

CODE OF TEACHING RESPONSIBILITY

The teaching responsibilities of instructional staff members (herein referred to as instructors) are among those many areas of University life that have for generations been a part of the unwritten code of academicians. The provisions of such a code are so reasonable to learned and humane individuals that it may appear redundant or unnecessary to state them. However, the University conceives them to be so important that performance by instructors in meeting the provisions of this code shall be taken into consideration in determining salary increases, tenure, and promotion.

1. Course content Instructors shall be responsible for ensuring that the content of the courses they teach is consistent with the course descriptions approved by the University Committee on Curriculum and the Academic Council. Instructors shall direct class activities toward the fulfillment of course objectives and shall evaluate student performance in a manner consistent with these objectives.
2. Course syllabi Instructors shall be responsible for distributing a course syllabus (either in print or electronic form) at the beginning of the semester. The syllabus shall minimally include:
 - instructional objectives;
 - instructor contact information and office hours;
 - grading criteria and methods used to determine final course grades;
 - date of the final examination and tentative dates of required assignments, quizzes, and tests;
 - attendance policy, if different from the University attendance policy, when that attendance policy affects student grades; and
 - required and recommended course materials to be purchased, including textbooks and supplies.
3. Student Assessment and Final Grades Instructors shall be responsible for communicating to students, in a timely manner so as to enhance learning, grading criteria and methods used to determine grades on individual assignments, if different from the criteria and methods used to determine final course grades announced in the syllabus. Instructors shall be responsible for assessing a student's performance based on such criteria and on standards of academic achievement. Except in dire circumstances, instructors shall submit final course grades in accordance with University deadlines.
4. Testing Documents Instructors shall be responsible for returning to students quizzes, tests, and examinations with such promptness to enhance the learning experience. Instructors shall retain final examination answers for at least one semester to allow students to review or to retrieve them. All testing questions (whether on quizzes, tests, or mid-semester or final examinations) are an integral part of course materials, and the decision whether to allow students to retain them is left to the discretion of the instructor.

[Option A: no additional language to para. 4]

[Option B: Instructors should be aware that past exams may be circulating among a portion of, but not all, students taking the course.]

[Option C: Instructors should be aware that past exams may be circulating among a portion of, but not all, students taking the course and should accordingly write exams that assess the learning of students rather than mere familiarity with past exams.]

5. Term Papers and Comparable Projects Term papers and other comparable projects are the property of students who prepare them. Instructors shall be responsible for returning to students term papers and other comparable projects with sufficient promptness to enhance the learning experience. Instructors shall retain such unclaimed course work for at least one semester to allow students to retrieve such work. Instructors have a right to retain a copy of student course work for their own files.
6. Class Meetings Instructors shall be responsible for meeting their classes regularly and at scheduled times. To allow units to take appropriate action, instructors shall notify their units if they are to be absent and have not made suitable arrangements regarding their classes.
7. Applicability of CTR to Student Assistants Instructors of courses in which assistants are authorized to perform teaching or grading functions shall be responsible for acquainting such individuals with the provisions of this Code and for monitoring their compliance.
8. Instructor Accessibility to Students Instructors shall be responsible for being accessible to students outside of class time. Instructors shall be responsible for scheduling and keeping office hours for student conferences. Office hours should be scheduled at times convenient to both students and instructors with the additional option of prearranged appointments for students whose schedules conflict with announced office hours. Each teaching unit shall determine the minimum number of office hours for instructors in that unit. Instructors who serve as academic advisors also shall be responsible for maintaining appropriate office hours during pre-enrollment and enrollment periods. In addition to office hours, instructor accessibility through e-mail and other means is encouraged.
9. Commercialization of Course Notes and Materials The University prohibits students from commercializing their notes of lecture and University-provided class materials *without the express written consent of the instructor*. Instructors may allow commercialization by including express permission in the course syllabus or other written statements distributed to all students in the class.