

## AUB Student code of conduct (COVID-19)

The Arts University Bournemouth is proud to welcome students from a wide range of backgrounds. Whilst a member of the Arts University Bournemouth community, we expect you to behave as an ambassador for the University at all times. This includes whether you are in a taught session, talking with other students on campus or elsewhere, or out in the wider community.

We expect you to:

**Be respectful in your dealings with others**, whether they are students, staff or members of the public. You should be polite and courteous at all times. You should ensure that all interpersonal interactions demonstrate dignity and respect, and personal relationships are grounded upon mutual respect, open communication, and clear consent.

**Respect and support the academic and professional activities of the University.** You should commit yourself to your studies, and be supportive of others' academic endeavours, particularly when working on group projects or as part of a team. This includes being punctual for scheduled classes, rehearsals or other activities, and letting someone know if you are going to be late or unable to attend for an activity where you are expected. If you're working as part of a team, make sure you are responsible and reliable, respectful of your peers, and making a full and committed contribution to delivering the team outcomes.

**Act responsibly**, whether on campus, in Halls of Residence or other student accommodation, or in the local community. This includes treating property and equipment properly, and taking care of the environment by recycling and disposing of litter responsibly, and saving energy where possible.

If you are asked to self-isolate by healthcare professionals, you should do so in order to protect yourself and others. You should co-operate fully with measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and should report your testing and result to the university via email at [covid@aub.ac.uk](mailto:covid@aub.ac.uk) in order to ensure the safety of our community.

**Be considerate**, and aware of the impact your actions may have on others. This includes keeping noise to a reasonable level, especially in the evenings and overnight, and not engaging in drunken or anti-social behaviour which disturbs others, or makes them feel they are at risk.

You should consider how breaching face covering, physical distancing and mass gathering guidelines could impact your own health, as well as that of fellow students and members of the community. Putting others at risk could affect your university studies at AUB, and in cases of mass gathering, can result in criminal charges.

**Avoid discrimination at all times.** The University opposes discrimination in all its forms, whether on the grounds of a legally protected characteristic or for any other reason. We do not tolerate behaviour which makes an individual or group feel vulnerable or demeaned on the basis of their gender, race, disability, sexuality, religion or belief, or any other personal characteristic.

While others may be self isolating responsibly, you should be supportive, friendly and mindful of their right to anonymity. You should not share information that may discriminate them or jeopardise their privacy at any time.

**Be professional in your use of the internet and social media.** Whether communicating with other students, staff or those outside the University community, make sure that your activity online, whether using social media sites (including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), blogs or any other resources, does not cause offence and cannot be regarded as bullying or harassment.

AUB believes that social media can be a positive tool that brings people together to create, develop and support communities and enrich learning and knowledge. Social media **should not** be used to undermine university messaging, encourage and incite breaching of COVID-19 guidelines and victimise those isolating, awaiting testing or requiring to take additional measures in order to protect themselves and others.

**Be aware of, and follow, the University's rules when using its resources.** We expect you to make sure you understand and follow our rules for the use of our IT network, the Library, or other resources. You must follow health and safety policies at all times.

AUB COVID-19 measures are in place to protect all of our community. Actions that put the lives of others at risk will not be tolerated, and may be subject to disciplinary action under AUB's Disciplinary Policy.

In summary, you should:

**Be self-aware.** We strongly support freedom of speech within the law, and we don't wish to restrict your freedom of thought and expression, but it's essential that you think about how your behaviour may impact on other people. It is never acceptable for students, staff or members of the public to feel threatened or intimidated by your behaviour, whether this is because you are rude, give personal abuse, make threats of physical or psychological violence, or use inflammatory language or behaviour

**Take responsibility for yourself.** Be aware of the sources of support available to you, through your course team and through Student Services; and if you have a problem, seek advice and support promptly

**Look out for others.** If you think one of your friends or peers is struggling or needs help, direct them to the sources of support available, or if necessary tell a member of staff. Being part of a community means that we take responsibility for one another, as well as ourselves.

## COVID-19

At AUB, we've put a number of measures in place to ensure the safety of our staff, students and community, in line with Government guidance and advice.

As responsible and considerate citizens, it is vital that all members of our community adhere to this guidance, both on and off campus in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The effects of this disease can be uniquely different between all ethnic groups, genders and age-groups. **Young people and the elderly have been affected by COVID-19, as well as those without pre-existing health conditions.**

Our Code of Conduct is in place to ensure that all people act with respect, friendliness and as good citizens, but in respect of COVID-19 guidance, a student could be considered in breach of the Student Conduct, if they:

- refuse to follow Government and University guidance and requirements, both on and off-campus.
- willfully and deliberately arrange gatherings of large groups against guidance.
- undermine University social distancing and safety guidelines, online and via social media.
- are confrontational, threatening or abusive when reminded about Government and University guidance.

Misconduct proceedings for students are carried out in accordance with AUB's Disciplinary Policy, and could involve:

- Permanent exclusion from Arts University Bournemouth;
- Temporarily suspending a student from their studies;
- Limiting access to university services, activities or buildings;
- Exclusion from AUB halls of residence;

As per the University Disciplinary Policy, incidences of Serious Misconduct may include:

- Disruptive behaviour and unwillingness to co-operate with reasonable instructions from staff,
- Failure to abide by the outcomes of a previous misconduct process (whether minor or serious),
- Any behaviour (on or off campus) liable to bring the University into disrepute.

Due to COVID-19, mass gatherings without valid exceptions are currently **considered a criminal offence.**

Any students under criminal investigation may attract additional disciplinary action from the University, whether a conviction is reached or not, resulting in any or all of the above university sanctions in response.