

STUDENT CONDUCT AND COMMUNITY STANDARDS EDUCATIONAL AND RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

While the Oberlin College Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards manages disciplinary processes, these processes are based in and prioritize education and restoring harm done to the community. Due to this, we prioritize the following educational outcomes and restorative practices.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

RESILIENCY:

During a student conduct process, students who have violated the Oberlin Rules and Regulations will face adversity. The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards hopes to assist students through these adverse times while integrating educational opportunities into the process. Students will leave the process with a better understanding of how to cope through adverse times while treating difficult situations as a learning opportunity.

COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY:

Students who violate the Oberlin Rules and Regulations will understand the impact of their actions on their community and their responsibility to uphold the values of Oberlin College. Students are given the chance to take responsibility for their actions and take ownership over their behavior. Students will learn how to be productive and ethical members of a community at Oberlin College and beyond. In turn, students will hold their peers accountable for their actions and their harm to the community.

SELF-BETTERMENT:

Students who are sanctioned through the student conduct process will be given an opportunity to reflect on their behavior while addressing ways to change their values and behavior to avoid future negative impact on themselves and their community.

INTEGRITY:

Students will honestly contribute to an ethical social and academic environment while holding themselves and their peers to a high standard of integrity. Students who have a policy violation will be sanctioned to learn from their mistakes and to hold themselves to a higher standard of integrity.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Oberlin's Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards is committed to identifying alternative dispute resolutions in order to move the individuals and the community forward in the most productive way possible. Due to this commitment, our office has integrated the following restorative practices into our process:

- **Restorative Administrative Resolutions:** If a student accepts responsibility for a policy violation, the administrative hearing officer assigned to the case will work with the student to identify the harm to the community caused by the policy violation and follow-up actions that will attempt to mitigate that harm.
- **Referral to Office of the Ombudsperson for Mediation:** If both a respondent and complainant wish to have a mediated resolution through the Office of the Ombudsperson and the violation is not likely to result in separation from the institution, a case can be referred to the ombudsperson. The ombudsperson has a diverse range of trained facilitators and methods to facilitate a productive conversation with a restorative lens. For more information, please visit the Office of the Ombudsperson's website: www.oberlin.edu/ombuds.
- **Sanctioned Conversations:** If a student accepts or is found responsible for a policy violation, sanctions can include a facilitated conversation between the respondent and community members who experiences harm. The goal of the conversation is to hear about the harm directly from those community members and, as a group, identify ways to move forward as a community outside of the conduct process.

SUPPORT RESOURCES

Questions or requests for further information can be directed to Thom Julian, Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards, at tjulian@oberlin.edu. Information is also available at our website: <https://www.oberlin.edu/dean-of-students/student-conduct>.