

What is Sexual Misconduct?

What is Consent?

Sexual Misconduct Policy

Victim Bill of Rights

Student Code of Conduct

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What is Sexual Misconduct?

The Sexual Misconduct Policy at West Chester University Covers a variety of acts that are perpetuated against another without consent or when an individual is unable to give consent freely. Anyone can be a victim regardless of their gender or sexual orientation. Sexual misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following prohibited behaviors:

▼ Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other harassing conduct of a sexual nature whether intentional or not. Sexual harassment occurs when:

- Submission to the unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or status in a course, program, or activity; or
- Submission to or rejection of the unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature by an individual is used as the basis for an academic or employment-related decision affecting such an individual; or
- The unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive as to substantially limit or interfere an individual's work, educational performance, participation in extra-curricular activities, or equal access to the University resources and opportunities; or
- Such contact creates an intimidating, hostile, or abusive living, working or educational environment.



- Sexual violence is a form of sexual harassment. Sexual violence refers to physical acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs, alcohol, or disability. Physical sexual acts include rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, and sexual coercion.

Example 1

Jose is a first-year student. From the first week classes began, Jose has felt uncomfortable about the way the male graduate assistant, Matt, stares at him. When he tries to make an appointment to discuss his work, the graduate assistant tells him that he has no time of paper to grade and the only time he has to see him is at his own apartment. The graduate assistant tells Jose that if he really wants to do well in this course, he should try to know Matt better and go out on a date with him.

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This is an example of sexual harassment. Matt implies to Jose that in order to do well in the course, it would be best to get to know Matt better and go out on a date with him.

Example 2

Quinn, a student, depends on her work-study job to stay in school. One Friday afternoon, she was working alone with her supervisor. Quinn's boss proceeds to put his arm around her and invites her to come to his place. This is the fourth time her boss has asked her to come to his place. Quinn leaves the job abruptly and does not go back to work. She now is struggling to find a new job to help pay her expenses.

This is an example of sexual harassment. Quinn feels uncomfortable going to her job because of her boss' physical touching and invitation to go to his home.

▶ Sexual Assault

▶ Sexual Exploitation

▶ Stalking

▶ Dating Violence

▶ Domestic Violence



