

Hazing Examples

This list of prohibited practices is intended to provide examples of hazing that can occur during any initiation/training process and active membership to an organization/team. Because it is impossible to anticipate every situation that could involve hazing, this list should not be considered all-inclusive. Any infraction of the below can result in the loss of intake privileges (recruiting, training, new members, etc.), current and future, and/or university recognition (including Greek charters and athletic eligibility), as well as other disciplinary sanctions. For clarification of the University's hazing policy, what activities are encompassed by it, and to obtain lists of alternatives, students and groups should contact the Office of Student Life.

1. Psychological hazing, which is defined as any act which is likely to: (a) compromise the dignity of another; (b) cause embarrassment or shame to another; (c) cause another to be the object of malicious amusement or ridicule; (d) or cause psychological harm or substantial emotional strain.
2. Humiliation in front of non-members by reference to "pledgeship."
3. Line-ups of the new members/recruits, or grilling individuals or groups with questions of any kind.
4. Deception prior to the end of an initiation process to convince a new member that he or she will not complete initiation/training.
5. (Non)Members told to do anything exclusively for the entertainment of the organization members.
6. Forcing, coercing, or permitting students to disrupt scheduled classes, public forums, or other facets of the University's academic programs such as creating activities that are so time consuming that students cannot go to class, do homework, sleep, etc.
7. Any form of obtaining signatures of members or alumni (i.e. lists, on paddles, on balloons, etc...) or obtaining handshakes/greetings/phone calls in a manner inconsistent with the Hazing Policy.
8. All forms of physical activity not a part of an organized athletic contest and not specifically directed toward constructive work (push-ups, sit-ups, morning walks, calisthenics, etc.). No one truly knows the physical limitations of individuals and the safety of our students must always come first.
9. The application of foreign substances to the body, such as throwing food, spraying water of any temperature, etc.
10. Such activities, such as scavenger hunts, which result in illegal activity, new member ditches, kidnaps, unity walks, blindfolding, etc.
11. Forcing, coercing, or permitting students to be deprived of sufficient sleep. (Eight consecutive hours per day is the required standard.)
12. Any paddling, swatting, or individual or collective spanking.
13. Personal errands run by new members for returning organization members.
14. Assigning pranks such as stealing, painting objects, or harassing another team/organization.
15. Depriving students of access to their residence hall rooms such as taking their keys, making them spend the night in another's rooms or at a house, etc.
16. Not providing decent and edible food (i.e., no unusual combinations or preparation, colored foods, raw food, strange combination shakes, etc.).
17. Depriving student access to means of maintaining a normal schedule of bodily cleanliness (including a minimum of one shower per day).
18. Forcing, coercing or permitting students to eat or drink foreign or unusual substances such as raw meat, salt water, onion, hot peppers, baby food, etc.
19. Forced nudity and/or forcing, allowing or suggesting that students dress in a conspicuous, embarrassing, and/or degrading manner.
20. Forcing, coercing, allowing, suggesting, or permitting students to drink excessive amounts of alcohol.
21. Branding/Tattooing any part of the body, whether voluntary or involuntary.
22. Forcing, coercing or permitting an individual to be "buried alive", for any period of time.
23. Forcing, coercing or permitting students to disrupt the operation of the University dining commons.
24. Any form of punishment/and or demerit system is prohibited.
25. Any activity or ritual that involves the abuse or mistreatment of an animal.