



STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT AND GUIDE TO RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Guidelines for Campus Rallies, Demonstrations or Protests (updated July 2024)

Whittier College respects the rights of all members of the student community to freely express, explore and discuss matters which are of interest and concern to them. The ability to freely express ideas and viewpoints is vital to a liberal arts education. This may include expressing these opinions publicly and joining together to demonstrate those concerns in an orderly fashion. Whittier College protects the right of voluntary assembly, will make its facilities available to students for peaceful demonstrations, welcomes guest speakers and will try to protect them from disruption and interference. Whittier College also respects the rights of each student and community member to be free from coercion, harassment, and personal targeting, especially with respect to personal beliefs and characteristics.

Expression is considered respectful and responsible when it meets the following guidelines:

1. Is non-violent and does not incite violence
2. Does not damage or destroy property
3. Does not violate the Student Code of Conduct
4. Does not substantially disrupt/interrupt the day-to-day operation of the College or its academic enterprise, access to campus, or access to facilities, and does not impede the educational access or rights of others.

Whittier College, by law, has the right to determine reasonable time, place, and manner for all sponsored activities and events. Protests are not permitted within campus buildings. Encampment, tents, and structures are prohibited without prior authorization. Protests should end by 11:00pm, and cannot include amplified sounds, lights, or unruly crowds. Crowds must disperse when instructed by College officials.

Individuals/organizations planning on hosting or participating in a protest, rally, or demonstrations are encouraged to consult with the Office of Student Engagement and the Dean of Students for additional guidance and referral for support:

- Dean of Students Office: Campus Center, 562-907-4233, deanofstudents@whittier.edu
- Office of Student Engagement: 562-907-4909, ostudent@whittier.edu

Expression through written means not affixed to anything (i.e., signs, posters, leaflets) is welcomed if the material falls within the above guidelines of being respectful and responsible. Expression through written means that is affixed (i.e., signs in ground, chalking, etc.), must first be approved by OSE. Actions that violate this policy expose participants to both disciplinary and financial recourse (costs experienced by the College will be charged to involved students). The Director of Communications and/or designee will serve as the official College spokesperson. All media inquiries should be directed to this office.

General Procedures

1. It is the responsibility of faculty, staff, and students to immediately report any situation that could possibly result in harm to anyone at the College. Any member of the campus community



may become aware of troubling actions or a situation that is causing serious anxiety, stress, or fear and if so, the information should be forwarded immediately to the Director of Campus Safety or the Dean of Students.

2. Any demonstration planned in consultation with any Student Life or Academic Affairs department should be made known to the Administration before the event (or as soon as possible when noted).
3. The Director of Campus Safety and the Dean of Students will evaluate the plan or report of any demonstration and, if appropriate, convene an Event Safety Planning Meeting.
4. When information is received about an unplanned or spontaneous demonstration, staff and Administration members will attempt to work with participants to ensure a safe environment for both protestors and community members.
5. Campus Safety officers will stand by to provide safety and protection for all individuals. If needed, WPD will be involved for additional support. Campus Safety will be available until the demonstration disperses.

Social Media Policy

The same principles and guidelines that apply to student, faculty, or staff member activities in general, as codified in the Whittier policies and guidelines, also apply to their activities online. This includes forms of online publishing and discussion, such as blogs, discussion forums, College-sponsored Facebook and Twitter pages, and Wikis. Any online tool that individuals use to share their insights, express their opinions, and communicate within the context of a globally distributed conversation has proper and improper uses. While Whittier encourages all its student, faculty, and staff members to join a global conversation, it is important for those who choose to do so to understand what is recommended, expected, and required when they discuss ideas or persons related to or affiliated with Whittier College.

All Clubs or Organizations must:

- Abide by Whittier's other policies and guidelines
- Be respectful to others
- Respect copyright and fair-use laws
- Use a disclaimer

The Office of Student Engagement suggests that you link everything to your Engage page. You can even use the Engage feed as your blog, you simply need to make posts public, and everyone can see them even if they do not have an account.

For the complete policy, please go to the Office of Information Technology Page on MyWhittier.