



NAAC Reaccredited B⁺ (CGPA 2.71)

Estd: 1981

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STUDENTS' HANDBOOK ON CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT ALONG WITH STANDARD PROCEDURES

PREAMBLE

This Handbook indicates the standard procedures and practices of the Nazira College (hereinafter referred to as the 'Institute') for all students enrolling with the Institute for pursuing varied courses. All students must know that it is incumbent upon them to abide by this Code of Ethics and Conduct (hereinafter referred to as the 'Code') and the rights, responsibilities including the restrictions flowing from it. That the Institute's endeavour by means of enforcing this Code is to pioneer and administer a student discipline process that is egalitarian, conscientious, effectual and expeditious; and providing a system which promotes student growth through individual and collective responsibility. All Students are requested to be well conversant with this Code, which can be also reviewed on the official website of the Institute.

JURISDICTION

The Institute shall have the jurisdiction over the conduct of the students associated /enrolled with the Institute and to take cognisance of all acts of misconduct including incidents of ragging or otherwise which are taking place on the Institute campus or in connection with the Institute related activities and functions.

Institute may also exercise jurisdiction over conduct which occurs off-campus violating the ideal student conduct and discipline as laid down in this Policy and other regulations, as if the conduct has occurred on campus which shall include

- a) Any violations of the Sexual Harassment Policy of the Institute against other students of the Institute.
- b) Physical assault, threats of violence, or conduct that threatens the health or safety of any person including other students of the Institute;
- c) Possession or use of weapons, explosives, or destructive devices off campus
- d) Manufacture, sale, or distribution of prohibited drugs, alcohol etc.
- e) Conduct which has a negative impact or constitutes a nuisance to members of the surrounding off-campus community.

The Institute, while determining whether or not to exercise such off-campus jurisdiction in situations enumerated hereinabove, the Institute shall consider the seriousness of the alleged offense, the risk of

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harm involved, whether the victim(s) are members of the campus community and/or whether the off campus conduct is part of a series of actions, which occurred both on, and off-campus.

Ethics and Conduct

This Code shall apply to all kinds of conduct of students that occurs on the Institute premises including in University sponsored activities, functions hosted by other recognized student organizations and any off-campus conduct that has or may have serious consequences or adverse impact on the Institute's Interests or reputation

At the time of admission, each student must sign a statement accepting this Code and by giving an undertaking that

- a) he/she shall be regular and must complete his/her studies in the Institute.
- b) In the event, a student is forced to discontinue studies for any legitimate reason, such a student may be relieved from the Institute subject to written consent of the HODs/Principal
- c) As a result of such relieving, the student shall be required to clear pending hostel / mess dues and if a student had joined the Institute on a scholarship, the said grant shall be revoked.

Institute believes in promoting a safe and efficient climate by enforcing behavioural standards. All students must uphold academic integrity, respect all persons and their rights and property and safety of others; etc.

All students must deter from indulging in any and all forms of misconduct including partaking in any activity off-campus which can affect the Institute's interests and reputation substantially. The various forms of misconduct include:

- i. Any act of discrimination (physical or verbal conduct) based on an individual's gender, caste, race, religion or religious beliefs, colour, region, language, disability, or sexual orientation, marital or family status, physical or mental disability, gender identity, etc.
- ii. Intentionally damaging or destroying Institute property or property of other students and/or faculty members
- iii. Any disruptive activity in a class room or in an event sponsored by the Institute
- iv. Unable to produce the identity card, issued by the Institute, or refusing to produce it on demand by campus security guards
- v. Participating in activities including Organizing meetings and processions without permission from the Institute.
- vi. Accepting membership of religious or terrorist groups banned by the Institute/Government of India
- vii. Unauthorized possession, carrying or use of any weapon, ammunition, explosives, or potential weapons, fireworks, contrary to law or policy.
- viii. Unauthorized possession or use of harmful chemicals and banned drugs
- ix. Smoking on the campus of the Institute
- x. Possessing, Consuming, distributing, selling of alcohol in the Institute and/or throwing empty bottles on the campus of the Institute

- xi. Parking a vehicle in a no parking zone or in area earmarked for parking other type of vehicles
- xii. Rash driving on the campus that may cause any inconvenience to others
- xiii. Not disclosing a pre-existing health condition, either physical or psychological, to the Principal which may cause hindrance to the academic progress.
- xiv. Theft or unauthorized access to others resources
- xv. Misbehaviour at the time of student body elections or during any activity of the Institute.
- xvi. Engaging in disorderly, lewd, or indecent conduct, including, but not limited to, creating unreasonable noise; pushing and shoving; inciting or participating in a riot or group disruption at the Institute.
- xvii. Students are expected not to interact, on behalf of the Institute, with media representatives or invite media persons on to the campus without the permission of the Institute authorities.
- xviii. Students are not permitted to either audio or video record lectures in class rooms or actions of other students, faculty, or staff without prior permission.
- xix. Students are not permitted to provide audio and video clippings of any activity on the campus to media without prior permission.
- xx. Students are expected to use the social media carefully and responsibly. They cannot post derogatory comments about other individuals from the Institute on the social media or indulging in any such related activities having grave ramifications on the reputation of the Institute.
- xxi. Theft or abuse of the Institute computers and other electronic resources such as computer and electronic communications facilities, systems, and services which includes unauthorized entry, use, tamper, etc. of Institute property or facilities, private residences of staff/professors etc. offices, classrooms, computers networks, and other restricted facilities and interference with the work of others is punishable.
- xxii. Damage to, or destruction of, any property of the Institute, or any property of others on the Institute premises.
- xxiii. Making a video/audio recording, taking photographs, or streaming audio/video of any person in a location where the person has a reasonable expectation of privacy, without that person's knowledge and express consent.
- xxiv. Indulging in any form of Harassment which is defined as a conduct that is severe and objectively, a conduct that is motivated on the basis of a person's race, colour, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition,

If there is a case against a student for a possible breach of code of conduct, then a committee will be formed to recommend a suitable disciplinary action that shall inquire into the alleged violation and accordingly suggest the action to be taken against the said student. The committee may meet with the student to ascertain the misconduct and suggest one or more of the following disciplinary actions based on the nature of misconduct.

WARNING

Indicating that the action of the said delinquent student was in violation of the Code and any further acts of misconduct shall result in severe disciplinary action.

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However, any future misconduct along with failure to comply with any conditions imposed may lead to severe disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion.

EXPULSION: Expulsion of a student from the Institute permanently. Indicating prohibition from entering the Institute premises or participating in any student related activities or campus residences etc.

MONETARY PENALTY: May also include suspension or forfeiture of scholarship/fellowship for a specific time period.

SUSPENSION: A student may be suspended for a specified period of time which will entail prohibition on participating in student related activities, classes, programs etc. Additionally, the student will be forbidden to use various Institute facilities unless permission is obtained from the Competent Authority. Suspension may also follow by possible dismissal, along with the following additional penalties.

- (a) Ineligibility to reapply for admission to the Institute for a period of three years, and
- (b) Withholding the grade card or certificate for the courses studied or work carried out

APPEAL:

If the delinquent student is aggrieved by the imposition of any of the aforementioned penalties, he/she may appeal to the Principal. The Principal may decide on one of the following:

- (a) Accept the recommendation of the committee and impose the punishment as suggested by the Committee or modify and impose any of the punishments as stipulated in this Code which is commensurate with the gravity of the proved misconduct,

Or

Refer the case back to the committee for reconsideration. In any case the Principal's decision is final and binding in all the cases where there is a possible misconduct by a student.

Academic Integrity

The Institute values academic integrity and is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic Integrity encompasses honesty and responsibility and awareness relating to ethical standards for the conduct of research and scholarship. The Institute believes that in all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged. Academic integrity is essential for the success of the Institute and its research missions, and hence, violations of academic integrity constitute a serious offence.

Scope and Purpose. This Policy on academic integrity, which forms an integral part of the Code, applies to all students at the Institute and is required to adhere to the said policy.

The purpose of the Policy is twofold: • To clarify the principles of academic integrity, and • To provide examples of dishonest conduct and violations of academic integrity.

Every member of the College community therefore bears a responsibility for ensuring that the highest standards of academic integrity are upheld. The principles of academic integrity require that a student,

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- ✓ Properly acknowledges and cites use of the ideas, results, material or words of others. • properly acknowledges all contributors to a given piece of work.
- ✓ makes sure that all work submitted as his or her own in a course or other academic activity is produced without the aid of impermissible materials or impermissible collaboration.
- ✓ obtains all data or results by ethical means and reports them accurately without suppressing any results inconsistent with his or her interpretation or conclusions.
- ✓ treats all other students in an ethical manner, respecting their integrity and right to pursue their educational goals without interference. This requires that a student neither facilitates academic dishonesty by others nor obstructs their academic progress.

Violations of this policy include, but are not limited to:

- (i) Plagiarism means the use of material, ideas, figures, code or data as one's own, without appropriately acknowledging the original source. This may involve submission of material, verbatim or paraphrased, that is authored by another person or published earlier by oneself. Examples of plagiarism include: (a) Reproducing, in whole or part, text/sentences from a report, book, thesis, publication or the internet. (b) Reproducing one's own previously published data, illustrations, figures, images, or someone else's data, etc. (c) Taking material from class-notes or incorporating material from the internet graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other non-textual material from other sources into one's class reports, presentations, manuscripts, research papers or thesis without proper attribution. (d) Self plagiarism which constitutes copying verbatim from one's own earlier published work in a journal or conference proceedings without appropriate citations. e) Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement. f) Paraphrasing or changing an author's words or style without citation.
- (ii) Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (a) Copying during examinations, and copying of homework assignments, term papers, theses or manuscripts. (b) Allowing or facilitating copying, or writing a report or taking examination for someone else. (c) Using unauthorized material, copying, collaborating when not authorized, and purchasing or borrowing papers or material from various sources. (d) Fabricating (making up) or falsifying (manipulating) data and reporting them in thesis and publications. (e) Creating sources, or citations that do not exist (f) Altering previously evaluated and re-submitting the work for re-evaluation (g) Signing another student's name on an assignment, report, research paper, thesis or attendance sheet
- (iii) Conflict of Interest: A clash of personal or private interests with professional activities can lead to a potential conflict of interest, in diverse activities such as teaching, research, publication, working on committees, research funding and consultancy. It is necessary to protect actual professional independence, objectivity and commitment, and also to avoid an appearance of any impropriety arising from conflicts of interest.

Institutional roles: A breach of academic integrity is a serious offence with long lasting consequences for both the individual and the institute, and this can lead to various sanctions. In the case of a student the first violation of academic breach will lead to a warning. A repeat offence, if deemed sufficiently serious, could lead to expulsion.

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ANTI-RAGGING:

The Institute has a coherent and an effective anti-ragging policy in place which is based on the 'UGC Regulation on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009 [hereinafter referred to as the 'UGC Regulations']'. The UGC Regulations have been framed in view of the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to prevent and prohibit ragging in all Indian Educational Institutions and Colleges. The said UGC Regulations shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Institute and the students are requested kindly to

Ragging constitutes one or more of the following acts:

- a) any conduct by any student or students whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness any student;
- b) indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities by any student or students which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship, physical or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in any other student;
- c) asking any student to do any act which such student will not in the ordinary course do and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame, or torment or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of such a student;
- d) any act by a senior student that prevents, disrupts or disturbs the regular academic activity of any student;
- e) exploiting the services of a student for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students;
- f) any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a student by other students;
- g) any act of physical abuse including all variants of it: sexual abuse, stripping, forcing obscene and lewd acts, gestures, causing bodily harm or any other danger to health or person;
- h) any act or abuse by spoken words, emails, post, public insults which would also include deriving perverted pleasure, vicarious or sadistic thrill from actively or passively participating in the discomfiture to any other student ;
- i) any act that affects the mental health and self-confidence of any other student with or without an intent to derive a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by a student over any other student.

ANTI-RAGGING COMMITTEE: The Anti-Ragging Committee, as constituted by the Principal and headed by the Convener shall examine all complaints of anti-ragging and come out with recommendation based on the nature of the incident.

ANTI-RAGGING SQUAD: To render assistance to students, an Anti-Ragging Squad, which is a smaller body, has also been constituted consisting of various members of the campus community. The said

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Squad shall keep a vigil on ragging incidents taking place in the community and undertake patrolling functions. Students may note that the Squad is active and alert at all times and are empowered to inspect places of potential ragging, and also make surprise raids in hostels and other hotspots in the Institute. The Squad can also investigate incidents of ragging and make recommendations to the Anti-Ragging Committee and shall work under the guidance of the Anti-Ragging Committee.

A student found guilty by the committee will attract one or more of the following punishments, as imposed by the Anti-Ragging Committee:

- a) Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges.
- b) Withholding/ withdrawing scholarship/ fellowship and other benefits.
- c) Debarring from appearing in any test/ examination or other evaluation process.
- d) Withholding results.
- e) Debarring from undertaking any collaborative work or attending national or international conferences/symposia/meeting to present his/her research work.
- f) Suspension/ expulsion from the hostels and mess.
- g) Cancellation of admission.
- h) Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution for a specified period.
- i) In cases where the persons committing or abetting the act of ragging are not identified, the institute shall resort to collective punishment.
- j) If need be, in view of the intensity of the act of ragging committed, a First Information Report (FIR) shall be filed by the Institute with the local police authorities.

The Anti-Ragging Committee of the Institute shall take appropriate decision, including imposition of punishment, depending on the facts and circumstances of each incident of ragging and nature and gravity of the incident of ragging.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT:

The Institute's Policy on prevention and prohibition of sexual harassment at workplace, 2016 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the students of the Institute which can be accessed and reviewed by the students at <http://www.iisc.ernet.in/misc/harashment.htm> Students should note that sexual misconduct or harassment encompasses a range of conduct, including but not limited to sexual assault, unwanted touching or persistent unwelcome comments, e-mails, or pictures of an insulting or degrading sexual nature, which may constitute harassment, which shall depend of the circumstances of each case.

STUDENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE:

Any student of the Institute aggrieved by any acts of sexual harassment, misconduct or ragging as defined and summarised hereinabove can approach the Student Grievance Redressal cell at the

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Institute. Further, any student who is aware of any violations must report the same to the Cell. The Cell shall consist of members as appointed by the Director. Said grievance must be in writing and should be made within 60 days from the day of the alleged violation. The Cell shall take cognisance of the grievance and inform the Committee formed to enforce this Code or the Internal Complaints Committee, in cases of any sexual harassment complaints.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE:

As Students are members of the Institute campus; they have a substantial interest in the governance of the Institute. The Code, policies and the varied procedures laid down herein intends that the principle of student involvement in governance in both administrative and academic areas is essential and it is pivotal that Students must be, at all junctures, be encouraged to put forth their views and advice, for an informed decision making. Student Participation is encouraged and must be strengthened through the involvement of students in all levels. Therefore, all students who are a part of the Institute and who are going to be enrolled in the Institute are advised to uphold the policy and inform the Institute of any violations and assist individually and collectively to improve the quality and effectiveness of this Code and appended policies.

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