Code of Conduct Policies related to Classroom Management Issues

The following policies are listed below have been abbreviated to specifically coincide with issue of disruption in academic settings. To view the policies in their entirety in the Drexel University Student Code of Conduct found at: https://drexel.edu/studentlife/community_standards/code-of-conduct/.

- Disorderly Conduct

Behavior that disturbs the peace, academic study, or sleep of others both on or off campus is prohibited.

Disorderly Conduct in Class/Research Settings
Examples of disorderly conduct as it pertains to class/research settings includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Excessively leaving and entering a classroom without authorization.
- Making loud or distracting noises.
- Persistently speaking without being recognized such that it interferes with the learning environment.
- Repeatedly dominating online discussion boards or forums such that it interferes with the learning environment.
- Resorting to personal insults.

Students are responsible to comply with a reasonable request from a professor, instructor, or other University official regarding appropriate behavior.

- Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with any reasonable request or appropriate directive from a University official, or with any disciplinary conditions imposed by an authorized University official or group, is prohibited.

- Intimidation/Threats

Intimidating conduct that would cause a reasonable person to feel as though there was an imminent threat to their health (mental or physical), safety, or personal property is prohibited under this Policy.

- Privacy and Electronic Media Violations

The misuse of electronic media devices, systems, or methods ("hacking") is prohibited, including but not limited to: using mobile phones, tablets, data storage devices, cameras, printers, computers, computer lines/networks or computing facilities in ways that:

- Make or disseminate an audio, photo, or video record of any person(s) without prior knowledge or effective consent where a reasonable person would find the audio, photo, or video inappropriate, or where the audio, photo, or video was made in violation of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania laws.

- Retaliation

Drexel University prohibits any member of the community from retaliating against any person for raising good faith concerns about student behavior that may violate the Code of Conduct.

- Violence

Physical violence or threatened physical violence against another person or group is prohibited.
Creating Classroom Behavior Expectations

Develop a Classroom Code of Conduct

- Explanation Accepted of Classroom Behaviors
  - Give clear explanations of accepted behaviors
    - Include all class forums
  - Include information about the process for dealing with disruptive behaviors
  - Use the Code of Conduct to inform behavioral expectations

Manage Expectations

- Work with Student Conduct to understand how the institution defines certain behaviors
  - Rudeness vs. Threats
  - Uncomfortable vs. Unsafe
- Freedom of Speech
  - Public vs Private Institutions
- Limitations of removing students from courses
- Develop a general understanding of where students are in their development
- Understanding ADA, Accommodations and Compliance

Use Resources

- Develop a resource list that includes: Counseling Center, Residence Life, Disability Resources, Title IX, Veteran Services etc.
- Seek support from other faculty, your department and College
- Seek support from the Student Conduct office
- Call Campus Safety for situations involving imminent danger

Sample Classroom Behavior Statement for Syllabus

Course Behavioral Expectations

Included in this statement are the expectations of behavior for students enrolled in this course. Students are expected to attend class, this includes coming to class on time, being prepared and staying for the duration. You will be permitted no more than (INSERT#) of unexcused absences. In class participation is expected in this course and will be reflected in your grade. Being late to class will result in a reduction of your participation grade for that class. All electronic devices should be placed on silent during class. Laptops or tablet computers are permitted for in class use, all other electronic devices are not permitted to be used.

In class discussion should be respectful, civil, and relevant to the topic being discussed. In addition, discussions that occur on any class listserv or discussion board should adhere to the same rules as in class discussions. It is the expectation that students show respect for each other, the willingness to listen
without interruption, and understand that everyone is entitled express to their own opinion. There is an expectation that the use of language in all class settings should be temperate and civil.

Disruptive behaviors, including: sleeping, excessive talking, using profanity and reading non-course related materials is not permitted. Repetitive or seriously disruptive behavior will be documented and referred to Residential Living and Student Conduct.
Documenting Incidents for Student Conduct Referral

Prior to an incident:

1. Set behavioral expectations for the course
2. Be direct in explaining the expectations
   a. Assume that all students are not knowledgeable about classroom behavioral norms
3. Be aware of the resources available to staff regarding behavioral concerns
4. Contact the Student Conduct office for questions about Code of Conduct policies
5. In an emergency, contact the Police immediately for assistance

When an incident occurs:

1. Address the incident with the student privately (if concerned about safety meet with the student and another staff member)
2. Be direct in explaining what the unacceptable behavior was, the impact it had and the behavior that will be expected moving forward
3. Send a follow up email to the student outlining the conversation
4. Contact your Student Conduct office for support and with any questions

If a second incident occurs:

1. Address the incident with the student privately (if concerned about safety meet with the student and another staff member)
2. Be direct in what the unacceptable behavior was, the impact it had and the behavior that will be expected moving forward
3. Send a follow up email to the student outlining the conversation
   a. Indicate that you intend to refer the incidents to Student Conduct
4. Make your College/School aware of the incident and your intent to refer it to Student Conduct
5. Submit an incident report with Student Conduct including:
   a. A detailed description of the incidents
   b. Outline the conversation that you had with the student regarding the incidents
   c. Attach copies of the “follow-up emails” to the incident report
   d. Any other information that would be pertinent for student conduct to know about the incidents