

Disruption in Class

(see also "Responding to Disruptive or Threatening Behavior")

When improper student conduct disrupts classes or other University functions, or threatens the safety of others or the student him/herself, the campus has approved the following courses of action:

Obstruction or Disruption

- A **disruptive student** should be asked to stop and warned that disruption can result in student disciplinary action.
- If a student continues the disruption despite the warning, faculty/staff are authorized to ask the student to leave the area and may inform the student that the matter will be referred for disciplinary action.
- A student who refuses to leave after being instructed to do so should be informed that this refusal is a separate violation subject to additional penalties, including student discipline and permanent exclusion from class.
- If, in the faculty/staff member's best judgment, a disruptive student's threats or refusal to leave creates a safety risk or makes it impossible to continue class or other University functions, s/he should contact the campus police and/or dismiss class for that day.
- A DISRUPTIVE STUDENT CANNOT BE REMOVED PERMANENTLY FROM A CLASS IN WHICH S/HE IS ENROLLED WITHOUT FORMAL REVIEW, either through a student disciplinary hearing (see *Administration of Student Discipline*) or through academic channels including the department and dean's office (see Dir. #88-128).
- Non-students and students not enrolled in class may be removed permanently without formal review because they have no right to attend the class without the instructor's permission (see Dir. #88-128).

Violence, Harassment, or Threats

- Students can be disciplined for harassment (including "fighting words") and for "physical abuse, threats of violence, or conduct that threatens the health or safety of any person."
- If a student appears to threaten harm to him/herself, immediately contact the Counseling Center (752-0871), whose staff will arrange for appropriate intervention and treatment. After hours, call the Campus Police (752-1230), or Suicide Prevention (756-5000) for assistance.
- If any individual appears to threaten harm to others, (e.g., if the individual makes threats of physical harm toward you or others, has a weapon, or behaves in a manner that causes you to fear for your own or another's safety, immediately contact the Campus Police (911 or 752-1230). The police will investigate the threats, warn the intended victim, and determine whether the individual is dangerous, has committed a crime, or needs medical help.
- Even if no criminal charges are filed, the faculty/staff member may refer a student to Student Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action and/or exclude the student from class temporarily. Permanent exclusion requires formal review through disciplinary action or academic channels. (Dir. #88-128).
- In an emergency, disciplinary procedures can be used to suspend students immediately or exclude them from campus, if there is "reasonable cause to believe that the student's participation in University activities, or presence on campus will lead to physical abuse, threats of violence, or conduct that threatens" health or safety.

If you have questions or would like to report an incident of disruption, contact Student Judicial Affairs at 752-1128. The UCD student disciplinary process provides sanctions that range from warning or reprimand through suspension and dismissal. For more information about visit the Student Judicial Affairs website at <http://sja.ucdavis.edu/sja/> and view the sections on *Responding to Disruptive Students*, and *UCD Administration of Student Discipline*.

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