and gives an indication of the kind of sanction that you could receive if you are found guilty of an act of misconduct in relation to the Code of Discipline. You should also make sure you are familiar with University procedures that cover Academic Misconduct – these can be found here: nottingham.ac.uk/go/academic-misconduct

Please note the examples below are not exhaustive – the University can and will bring action in relation to other unacceptable behaviour. Also note, the indication of sanctions is illustrative only – the sanction imposed in a particular situation will depend upon the specific details of that situation.

Abusive or offensive behaviour – including harassment and bullying

- Abusive comments relating to an individual's identity or protected characteristics (regardless of context ie where the person making the comments states they were made in jest)
- Repeatedly following another person (for example stalking)
- Use of inappropriate language (eg swearing; racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, ableist or ageist language; language which either intentionally or unintentionally causes offence)
- Repeatedly contacting another person (by any method) against the wishes of the other person
- Distributing or publishing – physical or digitally – any material, which is offensive, intimidating, threatening, or illegal
- Creating or further distributing and publishing an existing image of a student, staff member or other person without permission

Committing a criminal offence

- Behaviour which constitutes a criminal offence, committed while on University premises or while engaged in University activities or which may bring the University into disrepute (for example, criminal behaviour in a community or other public setting)
- Possession and use of illegal materials (eg drugs, offensive weapons)

Note: where the University becomes aware of a potential criminal offence, we may report this to the police

Community misconduct

- Creating excessive noise or disturbance impacting on neighbours (both in University accommodation and/or within the residential community)
- Lack of upkeep in relation to residence including management of rubbish

Damage to property

- Causing anything from minor to significant damage to property belonging to the University, a fellow student or staff member, or the public and/or a community resident

Operational obstruction

- Disruption of the activities of the University (including academic, administrative, sporting and social) on University premises or elsewhere
- Disruption of the functions, duties or activities of any student, staff member or visitor

Physical misconduct

- Use of physical violence against any student, staff member or visitor (including but not limited to: punching, kicking, slapping, biting, pushing, shoving, pulling hair)
- Threats to hurt another person
- Acting in an intimidating and hostile manner

Regulatory/procedural breach

- Behaviour which has breached another University regulation, procedure or policy (for example, the University's Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech; Library Regulations; Regulations governing the use of the University Computer Service)
- Failure to comply with a previously-imposed penalty (such as non-payment of a fine)
- Encouraging or assisting any person to commit an act of misconduct

Sexual misconduct

- Attempting to engage in sexual intercourse or engaging in a sexual act without consent, or where consent cannot be given due to incapacity
- Sexual intercourse or engaging in a sexual act without consent, or where consent cannot be given due to incapacity
- Sharing private sexual materials of another person without consent
- Kissing without consent
- Touching inappropriately without consent
- Inappropriately showing sexual organs to another person
- Making unwanted remarks, sounds and/or gestures of a sexual nature

Unauthorised taking or use of property

- Unauthorised entry into or onto University property
- Taking property belonging to someone else without permission
- Misuse of University property (for example, computers and laboratory equipment)

Examples of sanctions

- Applying conditions to continuation of time at the University (including limiting access to specific activities or parts of the University)
- Monetary fine
- Formal warning
- Suspension
- Compensation for damage caused
- Expulsion from the University



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If you have any questions about the **Code of Discipline for Students**, you can seek advice and guidance from Students' Union Advice:
su.nottingham.ac.uk/advice

If you would like more information about sexual consent, harassment, sexual abuse and rape, visit our **Let's Be Clear on Consent** website:
nottingham.ac.uk/go/clear-on-consent