

SUNY Canton is a unique place to study, work and live. The college community is an environment where individuals can immerse themselves in a culturally-diverse, pluralistic society. The campus community should take advantage of the wonderful opportunity available to learn about the various cultural groups represented here at SUNY Canton—developing an appreciation for their respective historical contributions, folklore, music, food, language, art and customs.

To ensure an environment where an individual can achieve his or her academic/career goals, the University Police Department is committed to protect the entire college community from what has been termed "bias-related crime."

The objective of this pamphlet is to inform all students, faculty and staff about bias-related crime prevention measures, promote discussion, encourage reporting and facilitate prevention of such incidents.

What is a bias-related crime?

Bias-related crimes are criminal activity motivated by the perpetrator's bias or attitude against an individual victim or group based on perceived or actual personal characteristics, such as their race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or other protected classes. Hate/bias crimes have received renewed attention in recent years, particularly since the passage of the Federal Hate/Bias Crime Reporting Act of 1990 and the New York Stated Hate Crimes Act of 2000 (Penal Law Article 485). Copies of the New York State Law are available from the University Police Department.

In addition to preventing and prosecuting hate/bias crimes, SUNY Canton University Police also assist in addressing bias-related activities that do not raise to the level of a crime. These activities, referred to as bias incidents and defined by the University as acts of bigotry, harassment, or intimidation directed at a member or group within the Canton community based on national

origin, ethnicity, race, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, color, creed, or other protected classes, may be addressed through the State University's discrimination complaint procedure or the campus conduct code. Title IX incidents should be reported to the Title IX Coordinator or Dean of Students.

What are the penalties for committing bias-related crimes?

Penalties for bias-related crimes are very serious and range from fines to imprisonment for lengthy periods, depending on the nature of underlying criminal offense, the use of violence or previous convictions of the offender. When a person is convicted of a hate crime, the hate crime will be category higher than the specified offense committed. *Example: an A-Misdemeanor will become an E-Felony, etc. For further information see Penal Law, Section 485.10.*

Perpetrators who are students will also be subject to campus disciplinary procedures where sanctions, including dismissal are possible.

What is the University Police Department's policy on bias-related crime?

It is the policy of the University Police Department to ensure that the rights guaranteed by New York State Law and the U.S. Constitution are protected for all citizens, regardless of race, color, ethnicity or religion. When such rights are infringed upon by violence, threats or other harassment, the University Police Department will use every necessary resource to rapidly and decisively identify the perpetrator(s), arrest them and bring them to trial.

What can I do if I am a bias-related crime victim?

If you are a victim of, or a witness to a bias crime on campus, report it to University Police by calling 7777, or in a emergency, use an Emergency Blue Light, or stop at the University Police Office. University Police will investigate and follow the appropriate adjudication procedures.

Should you become a victim of a bias-related crime, remember that all materials such as graffiti should be preserved, documented and reported immediately to the University Police. The University Police Department will conduct a thorough criminal investigation and work with the court system to prosecute offenders. All bias-related crimes are reported to the Division of Criminal Justice Services in Albany and are monitored independently.

Victims of bias crime or bias incidents can avail themselves of counseling and support services from the campus by contacting the Counseling Center at 7122, Office of Diversity at 7128, or the Title IX Coordinator at 7688.

For general information on SUNY Canton's security procedures, see our website, student handbook, Jeanne Clery Discloser Act, or call University Police at 7777.

What can I do to prevent bias-related crimes?

Differences among people, as well as their similarities, need to be discussed so that all can learn to appreciate the uniqueness of every group. In this multi-cultural and multi-ethnic campus community, we hope that through educational programs, we may be able to help you understand and combat negative racial attitudes, religious discrimination and cultural intolerance.

*If you are a victim of a
bias-related crime,
call University Police at
386-7777.*

There are various services offered to the entire campus community. Some of them are as follows:

Student Affairs 386-7120 & 386-7314

Bias based on race, sex, religion or sexual orientation has no place on the SUNY Canton campus. Allegations and accusations of such behavior should be brought to the attention of the Dean of Students or the Title IX Coordinator/Affirmative Action Officer..

Office of Diversity 386-7128

The Office of Diversity Affairs provides a variety of programs to ensure that all faculty, staff, and students are valued as integral parts of the university community. They also provide personal support to individuals who are members of under-represented groups on campus.

Residence Life 386-7513

Provides service and housing to approximately 800 students in five (5) residence hall buildings.

Counseling Center 386-7314

Provides professional guidance and counseling to the entire student body.

Title IX 386-7688

Receives complaints of alleged discrimination, assists with complaint procedure, and provides resources to victims/complainants

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Pursuant to the State University of New York policy, SUNY Canton is committed to fostering a diverse community of outstanding faculty, staff, and students, as well as ensuring equal educational opportunity, employment, and access to services, programs, and activities, without regard to an individual's race, color, national origin, religion, creed, age, disability, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, familial status, pregnancy, predisposing genetic characteristics, military status, domestic violence victim status, or criminal conviction. Employees, students, applicants, or other members of the campus community (including, but not limited to, vendors, visitors, and guests) may not be subjected to harassment that is prohibited by law or treated adversely or retaliated against based upon a protected characteristic.

The University's policy is in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and harassment. These laws include the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as Amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, and the New York State Human Rights Law. These laws prohibit discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment and sexual violence.

Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX and other laws, regulations, and policies prohibiting discrimination may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator/Affirmative Action Officer, Amanda Deckert, at (315) 386-7688 or at title9@canton.edu. Inquiries may also be directed to the United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, 32 Old Slip 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005-2500; Tel. (646) 428-3800; email OCR.NewYork@ed.gov.



University Police Department
Canton, New York 13617
315-386-7777

Bias-Related Crime



To Serve and Protect



www.canton.edu