

Office of the Chancellor

Date : 03 December 2025

To : Vice Chancellor
Provost
University Strategic and Governance Committee

From : Chancellor, Prof. Ghassan Fouad Aouad

Subject : **Student Code of Conduct**

This Executive Order is issued through the endorsement of the above Board of Directors' approval reference and under the authority of the Chancellor as outlined in the Policy on Policy Management under Executive Order No. 1213.

Effective immediately, Vice Chancellor and Provost are given the authority to implement the approved "Student Code of Conduct Policy" outlined in this Executive Order.

The attached policy is aligned with ADU strategic goals by fostering and protecting the core mission of the University, and to foster the development of the students in safe and secure learning environment.

The custody of the Executive Order shall be maintained in the Chancellor Office of the University. If you have questions regarding this Executive Order, please contact Anabella Briones.

Please take the necessary action to ensure that all parties involved are informed of this communication.



Prof. Ghassan Fouad Aouad
Chancellor

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

POLICY OVERVIEW

The Student Code of Conduct is established to foster and protect the core mission of the University, to foster the scholarly and civic development of the University's students in a safe and secure learning environment, and to protect the people, properties and processes that support the University and its mission.

Resolution Number	R.030.25
Executive Order	1459
Supersedes	1194
Version Number:	06
Date Approved:	13 November 2025
Effective Date:	13 November 2025
Policy Owner:	Provost
Viewing Access Level:	Public
Next Review Date:	Fall 2028

Change History

Version Number	Change Description	Date	Changed By
02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formatting and Signature Line to follow the new approved ADU Bylaws 	28.05.2014	VC
03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formatting and Signature Line to follow the new approved Policy on Policy Management 	14.09.2014	Chancellor
4	<p>Added the following clauses under Student Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inappropriate physical contact or any intentional touching of any body part, and indecent exhibition of intimate parts of the body; Gambling on university premises; Recording, storing and distribution of data and/or images without the person's consent; Promotion of hostile behavior, communication of obscene language, intent to damage reputation by an individual or group through use of technology, but not limited to, websites, social networking sites, phones and emails; Violating any UAE law. 	06.06.2017	Interim Provost

5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adding Part related to the Disciplinary Committee ▪ Adding Part related to the Appeal Right and Appeal Panel. In addition to adding the role of Campus Directors in this panel. ▪ Adding 8 expectations under ADU expectations which outline student compliance of ADU policies that might be subject to conduct violations. ▪ Removing the parts related to student rights and responsibilities, student dress code, smoking, alcohol and drugs as they exist in different policies. ▪ Adding the part of “Notification and Information Gathering” which exists in the students’ catalogue to the policy as per MOE requirements. ▪ Adding the part of “Disciplinary Committee Sanctions” which exists in the students’ catalogue to the policy as per MOE requirements. The part which says that expulsion from ADU should be reflected on the student’s academic transcript has been omitted. ▪ Adding the “W” grade on the refund and fees part of the policy as this is essential. ▪ Adding the links where processes and procedures can be accessed. ▪ New section added about confidentiality of student records 	June 2023	Student Affairs Director
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewal of “Review Date” only 	November 2025	Governance and Compliance Specialist

1. Introduction:

In keeping with ADU’s commitment to the intellectual and personal growth of students within a learning-centered community, students and student organizations are expected to be responsible members of the community by complying with local and federal laws and University policies, procedures and rules.

2. Jurisdiction:

2.1 The student code of conduct addresses misconduct that takes place on University premises and campuses. In addition, it addresses off campus conduct when representing ADU to the extent that such conduct has impacted or is likely to impact the ADU community.

- 2.2 The student code of conduct also applies to University sponsored events, trips, and activities that may occur off-campus.
- 2.3 The student code of conduct applies to all students taking courses at ADU, including conduct during break periods; and to all individuals who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a relationship with the University.
- 2.4 Guests must adhere to all ADU rules, and the hosting student/student organization is responsible for all guests' actions. It is the responsibility of the host to inform the guests of such rules.

3. Emergency clause:

- 3.1 When there is cause to believe a student is endangering the health, safety, or welfare of the university community or its property, university officials may order the immediate suspension of such student for an interim period pending a conduct hearing. The matter will be referred to the Head of Student Support Office, who will process such charges in accordance with the student code of conduct.

4. ADU Expectations:

- 4.1 ADU is committed to being an academic community. This includes care, cooperation and an adherence to standards of behavior for all who are part of this community. In order for this community to flourish the following expectations of behavior have been established:
 - 4.1.1 ADU expects responsible conduct by students and student organizations both on and off campus as a necessary condition for continued membership at ADU.
 - 4.1.2 Students and student organizations are expected to be responsible members of a diverse community, and honor and respect differences of culture, lifestyle, and religion.
 - 4.1.3 Academic integrity and honesty are basic values of the University. Students and student organizations are expected to follow the student code of conduct standards of academic integrity, and honesty listed in ADU's Student Academic Integrity Policy.
 - 4.1.4 The ADU campus, its grounds, facilities and equipment are provisions for students of ADU. Students and student organizations are expected to respect and use them responsibly. This includes the use of the library, residence halls, classroom buildings, laboratories, and the campus as a whole.
 - 4.1.5 Students are expected to be fully aware of their rights and responsibilities as outlined in ADU's Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy.
 - 4.1.6 Students are expected to dress properly and fully abide with ADU Student Dress Code Policy.
 - 4.1.7 Students are expected to fully abide with ADU's Smoking Policy and Alcohol and Drug Policy.
 - 4.1.8 Students are expected to respect the local culture and abide with ADU's Gender Segregation Policy.
 - 4.1.9 Students are expected to fully abide with ADU's Parking Policy and ADU Driving Policy.

- 4.1.10 Students are expected to fully abide with Security Policy, Fire Safety Policy, Environmental, **and Environmental Health and Safety Policy.**
- 4.1.11 Students are expected to fully abide with **Information Management and Technology Services policies.**
- 4.1.12 Students are expected to refrain from any act which is/might be perceived as a violation of **United Arab Emirates official laws.**

5. Notification and Information Gathering

- 5.1 Reports of alleged violation of the Student Code of Conduct shall be reported, in https://ss.adu.ac.ae/student_policies, within two weeks. Reporting of violations is not anonymous by virtue of reporter's name and ADU ID.
- 5.2 The Student Support Office will notify students/organizations named in the complaint of the alleged violation, who to contact for a meeting, and the date by which the contact must occur.
- 5.3 Such notification will describe the alleged violation and advise the student that an administrative hold may be placed on the student's academic records pending investigation and resolution of the complaint
- 5.4 The Student Support Office will gather information relevant to any complaint indicating that Student Code of Conduct violation may have occurred. The designated official from the Student Support Office is responsible for gathering information and has the authority to contact and meet with any persons believed to have information relevant to the complaint and encourage them to discuss the allegations of the complaint. In the absence of compelling circumstances, the process shall be completed within thirty (30) calendar days after the receipt of the complaint.
- 5.5 Based on the information gathered, the Student Support Office will decide whether to dismiss the charge, verbal issue warning or make a recommendation to the Head of the Student Support Office for evaluation with the Disciplinary Committee and assign conduct action.
 - 5.5.1 If the complaint is dismissed, the Student Support Office will notify the charged student/organization of the decision.
 - 5.5.2 If the charges are to be forwarded for conduct action, the Student Support Office will notify all concerned persons and outline the appropriate procedures to be followed.
- 5.6 Parents, other relatives, advisors or legal counsel are not permitted at any point during the conduct inquiry and adjudication process.
- 5.7 If the charges against the student concerned result in suspension or expulsion, the parents of the student might be contacted and notified.
- 5.8 Mediated Conduct Agreements. In certain conduct cases involving both a charged student and another disputant, the Student Support Office may recommend that the case is referred to mediation. The goal of mediation is to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution between the parties involved.

6. In such cases, the following shall apply:

- 6.1 All parties involved must agree to mediation.
- 6.2 The mediator designated by the Student Support Office must approve all agreements.

- 6.3 If an agreement is reached, it must be signed by all parties and a copy kept by the Student Support Office until all terms and conditions of the agreement have been fulfilled.
- 6.4 If an agreement cannot be reached, the case will be referred to the Student Support Office for resolution. If the Student Support Office calls for a hearing, no information disclosed at the mediation session may be provided in the hearing.

7. Disciplinary Committee:

- 7.1 Violating any of ADU's expectations by students fall under violation of this policy. Depending on each case's severity, the Student Conduct Officer evaluates the findings of the code of conduct violation and recommends either dismissing the case, issuing a "Notification of Violation", a "Verbal Warning", a "Written Warning" or raising the case to a disciplinary committee.
- 7.2 The University Disciplinary Committee is chaired by the Head of Student Affairs, and consists of the Registrar, the concerned College Dean, and two students representing the Student Councils or their appropriate representatives.

8. Disciplinary Committee Sanctions

- 8.1 Students and student organizations are expected to abide by all Abu Dhabi University policies. If the policies and procedures of the University are not followed, students and organizations will be held accountable and subject to the following disciplinary
- 8.2 actions.
- 8.3 A reprimand is official written notification of unacceptable behavior and violation of the student Code of Conduct. Any student having a record of violating the Student Code of Conduct will automatically be removed from Honor's List. Any further misconduct may result in more serious disciplinary actions.
- 8.4 Disciplinary Probation is a conditional status imposed for a designated period. Further violation of the Student Code of Conduct while on probation will be subject to more serious
- 8.5 disciplinary action. Disciplinary probation may place specific restrictions on the student or organization. These may vary with each case and may include but are not limited to restriction from participating in athletic activities and or campus activities.
- 8.6 Restitution: Replacement or payment for incurred damages.
- 8.7 The suspension is the loss of privileges of enrollment at Abu Dhabi University for a designated period. A student's suspension shall not exceed one calendar year following the sanction. A student organization's suspension is a temporary revocation of University recognition. A student organization suspension will not exceed five years. A student serving suspension is restricted of the access to the university for the duration of the sanction
- 8.8 unless approval has been secured from Student Support Office. While on suspension, students are unable to transfer credit hours for courses taken in other universities or educational institutions.
- 8.9 Expulsion is the permanent loss of privileges of enrollment at Abu Dhabi University.

9. Appeal Right:

- 9.1 A student has the right to appeal the decision made by the Disciplinary Committee. The student should submit a request for an appeal within three (3) calendar days from his/her receipt of findings to the Head of Student Support Office.
- 9.2 An appeal panel is formed by the Head of Student Support Office and consists of five (5) members and shall include two (2) faculty (one from the concerned student's college and one from another college), one (1) staff, one (1) student and the Provost, who serves as the chair of the committee. The Appeal Panel may request a personal appearance of the concerned student for the sole purpose of addressing issues raised by the appeal. Campus Directors plays the Provost's role in appeal panels for cases concerning their campuses.
- 9.3 The Appeal Panel will review the findings of fact and recommended sanctions reported by the disciplinary committee and may:
- 9.3.1 Dismiss the charges;
 - 9.3.2 Affirm the recommended sanction; or
 - 9.3.3 Uphold or impose a lesser sanction than was recommended.

10. Confidentiality:

- 10.1 The Student Support Office is responsible to maintain the confidentiality of student involved in any code of conduct violation and should not share information of the investigation or the actions taken with anyone other than the concerned student.

11. Refund of fees:

- 11.1 Students who have been suspended or dismissed from the University due to a violation of the ADU Student Code of Conduct will receive a "W" grade and will not be entitled to a refund of the tuition and service fees.
- 11.2 Further details on the process and more procedures are available in the ADU Undergraduate and Postgraduate Catalogues which can be accessed through the below link:

UG: <https://www.adu.ac.ae/study/admissions/undergraduate-programs>

PG: <https://www.adu.ac.ae/study/admissions/postgraduate-programs>

Exceptions

For any conditions/circumstances and/or exceptions outside the conditions stated in this policy, a request shall be presented to the Board of Directors for decision.

Authorization

This policy was authorized by the **University Chancellor:**



03 December 2025
Date