



University of Donja Gorica

THE CODE OF ACADEMIC ETHICS

Podgorica, 2016

Pursuant to Article 36, paragraph 16 of the Statute of the University of Donja Gorica,

the Senate of the University adopted

THE CODE OF ACADEMIC ETHICS

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DONJA GORICA

General conditions

Article 1

Scope and content

1. The Code of Academic Ethics of the University of Donja Gorica (hereinafter: UDG) contains the moral principles and principles of professional ethics which professors, associates, scientists, artists and all employees of UDG and its organizational units – faculties, academies, institutes, centres shall adhere to in their public and professional work.
2. The principles of this Code shall be appropriately applied to students as well as other persons who are not employed by UDG, but are connected with the University through their work and activities, and if their behavior and action can be directly related to the University. The Code of Academic Ethics shall establish ethical standards tailored to the needs of the University and its organizational units (faculties/academies/institutes), recognizing the principles of the freedom of scientific and artistic creativity, and in particular taking care of preserving the dignity and reputation of the University.
3. Members of the University shall be authorized by this Code to supplement the principles and rules referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article by their general act with the specifics which are characteristic of each organizational unit, while the general act of the organizational unit must not be in conflict with the UDG Code of Academic Ethics.
4. The purpose of the Code is to popularize the values which are specific and directly related to university activities in a broader sense, to support the promotion of ethical behavior and moral values contained in this Code, which constitute an obligation for all members of UDG and UDG as a community.

II Fundamental Principles
Article 2
Principle of Morally Justified Conduct at UDG

1. Academic, scientific curiosity and exploratory spirit cannot be an excuse for violating basic human rights and dignity of colleagues or other citizens.
2. Academic staff shall behave according to the principles of academic freedom, ethical and intellectual responsibility and shall nurture the values of diverse thinking, systematic suspicion and personal initiative.
3. Students shall respect the dignity of academic and other staff. Students shall treat academic staff the same way as they expect to be treated by with respect and in accordance with the values of the university academic community.

Article 3
Responsibility towards students and students` responsibility

1. Students shall enjoy the full extent of human and intellectual freedom.
2. The ultimate responsibility of academic staff shall contribute to the intellectual development of students and the acquisition of knowledge.
3. Academic staff shall achieve the highest level of scientific knowledge and transfer it to students.
4. Academic staff shall respect the educational goals, strategies and standards of the university community aiming to students` development.
5. Academic and other staff shall respect the dignity of students.
6. Students shall respect the rights, obligations and academic integrity of other students. Any disabling of a student's unobstructed participation in any form of teaching process shall not be permitted.

Encouraging or assisting other students in an active or passive disregard of the provisions of this Code of Academic Ethics, as well as their participation in acts contrary to the Code shall not be allowed.

7. Students with disabilities shall enjoy special protection.

8. Students shall honestly and ethically fulfill their obligations, take care that their primary goal is academic excellence and behave in a civilized way, with respect and without prejudice.
9. Any form of discrimination against students on grounds of race, color, nationality, social or ethnic origin, links with a minority nation or national community, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, health status, disability, age, financial wealth, marital and family status, membership of the group, or the assumption of belonging to a group, political party or other organization, as well as other personal characteristics shall be prohibited.
10. No students shall suffer adverse consequences for reporting the case of discrimination, giving deposition before a competent authority or offering evidence in the proceedings investigating a case of discrimination.
11. Academic staff shall consistently oppose all interventions in relation to exams. Exclusive criteria for student evaluation are: knowledge, understanding and effort.
12. Academic staff shall provide an objective, reliable and uniform system of student performance and assessment.
13. Academic staff shall not allow and tolerate cheating in all its forms while assessing students` knowledge.
14. Members of academic and other staff shall respect and protect the confidentiality of the information received as such from students.
15. Under no circumstance should academic staff exploit directly or indirectly, abuse, blackmail or discriminate.

Article 4

Freedom of opinion and expression

1. Members of UDG academic community are free and responsible to seek and defend the truth in their work, to encourage a free and responsible approach to learning and demonstrating the acquired knowledge.
2. UDG shall support and encourage the freedom of opinion and expression of the members of UDG academic community.

Article 5

Autonomy in science and teaching

1. The members of the university academic community shall have the right to autonomous activities at the University, within the boundaries of their duties and competencies determined by the law and general acts of the University and in accordance with the regulations and goals of the University.
2. The members of the university academic community shall be guaranteed the right to undisturbed academic and professional development and training, to the extent that the same rights of others are not jeopardized.

Article 6

Equality and Justice

1. Members of the university academic community shall be provided with equal conditions for the performance of their professional obligations, as well as in demonstrating their intellectual abilities and promotion.

Article 7

Academic Integrity

1. Academic honesty of members of the university academic community shall be based on independence in academic and scientific work, that is, conducting original scientific research, presenting their own results and strictly respecting the copyrights of others.

Article 8

Academic Professionalism

1. Members of the university academic community shall responsibly, conscientiously and professionally execute their obligations to students, colleagues and employees of the University and its members while respecting the principles of objectivity, impartiality and mutual respect.
2. Members of the university academic community shall continuously improve their professional skills, meeting the criteria of professionalism, competence and quality.

ETHICAL RULES IN TEACHING AND SCIENTIFIC WORK

Article 9

Duties of Faculties and Teachers

The Faculty is obliged, during the duration of the studies, and especially at the beginning of the first year of all study levels organized by the Faculty, to introduce students with the rules of academic integrity, rules for presenting the ideas and papers of other authors, that is, the rules for citing sources.

University teachers are obliged to:

1. ensure the representativity, relevance, accuracy, and precision of the content of the course and the appropriate position of the course within the study programme;
2. strive to achieve and transfer quality scientific knowledge from their scientific field and courses as a part of the curriculum;
3. offer in principle the same opportunities for acquiring knowledge to all students;
4. evaluate student work openly, fairly, objectively and timely;
5. conscientiously check each writing of the student and pay special attention to whether this assignment contains some form of non-academic conduct;
6. ensure the transparency of the exams and the objectivity of the assessment;
7. respect the educational goals, strategies and standards of UDG and its members.

Article 10

Plagiarism, False Authorship, Fabrication and Falsification of Data and Self-Plagiarism

1. Plagiarism, false authorship, fabrication and falsification of data and self-plagiarism shall be prohibited in scientific research.
2. The prohibition referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall apply to all written works of teaching and scientific staff and students of the University (seminar paper, diploma paper, master paper or thesis, doctoral dissertation, article in scientific journals, textbook, monograph, chapters in the collection of papers, etc.), as well as to the unconscientious and irresponsible presentation of data in the reports on teaching and scientific research.

Article 11

Corruption

Members of the university academic community shall influence the suppression of any attempt at corruption at the University and to report any such case, in accordance with the law.

Article 12

Writing fake and rectifying recommendation letters

Writing fake and rectifying recommendation letters to misrepresent academic achievements shall not be permitted.

Article 13

Conflict of interest

1. Members of the university academic community shall avoid a conflict of interest.
2. Conflict of interest is a situation in which the private interest of a member of the university academic community or the private interest of a related person affects or can affect the legitimate and impartial performance of professional obligations (making professional decisions or undertaking professional actions) and university duties by a member of the university academic community.
3. Private interest is any benefit or convenience of a member of the university academic community or a related person.
4. Related persons are those persons who are in a special relationship with a university academic community member by marriage or extramarital partnership, relatives who are in straight line and to the second degree in lateral line, relatives by marriage to the second degree, married and common-law spouse, adoptive parents or adopted children, members of a household, close or intimate friends, other natural or legal person with which the university academic member establishes or has established a relationship.
5. The members of the university academic community shall not be allowed to put their relatives referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article in a privileged position in relation to other persons by performing their professional and university duties.

Article 14

Transparency and Confidentiality

1. Members of the University academic community shall promote transparency in their activities at UDG.
2. Members of the university academic community who are in possession of confidential data shall be obliged to protect the confidentiality of such data. Confidential data shall be deemed to be data as such defined by law, by the general acts of the University or by the decision of the competent body.
3. Unauthorized disclosure of the confidential data referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article to other members of the University community as well as to third parties shall be prohibited unless such disclosure is part of normal doing business at the University, or if there is a legal or professional obligation to make such disclosure.

Article 15

Authorities and Bodies for the Implementation of the Code

1. The Dean, The Teaching and Scientific Council, the University Senate, the UDG Ethics Committee and the Anti-Corruption Court shall participate in the process of establishing violations of the Code and the development of ethical standards.
2. The University Senate shall make decision on the formation of the Committee for Ethical Relations of the UDG with the aim of protecting the academic code of conduct, as well as the Anti-Corruption Court, which would have the task of detecting and processing any cases of corruption.

This Code shall enter into force shall enter into force on the day of its adoption at the Senate session.

UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR

RECTOR