

Office of Student Accountability

A person in military camouflage, including a cap and boots, is walking across a paved path on a university campus. The path is bordered by a grassy area with trees showing autumn foliage. In the background, a large brick building with many windows is visible under a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing text.

Topics:

Discipline of Students

Academic Integrity

Classroom Management & Disruptive Behavior

Student Free Expression

Resources

Discipline of Students



Considerations for Public IHEs in Tennessee

Discipline of Students in Tennessee



Uniform Administrative Procedures Act

- Rulemaking
- Contested Cases

Process Requirements

- Constitution
- Statute
- Case Law
- Regulation

Variety of other Policies, Procedures, and “Owners”

- Discrimination & Harassment (OIE)
- Concerning Behavior of Students (DOS)
- Retention Reviews & Similar Processes (Departmental, School, and/or College specific)

Academic Integrity



University Policy & Process



Academic Integrity

Review University Resources & Best Practices

- Course & Evaluation Design are key
- Try not to make assumptions about what students know about AI
- Reminders about expectations early & often help

Revised Academic Integrity Process (awaiting approval)

- One process model (includes academic penalty & behavioral discipline)
 - Informal Resolution Offered (1st & 2nd low level offense for undergrad)
 - Formal Hearing (if informal resolution rejected or inappropriate)
- Burden of Proof
 - Preponderance Standard (more likely than not)
 - Faculty Member bears the burden of proving (not the student to disprove)

Classroom Management



Practices & Policies

Classroom Management

Suggestions for Success

- Seek out advice from experienced peers & mentors who do it well
- Start early with expectations for students and their expectations of you
- Deal with minor issues quickly & move on, never seek to embarrass
- Ask yourself “is this the right time to deal with this?”
- Often private conversations that seek understanding are most effective

Class Removals (deprivation of a property interest)

- Actual disruption to the classroom
- Only in the class session the disruption happened
- Anything longer needs the DOS to enforce
- Will likely result in hearing that could go to UAPA

Student Free Expression



Protections, Prohibitions, and Restrictions



Student Free Expression

Protections

- Constitutional
- Campus Free Speech Protection Act (T.C.A. § 49-7-24)

Limitations

- Discriminatory Harassment
- True Threats
- Civil Wrongs (libel, slander, defamation, IIED)
- Obscenity (narrow category of pornography)
- Inciting to Riot/Lawlessness

Restrictions

- Reasonable Time, Place, & Manner
- Based on Forum (Public, Limited Public, Non-Public)

Resources & Assistance



You're not alone

Resources & Assistance

Reaching out

- Start early. Don't wait until a problem is so bad...
- Don't guess about processes or policies...
- "What can we do about?" vs "You must..."

memphis.edu/osa

- "For Faculty" Tab
 - Academic Integrity Process & Templates
 - Suggested Syllabi Statements
 - Links to AI webinar, Library Guide, and Curated AI News & Resources

memphis.edu/report

- "One Stop Shop" for reporting many types of issues and concerns
- Emergencies are still emergencies (call 678-HELP or 9-1-1)