



# DELAWARE VALLEY UNIVERSITY

## Center for Learning in Retirement

### CODE OF CONDUCT

Membership within the Center for Learning in Retirement (CLR) at Delaware Valley University community entails respect for oneself and for all members of the campus community. CLR members agree that every member of the campus community is to be respected as an individual committed to the pursuit of knowledge and self-understanding. To misuse or abuse that mutual respect is to threaten the entire academic enterprise.<sup>1</sup>

The CLR Code of Conduct derives from the University's Student Code of Conduct. The full University Code of Conduct can be found [here](#).<sup>1</sup>

This CLR Code of Conduct and all of the DelVal's policies are designed to guide members by providing descriptions of problematic behaviors and the responses that can be expected should they occur.<sup>1</sup>

Civility is the hallmark of this community. Hostility in any form has no place in open and honest learning. These ideals operate within the sphere of freedom: both freedom of expression and freedom from threats to safety, both physical and emotional.<sup>1</sup>

Becoming a member of, or an instructor for, the CLR implies acceptance of the University's and CLR's rules and policies, and compliance with them. These rules and policies have been crafted to balance freedom and responsibility, and to provide standards for the orderly operation of this educational community.<sup>1</sup>

The following [core values](#) illustrate our commitments as an educational community; all member are expected to adhere to these principles.

- Respect All People

Our community serves all stakeholders with care and dignity. We are intensely focused on both the welfare and growth of each of our students, and we support their development as global citizens who achieve meaningful success in their careers and in their lives.

<sup>1</sup> Southern Oregon University. (n.d.). OLLI at SOU CODE OF CONDUCT. Retrieved from <https://inside.sou.edu/olli/about/conduct.html>.

- **Value the World of Ideas and Differences**  
Our community recognizes the necessity of cultivating curiosity and honoring diversity. We engage with ideas that challenge us and with people different from ourselves, showing deep respect for diverse points of view and backgrounds.
- **Pursue Excellence**  
As an institution dedicated to teaching and learning, we are committed to seeking excellence in all we do in academics, student life, and all support services, which leads to life-changing educational experiences. We live in a learning environment that nurtures scholarship, imagination and creativity and embraces innovation and change, allowing each one of us and our whole community to thrive in a challenging world.
- **Live Each Day with Integrity**  
As stewards of our institution's greater good, we are individually accountable for each of our commitments, taking the right path over the expedient one. We stand up for what is right, for ourselves, for others, and for the natural world.
- **Teach, Learn and Serve with Passion and Commitment**  
Our community creates an environment in which educating our students and serving our constituencies are responsibilities we embrace with passion and commitment.
- **Act as One Learning Community with One Purpose**  
We practice higher education as a team - we are all invested in one another's success and intend to make a difference in the world!

The Code of Conduct is designed to create an environment on campus in which all members are able to reach their potential in a safe and responsible environment. The Code sets forth expectations for behavior, and outlines educational procedures regarding member conduct.

The goals for the University's Student Code of Conduct differ from those of the criminal justice systems. Education and accountability to community are the top priorities of the conduct process. Principles common to a courtroom do not apply here. Rather, we rely on educational procedures that balance individual learning and community welfare.

The University's expectations for member conduct are designed to create an environment that supports academic and personal success and that fosters respect and concern for people, ideas, property and community. While it is impossible to list every possible violation, the section that follows provides specific guidance about conduct that violates our expectations.

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## Prohibited Conduct:

- I. Type I Violations: The University has determined that certain violations, identified as Type I violations, are of such a serious nature that they are more likely than not to result in suspension or expulsion (dismissal) from Delaware Valley University. Type I violations are those that cause, or have the potential to cause, significant adverse consequences for the safety, health and/or well-being of the member, others, or the community at large.
  - Adulteration of Food and/or Beverage: The intentional placement of illicit drugs or other substances into the food or beverage to be consumed by others, without their knowledge and consent.
  - Assault: Intentional physical contact with a person resulting in injury or substantial pain.
  - Bias motivated incident: Behavior directed toward a person or a group based upon sex\*, race, color, religion, sexual orientation\*, ethnicity, gender identity\*, national origin, disability or other characteristic protected by law or University policy. \*These behaviors are addressed via the [University's Sexual Misconduct Policy](#).
  - Harassment and Abuse: Physical, verbal or psychological abuse, intimidation or other conduct that threatens or endangers the health, well-being or safety of oneself or of any specific person or persons.
  - Controlled Substances: The distribution, manufacture, cultivation, sale, transfer, or the attempt or conspiracy to distribute, manufacture, cultivate, sell or transfer any substance the possession of which is prohibited by federal, state or local drug laws.
  - Hazing: Abusive affiliation practices (hazing) include any act that endangers or has the potential for endangering the mental or physical health or safety of a member or others. These prohibited acts include destroying or removing public or private property for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with or for continued membership in a group or organization, including athletic teams. (For additional details, see the complete Hazing policy in the Student Policy Guide).
  - Fire Safety Violations: Tampering with fire safety equipment and/or the intentional or reckless starting of a fire.
  - Firearms, Weapons and Explosives: All members of the University community, including CLR instructor, staff, and members, as well as visitors

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to DelVal, are prohibited from possessing firearms, explosives or weapons (hereafter collectively referred to as “weapons”) on the premises of the University or in any building under University control or at any University–sponsored event without the explicit authorization of Delaware Valley University, whether or not a federal or state license to possess the same has been issued to the possessor. The complete Firearms and Weapons policy can be found in the Student Policy Guide.

- Sexual Misconduct: Sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence or other inappropriate sexual behavior. Refer to the complete [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) for a comprehensive treatment of how such behavior is defined and addressed.

II. Type II Violations: Examples of serious misconduct or disruptive behavior that is incompatible with DelVal's standards will be reviewed under our conduct system and may, based upon review and circumstances, result in sanctions up to and including suspension from the University:

- Alcohol: Members are expected to comply with the Alcohol Policy as noted in the Student Policy Guide.
- Underage Possession – It is a violation of this policy to possess or consume alcohol under the age of 21. It is also a violation of this policy to furnish alcohol to underage persons. It should be noted that members under the age of 21 could be considered to be in possession if they are in the presence of alcohol.
- Excessive Quantity – It is a violation of this policy to possess excessive amounts of alcohol, serve alcohol in common source containers (e.g. kegs, punch bowl, etc.) or possess distilled spirits in excess of 40 proof (20% ABV).
- Public Consumption – It is a violation of this policy to consume or possess an open container of alcohol in common spaces (e.g. common lounges, hallways, academic buildings, outdoors, etc.).
- Other Violations – It is a violation of this policy to consume alcohol in a manner that could be dangerous or disruptive; this includes paraphernalia that promotes excessive consumption (e.g. funnels) and indications of drinking games (e.g. beer pong, card games, etc.).
- Complicity: Condoning, supporting or encouraging a violation of University policy. Members and organizations will not facilitate, support or encourage any violation of the Code of Conduct or established University policies by others. Members who anticipate or observe a violation of university policy are

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expected to remove themselves from the situation and/or notify the Department of Public Safety.

- Campus Computers and Network Acceptable Use: Using computer equipment or the university's network in violation of the [Acceptable Use policy](#) is prohibited.
- Drugs: Possession or use of controlled substances which are prohibited by federal, state or local law, including related paraphernalia, or containers.
- Acts of Dishonesty and Deception: An act of dishonesty that intends to deceive, including but not limited to: academic misconduct; forgery, alteration or misuse of any University document, record, or instrument of identification; furnishing false information to any University official.
- Disorderly Conduct: Conduct that is disruptive, obscene, causes a public alarm, or has the potential for harm or disruption of the academic mission and activities of the University.
- Disruptive Classroom Behavior: Conduct that inhibits or interferes with normal classroom operation, includes but is not limited to: Refusal to comply with CLR instructor direction; Inappropriate, disrespectful, or uncivil responses to the comments or opinions of others; arriving late/leaving early without a reasonable excuse; Use of personal electronic devices, such as cell phones and tablets, without permission; Harassment, ridicule, or intimidation of other members of the class and/or the instructor.
- CLR instructors may require a disruptive member to leave the classroom or instructional site for the remainder of the class and, if necessary, summon Public Safety to remove the member. If after the appropriate hearing or intervention, a member is permanently removed from a class, they are no longer permitted to attend that class.
- Failure to Comply with Directions of a University Official: Members and organizations are expected to follow the directions of University officials and not hinder any employee (including CLR volunteers) in the performance of their duties.
- Health and Safety Hazards: Any possession, behavior, or environment created that poses a hazard to others' health or well-being, for example through the creation of unsanitary conditions.
- Theft and Property Damage: Theft or damage to University property or the property of others, as well as any attempt to steal or damage such property is not tolerated.

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- Forcible Entry: Any willful entering or attempted entering of any secured University premises or other secured property while on University premises.
- Unauthorized Access or Use of Facilities: Unauthorized access or presence in/on, or unauthorized use of University buildings and other facilities is prohibited. The improper possession, use or duplication of keys, key cards or other means of gaining access to buildings is also unacceptable, as is the misuse of the card-access system.
- Violations of Law: Members and organizations are expected to obey federal, state, and local laws. Any violation of such laws on campus or which affects the University or members of its community is also a violation of the Code of Conduct.
- Violations of Policy: Members and organizations are expected to comply with all policies or regulations published in hard copy or available electronically on the University website that is not otherwise covered by this Code of Conduct.

If you witness a violation of one of the above mentioned policies by a CLR member on campus, you may confidentially report this violation to [CLR@delval.edu](mailto:CLR@delval.edu).

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