POLICY

Policy No. D.4.3
Title Student Code of Conduct (Non-Educational Matters)
Approving Jurisdiction Board, Education Council
Policy Sponsor Vice President, Education & Student Services
Effective Date May 29, 2013
Signed by Chair of Board of Governors

CONTEXT AND PURPOSE

This policy outlines the College’s expected standards of non-educational student conduct and describes the processes VCC follows should a breach of these standards occur.

Vancouver Community College (VCC; the College) seeks to provide and maintain a safe and respectful learning and working environment in which the rights, responsibilities and dignity of all are respected. The purpose of this policy is to establish standards of non-educational student conduct. (Please refer to the Student Educational Conduct Policy and Procedures (D.4.5) for educational standards of conduct). The Student Code of Conduct (Non-Educational Matters) Procedures (D.4.3) describes the processes VCC follows should a breach of these standards occur.

SCOPE AND LIMITS

This policy and its related procedures apply to:

1. The individual or collective non-educational conduct of all students who are registered in full-time or part-time credit or non-credit courses offered by VCC.

2. Student conduct by persons who voluntarily withdraw after allegedly violating the Student Code of Conduct or who have been subject to involuntary withdrawal. Those who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with VCC or who have been notified of their acceptance for admission are also considered students.

3. Student conduct that:
   a. arises in connection with VCC activities or events on or off VCC property, including practicums, etc.; and/or
   b. involves property, equipment or systems owned or leased by VCC; and/or
   c. occurs while students are engaged in, or as a result of, VCC events and activities through any medium or means of communication.

This policy and its related procedures may not apply to specific conduct more appropriately dealt with under other policies and procedures, including, but not limited to:
STATEMENT OF POLICY PRINCIPLES

The following principles govern the non-educational conduct of VCC students:

1. VCC has the right and responsibility to establish and enforce standards of student conduct.

2. VCC expects students to conduct themselves responsibly in accordance with the following values: the right to learn; courtesy; mutual respect; diversity; free inquiry; individual safety; and freedom from harassment and discrimination.

3. Students are responsible for complying with the standards of conduct described in this policy, which include but are not limited to:
   a. complying with VCC policies and procedures;
   b. complying with all applicable federal and/or provincial legislation and regulations or municipal by-laws;
   c. complying with the codes of conduct and/or policies of affiliated accrediting and regulatory agencies;
   d. respecting the rights of all students, employees and visitors to work and learn in a safe and disruption-free environment; and
   e. respecting the property of VCC and others.

4. Students are responsible for educating themselves about VCC policies and procedures, including standards of student conduct. Ignorance of VCC policies and procedures does not excuse students from responsibility for their actions. Policies that relate to students are available on the website at www.vcc.ca.

5. Students have the right to assemble for a lawful protest at any College activity that has been endorsed by the Students’ Union of VCC (SUVCC). Students participating in a lawful and SUVCC endorsed protest are exempt from being sanctioned under this Student Code of Conduct Policy for concurrent disruptions of College activities or services that are consistent with a lawful protest. However, this Student Code of Conduct Policy is otherwise in full force during such a protest.

6. VCC will investigate allegations of student misconduct and will take appropriate action in a timely fashion where misconduct is established. When student conduct contravenes this policy, VCC will impose disciplinary measures appropriate to the nature and seriousness of the misconduct. The Student Code of Conduct Procedures (D.4.3) defines misconduct and provides examples of disciplinary measures.

7. Disciplinary measures imposed under this policy may be appealed in accordance with the process described in the Student Code of Conduct Procedures (D.4.3). Disciplinary measures that are imposed will remain in place during the appeal process.

8. The College may elect not to begin proceedings or impose sanctions under this policy for alleged misconduct if public prosecution for that misconduct is anticipated or until law
enforcement officials have disposed of the case. If the College determines its interest is clearly distinct from that of the community outside the College, proceedings under this Student Code of Conduct may go forward.

9. Students are encouraged to seek advice about this policy and/or its procedures from VCC employees such as the Arbiter for Student Issues; and/or from the SUVCC’s Student Advocate.

10. Students are encouraged to report any student misconduct to their instructor, the Director of Student Services, or another College employee.

11. All persons who are involved in an investigation or proceeding pertaining to alleged student misconduct are expected to treat confidentially any information they receive in the course of the investigation or proceeding.

DEFINITIONS

Refer to Student Code of Conduct (Non-Educational Matters) Procedures (D.4.3)

RELATED POLICIES & LEGISLATION

College Policies:
A.1.2 Student Appeals to the College Board
A.2.1 Appeal to Education Council on Academic Matters Policy
A.3.1 Human Rights
A.3.3 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy
A.3.6 Standards of Employee Conduct and Conflict of Interest
A.3.8 Violence Prevention
A.3.9 Records Management
A.3.11 Emergency Management
B.3.6 Alcoholic Beverages on Campus
B.3.8 VCC Smoke-Free
B.5.2 Appropriate and Responsible Use of Education Information Technology
D.4.1 Students with Disabilities
D.4.2 Student Complaints about instruction, services and employees
D.4.5 Student Educational Conduct
D.6.1 Off Campus College Related Use of College Equipment

Legislation:
College and Institute Act, Sections 19(1), 23(1)(j); 37(2), 37(3), 37(4)

RELATED PROCEDURES
Refer to Student Code of Conduct (Non-Educational Matters) Procedures (D.4.3)