

Community Values

Virtual UBC Collegia is an online community for first-year students at UBC Vancouver. In order to build an inclusive and welcoming community, we expect all members to treat others with respect, address concerns directly with individuals or groups as they arise, take responsibility for the online space, and adhere to both [UBC Vancouver's Student Code of Conduct](#), and the [Collegia Standards](#) outlined below.

A safe and respectful community is the responsibility of all members. UBC Collegia staff are available to support members and address disrespectful behaviours, but we also understand that peer influence is the most powerful tool to encourage positive behaviour and a respectful environment. Virtual UBC Collegia are multi-purpose online spaces providing opportunities to socialize and build community, as well as connect with upper-year peer leaders and support resources.

Orientation & Transition Leaders are available as a resource for you and other students. Their role is to encourage positive connections, monitor online space use, and support the community values and Code of Membership, including the Collegia Standards. You are welcome to direct your questions or concerns to them for support. If behaviour conflicts with the Code of Membership, Orientation & Transition Leaders will address and document the incident and report it to their supervisor for review.

Collegia Standards

The Collegia Standards set out general principles and standards of conduct expected of students while using virtual UBC Collegia spaces to help students understand the type of conduct that will contravene the Code of Membership. Student members must commit to demonstrating respect for the community and the space by conducting themselves in accordance with the Collegia Standards. It is not possible to identify every type of behaviour that may fail to contribute to a respectful community, recognizing also that some situations may present unique circumstances. The Collegia Standards below offers specific examples of the standards and expectations required of UBC Collegia student members. The list is not intended to be exhaustive; members should be aware that their behaviour may still contravene the Code of Membership even if it does not appear in the list below.

These Collegia Standards apply to the online spaces managed by UBC Collegia and the Orientation & Transition Leaders.

Respect towards self and others

- Members do not use disrespectful or profane language when interacting or posting in online space managed by UBC Collegia.
- Behaviour that is dangerous or violent towards self or others will not be tolerated.*
- Behaviour that otherwise attacks the dignity and/or security of others will not be tolerated.*
This includes conduct or communications that:
 - Are offensive, threatening, demeaning or discriminatory (for example, racist, sexist, homophobic);
 - Constitutes verbal and/or physical discrimination, bullying and harassment; or
 - Contributes to an intimidating, hostile, or uncomfortable environment.

Cooperation with staff and others

Staff includes, but is not limited to Orientation & Transition Leaders, First Year Experience Coordinators and other full-time professional UBC Collegia staff, and other university staff.

- Members will behave in accordance with the requests of staff.

- Members will respond respectfully and in a timely manner to requests made by staff.
- Disrespectful or demeaning behaviour towards staff will not be tolerated.
- Staff may address behaviour they deem to be inappropriate or unsafe, which may not be specifically outlined in these guidelines.

Code Violations

By committing to the UBC Collegia Code of Membership, student members agree to contribute to a community that is respectful and beneficial to everyone, which includes adhering to the Collegia Standards. *Note that conduct or communications that may be acceptable in another context may not be acceptable in the collegia.*

Membership in UBC Collegia is a privilege that is expected to be reciprocated with respectful behaviour. Members who do not adhere to the UBC Collegia Code of Membership can expect their behaviour to be addressed and follow up by a member of the UBC Collegia staff team will occur. Members who contravene the Code of Membership will be subject to sanctions, including but not limited to restriction of privileges, required transfer to another group, suspension and/or revocation of their membership.

Subject to the paragraph immediately below, where an alleged violation of the Code of Membership is brought to the attention of the First Year Experience Coordinator, they are responsible to ensure that an investigation is conducted. The investigation will include providing the member alleged to have committed the violation a reasonable opportunity to provide his or her response. The First Year Experience Coordinator will then decide, on the balance of probabilities, whether a violation has occurred and, if it has, the appropriate sanction.

Where, however, an alleged violation of the Code of Membership is brought to the attention of the First Year Experience Coordinator and that alleged violation, in the opinion of the First Year Experience Coordinator, falls within the definition of Sexual Misconduct under UBC Board Policy 131, *Sexual Assault and Other Sexual Misconduct*, then UBC Collegia will not investigate the matter but, rather, it will be addressed pursuant to Policy 131. If the matter is brought to the attention of the First Year Experience Coordinator by the individual directly subjected to the Sexual Misconduct, the matter will not be referred to the Director of Investigations without that individual's consent, except in the exceptional circumstances set out in Policy 131. If an investigation is carried out under Policy 131 and the Director of Investigations provides to UBC Collegia a copy of the investigation report, the First Year Experience Coordinator may rely upon the investigation report to determine whether a violation of the Code of Membership has occurred and, if so, the appropriate sanction. Any sanction imposed under the Code of Membership would be in addition to any disciplinary or other measure that may be imposed on the member under Policy 131. Nothing in the foregoing affects a member's ability to disclose Sexual Misconduct to UBC Collegia without making a report under Policy 131; disclosure to UBC Collegia does not result in a report being made under Policy 131 and, except in exceptional circumstances as set out under Policy 131, does not initiate an investigation under Policy 131.

Limits of confidentiality: Respecting confidentiality is important to UBC. There are however, limits to that confidentiality. Orientation & Transition Leaders will receive help from their supervisor (First Year Experience Coordinator) to support a survivor of sexual violence, and other disclosures may be required in the exceptional circumstances under Policy 131. A survivor will have the choice to discuss their immediate health and safety needs with the First Year Experience Coordinator and take steps to put supports in place. The survivor is not required to repeat their story.

*UBC Collegia will not tolerate behaviour that is:

- Assaulting, harassing, intimidating, or threatening towards another individual or group;
- Endangering to the health or safety of others; and
- Dangerous or violent towards self or others.

Where the First Year Experience Coordinator, or their delegate, is of the opinion that a member poses a threat to well-being or safety of the member or another member of the UBC Collegia community (including students, staff, and faculty), then they may impose, without notice to the member, immediate sanctions including restriction of privileges, suspension and/or revocation of the member's membership, as well as referring the matter to other UBC offices and/or the police, in accordance to UBC Policies, Guidelines, and Rules.

Members should be aware that any action taken by UBC Collegia pursuant to the Code of Membership does not preclude UBC from taking disciplinary or other measures in addressing misconduct pursuant to UBC's applicable processes.

All students are also subject to the [UBC Student Code of Conduct](#) and the [UBC Respectful Environment Statement](#). We encourage all prospective and current members to familiarize themselves with these expectations.

Contact

If you experience a problem and require additional support to manage it, please consult your Orientation & Transition Leader, or contact the First Year Experience Coordinator associated with your group.

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Collegia groups for the Faculty of Science, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Dental Hygiene

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