

### DISRUPTION OF ACADEMIC OR OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONS

Students have the right to freedom of speech, peaceable assembly, petition and association which is accorded to all persons by the Constitution. Students and student organizations may examine and discuss all questions of interest to them and express opinion publicly as well as privately. They may support causes by lawful means which do not disrupt the operations of the University or the operations of organizations authorized to use University facilities.

When an activity first occurs which interferes with the academic or operational functions of the University, every attempt shall be made to resolve the matter through voluntary compliance, cooperation, and the exercise of restraint by all parties concerned. If the disruptive activity continues, the Vice President for Student Affairs shall take the following steps.

1. Those persons engaged in the disruptive behavior shall be asked to identify themselves.
2. If activities (protest/demonstrations) are occurring which are threatening to the safety of participants and arrests appear to be warranted, arrests will be made only after the Chief of University Police has consulted with the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee, (a) providing there is an opportunity to do so, and (b) there is no immediate safety threat to participants.
3. If those individuals refuse to identify themselves or refuse to stop the disruption, the University Police shall be called. The University Police shall advise them of their legal obligations, urge them to stop the disruptive activity, and give notice according to the criminal laws of the State of Illinois.
4. Individuals engaged in disruptive behavior who refuse to identify themselves or who refuse to stop the disruption shall also subject themselves to immediate suspension from the University. They shall be informed of the opportunity for an appeal hearing to be established at the earliest feasible date by filing a written notice with the Vice President for Student Affairs within ten calendar days.
5. If a demonstration has occurred and lives were threatened and/or property was damaged, and if it appears that another planned demonstration will become a serious confrontation with lives and/or property threatened, legal counsel will investigate the possibility of having a temporary restraining order issued.

Prior to any action, the consequences of doing so shall be discussed with the President, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Provost.

#### Disruptive Behavior in the Classroom

If, in the judgment of the instructor, students act in such a manner as to disrupt the normal academic functions in a class, the following actions may be taken:

1. If the student does not comply with the instructor's request to cease the disruptive behavior, the instructor may direct the student to leave the class for that day. If the student refuses to leave, the instructor may call the University Police for assistance.
2. If the disruption is extreme or continuous, the instructor may inform the student that he/she may not remain in the course. The student may appeal this decision to the Department Chair.
3. The instructor shall inform the Department Chair of any action taken. Notification of a student's removal from class shall also be sent to the Dean, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Judicial Affairs, and the Registration Office.
4. When a student has been removed from a class, the instructor shall assign a letter grade according to University policy.

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the University from imposing disciplinary action for disruptive conduct in accordance with the provisions of the [Student Conduct Code](#).

Approved:  
President  
September 21, 1994

Monitor: Vice President for Student Affairs