

Title IX Training: Educating and Protecting our Campus Community

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Content Advisory

Compliance with Title IX is among a university's most essential responsibilities in creating a safe and supportive environment on campus.

We will discuss the intersection between hazing, sex-based conduct, and institutional responsibilities. Specifically we will cover sexual assault and hazing.

These topics can be challenging to think about and may feel especially sensitive and personal to some.

How comfortable do you feel in knowing your responsibilities with Title IX?

How comfortable are you with identifying Title IX reportable behaviors?

Title IX

4

“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

Implementing Regulations at:

20 U.S.C. § 1681 & 34 C.F.R. Part 106

The Grievance Process:

5

While the Title IX Coordinator (TIXC) is housed in Student Affairs, the TIXC serves the entire institution. However, there are two Deputy Coordinators, and the TIXC works closely with HR when employees are involved in Title IX matters.

- -- A report is made
- The TIXC reaches out to the named victim/survivor (Complainant)
- Supportive measures are offered
- Victim/survivor decides if they want to move forward with a formal complaint (or informal resolution)
- If so, the investigator is assigned, and carries out the investigation
- When necessary, the case goes to a hearing, and the final determination is provided in writing
- Employees have the right to appeal any decision within 5 days of receiving the written determination (it must be submitted to the CHRO)
- A discretionary review may be requested if an employee does not agree with the CHRO's decision (must be submitted to the USG within 20 days of receiving the written determination)

*Employees are required to participate in investigations
Cases involving student complainants and employee respondents cannot be resolved informally*

Hazing

6

"Hazing is a criminal offense under Georgia law (O.C.G.A. § 16-5-61, the Max Gruver Act). It is unlawful for any person to haze a student in connection with gaining or maintaining membership or status in a school organization.

Hazing includes activities that endanger physical health or coerce consumption of substances that risk intoxication or unconsciousness, regardless of the student's willingness to participate. A violation is a misdemeanor and may result in criminal penalties in addition to university discipline."

Grievance Procedures

7

1. Report or complaint
2. Initial assessment
3. Investigation
4. Notice and opportunity to be heard
5. Conduct resolution
6. Finding and sanctions
7. Appeal

Hazing Amnesty

8

1. Disclosure is made by a survivor.
2. The disclosure is a good faith report of hazing.
3. Emergency assistance is sought if necessary;
4. Reporting parties cooperate.
5. Reporting parties participate in a risk management plan.
6. Information given is truthful and accurate.

When do you think Title IX and hazing overlap?

NMSU – Las Vegas Case Scenario

Over the Thanksgiving holiday in November 2022, the New Mexico State University's men's basketball team traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada to play in the Holiday Classic basketball tournament. While in a hotel room during this road trip, without any coaches or other staff present, multiple NMSU players surrounded a student-manager and pressured him to pull down his pants. As captured by a cell phone video taken by one of the players, the following exchange took place while the student-manager was forced to do jumping jacks with his buttocks exposed.

Student – Manager: *"This is some Title IX shit."*

Basketball Player: *"We don't believe in Title IX. Don't f*** with me. Let's go."*

Knowledge Check: "Humbling Process"

- Group 1: While showering, Shak Odunewu, reported that his curtain was ripped aside, and he was forced to spin and do squats while his buttocks were slapped.
- Group 2: During a bus ride back from NMSU's game with UTEP in mid-November 2022, he was pinned down, his buttocks slapped, and his penis grabbed.
- Group 3: Benjamin faced similar abuse on multiple occasions. He was forced to pull down his shorts and perform some type of physical activity until Washington was satisfied. His abusers frequently ordered him to expose his genitals, and they would grab and twist his scrotum. *This occurred at least two times a week beginning in the fall and continuing after winter break into the second semester.

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911



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WHO TO CALL

12



UNIVERSITY POLICE
DEPARTMENT: 229-259-5555



UPD ANONYMOUS TIP LINE:
229-219-3171



OFFICE OF STUDENT
CONDUCT AND TITLE IX:
229-333-5409



ANTI-HAZING HOTLINE: 1-
888-668-4293

HOW TO REPORT



Report online at www.valdosta.edu
Scroll down to the bottom of the
webpage. Click Title IX Reporting



Walk in at 200 Georgia Avenue,
Valdosta, GA 31602
2nd Floor, Room 2205



Call Title IX Office
at 229-333-5409



Anonymous reports
can be made to the
University System of Georgia's (USG)
Ethics and Compliance Reporting Hotline
at -877-516-3466

TITLE IX COORDINATOR
Selenseia Holmes, MPA, CAAP
200 Georgia Ave
saholmes@valdosta.edu

Title IX Reporting

How to Contact Today's Presenter?

14



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Title IX Compliance
Officer & Investigator
229.333.5409
maburden@valdosta.edu

The Office of Student Conduct
& Title IX is located here:



Student Health Center
2nd Floor - Suite 2205
200 Georgia Avenue
Valdosta, GA 31698

Feedback