6.1.0 ACADEMIC RIGHTS OF STUDENTS

6.1.1 Information about Course Content

Students have the right to expect the course to correspond generally to the description in the official Bulletin of the University of Kentucky and the right to be informed in writing (in the course syllabus) at the first class meeting about the nature of the course—the content, the activities to be evaluated, and the grading practice to be followed. Whenever factors such as absences or late papers will be weighed in determining grades, a student shall be informed. All students must be informed in writing of the course content and other matters listed in this rule at no cost to the student. Syllabi may be posted electronically; this must be done by the first class meeting of the semester and the syllabus must remain available there for the entire semester. All students officially enrolled in a course shall, upon request, be provided a copy of the course syllabus free of charge. [US: 2/11/80; SREC: 11/20/87]

6.1.2 Contrary Opinion

A student has the right to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in the classroom without being penalized.

6.1.3 Academic Evaluation [US: 12/5/83]

A. All teachers must inform the undergraduate students in their courses of their current progress based on the criteria in the syllabus before the following dates: [US: 2/14/94; US: 4/10/2000; US: 2/27/2008]

1. the end of the ninth week for the fall or spring semester;
2. the third day of the fifth week for the eight-week summer term;
3. the second day of the third week for the four-week summer term.

B. Students have the right to receive grades based only upon fair and just evaluation of their performance in a course as measured by the standards announced by their instructor(s) in the written course syllabus at the first class meeting.

* To “receive grades” means “to be graded.” [SREC: 2/17/2016]

C. Students have the right to receive a fair and just academic evaluation of their performance in a program. In addition to the student’s overall academic record, evaluation may include the assessment of such activities as research and/or laboratory performance, qualifying examinations, professional board examinations, studio work or performance activities, behavior in professional situations, or interviews to determine continuation in a program. The program faculty and/or relevant administrative officer must inform the student as to which activities will be included in the academic assessment no later than the beginning of the activity to be evaluated.

D. Evaluations determined by anything other than a good faith judgment based on explicit statements of the above standards are improper. Among irrelevant considerations are, as per GR I.D (6/20/05) sex, sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, national origin, color, creed,
religion, age, political belief, Vietnam-era veteran status or disabled veteran status, physical or mental disability in regard to any position for which the student is qualified, being a smoker or nonsmoker as long as the person complies with any workplace policy concerning smoking, being an applicant for or in the service of the United States Uniformed Services or any activities outside the classroom that are unrelated to the course work or program requirements. [US: 2/11/85; US 10/12/98]

E. One form of sex discrimination is sexual harassment. It is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct or written communication of an intimidating, hostile, or offensive nature, when submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the student's status in a course, program, or activity, as a basis for academic or other decisions affecting such student, or substantially interferes with a student's academic performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment. [US:4/11/83]

6.1.4 Academic Records

Students have the right to have their academic records kept separate and confidential unless they consent in writing to have them revealed. However, the Registrar or the Registrar's designee may disclose a student's academic record without that student's consent if the information is required by authorized University personnel for official use, such as advising students, writing recommendations, or selecting candidates for honorary organizations.

6.1.5 Evaluation of Student Character and Ability

Students have the right to have their character and ability evaluated only by individuals with a personal knowledge of them, and upon request, to be informed that such evaluations have been or will be made. Records containing information about a student's character and ability shall indicate when the information was provided, by whom, and the position of this individual.

6.1.6 Student Participation in Academic Affairs

Pursuant to GR VII.A.4(c), the faculty of each college within the University and the faculty of the Graduate School shall establish some form of Student Advisory Council (SAC) to represent student opinion to the college faculty and administration on educational policy matters pertinent to that college or school. [US: 4/10/2000]

The form for each SAC, as well as the areas of responsibility, shall be determined by the faculty of the college or school (GR VII.A.4(c) and prescribed in its college Rules document (GR VII.A.4(b). Students themselves shall be responsible for the selection of SAC members by democratic process. Each Student Advisory Council shall keep records of its proceedings. The dean of each college or school shall forward the college faculty Rules on form and of areas of responsibility of the college's SAC to the Provost. Pursuant to GR VII.A.4(b), these college Rules documents are filed with the Senate Council Office by the Provost when approved as being consistent with the University Senate Rules, which the Senate Council will confirm or otherwise be available to assist the Provost in making such determination.

Pursuant to GR VII.A.4(a), the faculty of each college or school may extend membership in the college faculty body, with or without voting privileges, to a student recommended by the college's Student Advisory Council, who may also be extended the privilege to vote with the
college's faculty council or equivalent body on academic affairs. On matters that reach the University Senate or Senate Council for its action, for which the University Senate Rules require prior voting action by a college faculty or faculty council, that prior college faculty voting exercise shall provide for the inclusion of the vote of the above student representative. [US: 4/10/2000]

6.1.7 Attendance and Participation During Appeal

Students shall have the right to attend classes, to pursue their academic programs, and to participate in University functions during the consideration of any appeal. [US: 4/11/83]

Those students who have patient contact in clinical practicum courses will not be able to continue patient contact in the courses during an appeal, if the appeal relates to clinical competence in regard to performance. Insofar as practicable, such appeals shall be expedited. [US: 4/25/88; US: 4/10/2000]

Attendance and participation may be limited

A. when outside agencies are used as part of the student’s educational experience. In this situation, precedence will be given to the terms of any agreement(s) which have been negotiated between the University and the agency.

B. when patient/client contact is involved in the student’s educational experience. In this situation, only patient/client contact will be limited or excluded at the discretion of program faculty. [US: 4/10/2000]