



University of Calgary Students' Union and Graduate Students' Association

Student Bill of Rights

Preamble

This document serves as a guide to help students understand their rights and responsibilities at the University of Calgary. The University of Calgary is an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and to ensuring that freedom, respect, and clear rights and responsibilities apply to all members of the community. Clear expectations and standards help to protect students and guide them through any challenges they may experience while at the institution. As students' rights and responsibilities are spread over many documents and webpages, this document aims to condense this information for the ease of students. While this document provides links to many policies, it is by no means exhaustive, and students should be encouraged to reach out to the [Student Ombuds Office](#) if they are unable to locate the policy or information they are looking for.

Fundamental Principles

- Students enjoy all rights and freedoms recognized by law while on the University of Calgary campus, and in interactions with the University.
- Students have the right to be treated equitably, with dignity and respect, which includes the right to be free from harassment and from discrimination.
- Students have the right to free expression and peaceful assembly insofar as they do not restrict the rights of others.
- The University's administrative decisions and actions undertaken by the University which impact students must be taken with due regard to the best interest of the student body.
- The University shall maintain a high quality of education and administration in all areas of educational programs and services.
- University decisions may not violate the rights of students that are enshrined in University policy.

Academic Rights and Responsibilities

Academic rights and responsibilities as outlined in this section can be found in the [University of Calgary Academic Calendar](#)

- Rights involving the registration process and course selection can be found in section B of the University Calendar. Rights involving the academic accommodation of students on grounds of disability, medical condition, or on other protected grounds can be found in sections B.6 through to B.6.2 of the University Calendar.
- Rights involving withdrawal from courses, withdrawal from a term, and withdrawal because of extenuating circumstances can be found in sections B.14.1 through to B.14.3.
- Rights involving the structure of courses, grading expectations, and course expectations can be found in sections E. through to E.6.
- Rights involving academic performance, grading systems, and transcripts can be found in sections F through to F.1.2.
- Rights involving tests, exam, and assessments can be found in sections G through G.6.4.
- Rights and responsibilities involving graduation can be found in sections H through H.9.3.
- The right to appeal marks, grades, and academic assessments is found in section I. Rights involving further appeal can be found in sections J through J.1.
- Rights involving student integrity and conduct can be found in sections K through K.4.
- The free expression policy extending to all students and staff can be found in section L of the calendar.

Rights and Responsibilities of Individuals

- The [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#) describes student behaviours that are considered prohibited conduct.
- The [Harassment Policy](#) enhances awareness of the rights and responsibilities of students subjected to, or who witness harassment.

- The [Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy](#) establishes the processes by which the University will respond to reports of sexual violence which occur on University Facilities (physical or online) or involve members of the campus community.
 - The [Alcohol Policy](#) ensures that the University is in compliance with all federal, provincial and municipal laws concerning the provision and consumption of alcohol and applies to student events.
 - The [Cannabis Policy](#) ensures that the University is in compliance with all federal, provincial, and municipal laws concerning the use of cannabis.
 - Students have the right to free speech and expression as outlined in the [Statement of Free Expression](#). Students have the right to contact the Student Ombuds Office if they believe their freedom of expression is being violated.
 - The [Freedom of Information and the Protection of Privacy Act](#) outlines how the University will protect students' personal information, and how students can access this information themselves. Students have the right to understand what personal information may be collected, how it is stored, and that data collection will be specific and reasonably limited.
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Rights Specific to Graduate Students

Graduate Student Academic rights and responsibilities as outlined in this section can be found in the University Calendar under the Faculty of Graduate Studies in section [3. Academic Regulations](#).

- Graduate students have specific rights related to academic supervision. These can be found in section J through J.6.
- Rights involving graduate student vacation can be found in section T through T.2.
- Rights involving candidacy, including admission to candidacy, and candidacy examination outcomes, program requirements, oral examination processes, and appeals can be found in section K through K.5.
- Rights and responsibilities involving theses and thesis examinations can be found in sections L and M.
- Rights involving leaves of absences and time limits, including program specific time limits and program extensions, can be found in section D.6 through D.7.
- Other rights and responsibilities pertaining to graduate students and can be found throughout the academic regulations from sections D.1 to T.

- Rights and responsibilities of **graduate assistants** and their employers are outlined in the collective agreement which can be found on the Graduate Students' Association website under the section called "[Resources for TAs and RAs](#)".
- Rights involving **graduate students' intellectual property rights and ownership** of their work can be found in the [University Intellectual Property Policy](#).

The Student Bill of Rights will be updated when policies or links to policies change, and will be reviewed on a yearly basis. The Students' Union and Graduate Students' Association will be responsible for monitoring the policy on a quarterly basis to ensure URL links are accurate and functioning. Amendments will be brought forth by the Students' Union and Graduate Students' Association when needed.

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