



Societies

Code of Conduct

uogsu.com/societies

The primary concern for the University of Gloucestershire Students' Union will always be the welfare of students and protecting those that take part in and lead our Societies. We recognise that all members of a Society (including committee members), may encounter some difficult situations throughout the year. The following guidelines have been put in place to ensure that Societies look after the safety and wellbeing of anyone attending any activity or social with your society. Whenever you are participating in an activity or attending a social function with your society, you are representing the Students' Union and the University of Gloucestershire.

What do these guidelines cover?

These guidelines seek to clarify what is reasonable behaviour when you are participating in any activity or social event under the name of University of Gloucestershire Students' Union. All students are expected to also abide by the [University's Student Code of Conduct](#), which all students agree to when they become a student at the University.

What are acceptable social activities?

Acceptable social activities include:

- Welcome evening for new members
- Society and award dinners
- Society meals
- Social nights
- Team bonding activities, e.g. bowling
- Celebrations (Birthday and Christmas meals)

What is an organised UGSU Society activity or social?

If any of the following criteria apply, then an event or social is deemed as being 'organised' by the Society:

- Activity publicised at a Society meeting.
- Activity in any way publicised by the Society.
- Activity funded in part or whole by the Union or through the Societies SU accounts.
- Activity is requiring the use of equipment owned by the Society/Union.
- An activity where group transport was booked through the Union.
- You are wearing clothing that identifies you with the University of Gloucestershire Society (including fancy dress).
- Activity publicised on social media pages (i.e. Facebook groups and Twitter) and your pages on www.yourstudentsunion.com website.
- Any Wednesday Night social/event is classed as an organised event.
- Fundraising events – make the SU aware of this.

What do we expect of you?

- Do not be abusive to anyone or anything, either verbally or physically (neither are at all acceptable)
- Do not encourage someone to drink alcohol beyond their means or force/bully someone to drink at all.
- Do not urinate, defecate or vomit anywhere apart from in a toilet!
- Do not take your clothes off in any public place
- Do not damage anyone else's property
- Do not bring the reputation of the University of Gloucestershire, SU, or Society into question or disrepute
- Do not use any form of peer pressure
- Do not carry out, take part in or promote 'initiation' ceremonies
- Do not carry out any physical/mental abuse within circles / social events
- Do not force consumption of any fluid/substance under any circumstances
- Do not drink alcohol on any form of away transport (minibuses, coaches, private or student cars)
- Do not use threatening, intimidating, violent, disorderly, prejudicial or offensive behaviour towards other members of the Society or any other persons
- No activity should take place whereby there is a risk of damage to physical or psychological health to those taking part in the social event.
- To act as an appropriate ambassador for the University, the SU and your Society while either hosting other University Societies or attending Society activities at an external location
- To operate within the law, and to be aware of offending others and members of the public through anti-social behaviour.

Potential Consequences of Breaching the Societies Code of Conduct

Every time an individual or group breach these guidelines, the Society will face possible sanctions. (External authorities notwithstanding, i.e. the Police, University of Gloucestershire). The SU has a clear disciplinary process. The committee for Societies will deal with any complaints, and each case will be dealt with on an individual basis.

The SU will punish the Society and are not afraid to do so

Potential SU Sanctions against the Society:

- Society fine
- Removal of privileges such as support from website/and or other support
- Removal of ability to hire out or use university facilities as a Society

Potential SU Sanctions against an Individual:

- Activity Bans
- Fine for damages
- Ban from all Society related events
- Expulsion as a member of the Society and SU

University and External Organisations (e.g. Police):

- Fine
- Community Service
- Disbandment of Society
- University disciplinary procedures (which could lead to possible expulsion from University & Course)
- Arrest / Court / Criminal record

All members of the Society must show respect at all times towards the groups, individuals, and property with which they come into contact with during the year (University or Non-University).

Also please remember that you are at the University primarily to leave with the best degree classification possible. Any individual who refuses to sign up to this agreement will not be allowed to become a member of the Society in question.