Hazing Policy

Hazing is defined as any method of initiation or preinitiation into, or condition of continued membership in, a student organization or student body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any former, current, or prospective student. Such prohibited actions, methods, or situations created include but are not limited to:

a. Any form of physically demanding activity (calisthenics, runs, etc.) not part of an organized voluntary athletic contest or not specifically directed toward constructive work.

b. Paddling, shoving or otherwise striking individuals.

c. Intentionally deceiving new members prior to initiation to make them believe that they will not be initiated or will be hurt or struck.

d. Forcing, requiring or pressuring individuals to wear, carry, or publicly display any article or apparel, especially items which are unusual, uncomfortable, degrading or physically burdensome (e.g. wooden paddles, painted rocks, T-shirts with degrading slogans or names, notebooks, etc.). It is understood that while students may choose to wear pledge/associate member pins, compelling students to wear pledge class t-shirts, pins, or other apparel that is inappropriate or violates the University’s Harassment and Discrimination Policy, Student Sexual Misconduct Policy, or the Code is hazing.

e. Depriving individuals of the opportunity for sufficient sleep (six hours continuous sleep per day minimum), decent edible meals, or access to means of maintaining bodily cleanliness.

f. Activities that interfere with an individual’s academic efforts by causing exhaustion, loss of sleep, or loss of reasonable study time or by preventing an individual from attending class or other academic requirements.

g. Having substances (e.g. food, trash, etc.) thrown at, poured on, or otherwise applied to the bodies of individuals.

h. Morally degrading or humiliating games or any other activities that make an individual the object of amusement, ridicule or intimidation.

i. Such activities as: new member only scavenger hunts, transporting individuals against their will, abandoning individuals at distant locations, or...
conducting any “kidnap,” “ditch” or “road trip” that might in any way endanger or compromise the health, safety or comfort of any individual.

j. Causing an individual to be indecently exposed or exposed to unsafe levels of cold or heat.

k. Forcing, requiring, or pressuring individuals to engage in sexual behavior or sexual misconduct (e.g. stripping, streaking, flashing, suggestive dancing, etc.).

l. Forcing, requiring, or pressuring a person to become branded or tattooed.

m. Activities that require a person to remain in a fixed position for a long period of time.

n. Forcing, requiring, or pressuring individuals to consume alcohol or drugs.

o. Forcing, requiring, or pressuring individuals to eat or drink foreign or unusual substances or forcing, requiring, or pressuring the consumption of undue amounts or odd preparations of food or beverages, including water

p. “Line-ups” involving intense or demeaning intimidation or interrogation, such as shouting obscenities or insults.

q. Assigning activities (pranks, scavenger hunts, etc.) that compel a person to deface property, engage in theft, or harass other individuals or organizations.

r. Tests of courage, bravery or stamina.

s. Intentionally creating a mess and compelling individuals to clean it up.

t. Dietary restrictions of any kind.

u. Forcing, requiring, or pressuring individuals to clean up others’ residential assignment or off-campus apartment/house or to perform other work or services. Compulsory servitude (which includes, but is not limited to, service “auctions”). Work projects without the participation of the full membership.

v. Forcing, requiring, or pressuring individuals to hand over or eliminate access to or their phone, tablet, or computer for any period of time.

w. Forcing, requiring or pressuring individuals to shave (or remove hair from) any part of the body (including head shaving or haircuts).

x. Forcing, requiring or pressuring an individual to tamper with or damage University property.

y. Exposure to the elements.

z. Requiring members to escort each other on campus.

aa. Requiring the answering of phones or doors with songs, chants, or riddles.

bb. Requiring yelling or screaming upon entering or leaving a facility.
cc. Verbal or cruel harassment, including yelling and screaming.

dd. Morally degrading or humiliating games or activities.

ee. Excluding an individual from social contact for prolonged periods of time.

ff. Depriving students of “sense of awareness” (sight, sound, etc.), imposition of many hours of silence, during which time individuals may not speak while going about their daily routines, or any similar actions which may cause mental and/or physical stress.

gg. Any activity that is perceived or implied mandatory for new members only and is not educational in nature.