

Normally, the student must have completed at least one full year of study at Williams and have met minimum academic standards before the CAS would consider the petition. The petition must include certification that all degree requirements, including a major, can be fulfilled if the credit is awarded.

## *Chalking*

Exterior chalking is allowed only on uncovered horizontal solid surfaces where rain waters will naturally wash it off. For example, chalking is allowed on open sidewalks on campus; chalking is not allowed on wall surfaces (such as the Paresky Snack Bar oval or the pillars on Chapin), nor on horizontal surfaces covered by a roof or overhang (such as the front porch of Paresky). Chalkings must include the name of the person, group, or office responsible for them. Any chalking that falls outside of these parameters will be removed and the person(s) responsible, if known, will be charged for clean-up/removal.

## *College Standards of Conduct*

As a residential college, Williams believes that for each student the experience of living with other students has an educational importance that should parallel and enhance his or her studies. For students to profit from living and working together, they must respect the rights of other members of the community in which they live and work—a community which includes students, members of the faculty and staff of the College, and other residents of Williamstown. The President, Trustees, faculty, and students of Williams College have established the codes of conduct described below to foster the learning that comes from living and studying with men and women of diverse backgrounds and from learning to honor opinions and beliefs that may differ from one's own.

The College seeks to assure the rights of all to express themselves in words and actions, while ensuring that all members and guests of this community are free of harassment. Specifically, sexual, racial, and identity related harassment will not be tolerated. Accepting membership in this community entails an obligation to maintain an environment free of intimidation and harassment, and a responsibility to uphold respectful and equitable conduct.

The College Laws authorize the faculty to make rules for the proper conduct of students and to establish penalties for failure to comply with the faculty's regulations or for failure to conform to those laws and standards of conduct by which the larger community safeguards individual rights and social order. Students must respect the rights of others, their persons and their possessions, and refrain from any disturbance to the peace of the College or the community around it. The College will hold students responsible if they fail to maintain good conduct on the campus or elsewhere.

***Individual Rights:*** Williams College does not discriminate on grounds unrelated to its educational objectives; it is committed to being a community in which all ranges of opinion and belief can be expressed and debated, and within which all patterns of behavior permitted by the public law and College regulations can take place. The community is varied, including people of diverse races, religions, national or ethnic backgrounds, gender expressions and gender identities, and sexual orientations, and its members may from time to time disagree with one another's ideas and behavior. The College seeks to assure the rights of all to express themselves in words and actions, so long as they can do so without infringing upon the rights of others or violating standards of good conduct or public law.

Accepting membership in this community entails an obligation to behave with courtesy to others whose beliefs and behavior differ from one's own; all members and guests of this community must be free of disturbance or harassment, including racial and sexual harassment.

***Public Law:*** The College does not give students protection from the consequences of violations of federal, state, and local laws, and public authorities may act independently to investigate and prosecute any such violations. When students are charged with legal violations committed on or off-campus, the Dean of the College may also initiate disciplinary proceedings. The accused student, however, may request of the Dean of the College a suspension of the disciplinary proceedings until the conclusion of the court case. If the Dean of the College determines that the student is a potential threat to the personal safety or security of individuals, then the Dean may impose appropriate restrictions, up to and including suspension, without prejudice to the student's record, until the conclusion of the court case. Interim suspensions, in such circumstances, are subject to an appeal to the President.

This request may be denied. In the case of a graduating senior, in the event the College disciplinary proceedings are suspended until the conclusion of the court case, the degree may be withheld.

## Disciplinary Proceedings

Violations of individual rights, the general rules of conduct, or the specific rules of conduct listed below subject a student to disciplinary proceedings. The College does not attempt to describe every act that constitutes a violation of the code of conduct; but rather the College reserves the right to make determinations on a case by case basis. If in the judgment of the President the best interests of the College so require, a student may be immediately removed from the College.

*Specific rules of conduct include, but are not limited to:*

**Alcohol and Drugs:** Williams prohibits the abuse of alcohol and expects members of the College community to abide by federal, state, and local regulations concerning the possession and use, purchase, and distribution of alcohol. The College prohibits the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of illegal drugs, or the unauthorized use of prescription drugs. See page for the *legal sanctions* concerning alcohol and drugs.

**Disturbances:** The College has the basic obligation to maintain orderly and equitable conduct of its affairs, free of intimidation and harassment. While peaceful and orderly protest and dissent are the right of all members of the College community, any action from any quarter which obstructs or interferes with the fulfillment of this basic obligation cannot be permitted. Such obstruction or interference will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include dismissal from the College. College personnel may require students to leave public events at the College for improper behavior.

**Weapons, Fireworks and Hazardous Chemicals:** The possession or use of any weapon including firearms, ammunition, air guns, spring guns, slingshots, bow and arrow, and paintball guns, or hazardous chemicals is forbidden. Possession or use of a knife with a double-edge blade, a spring blade, or a blade over 4 inches in length is prohibited by College policy and is against Massachusetts state law. Possession or use of fireworks in Williamstown is forbidden by College, local, and state law, and violators will be fined.

**Fraternities:** Williams students may neither join nor participate in fraternities during their time at the College.

**Hazing:** Hazing is prohibited by the College and is against the law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

**Personal Safety:** Actions that threaten or endanger in any way the personal safety or security of an individual are grave offenses.

**Property:** Theft or damage to the property of individuals or the College subjects students to disciplinary action. Financial responsibility for vandalism to College property will be fixed in the manner described under "[Damage and Billing Procedures](#)". The residential house (or entry or floor) will be billed if the individuals responsible are not identified.

**Retaliation Prohibited:** Students who make complaints or bring charges against another student for violation of the College Standards of Conduct, including complaints concerning sexual misconduct, harassment or discrimination, may not be subjected to retaliation of any sort, whether verbal or physical, for having done so. Any student who retaliates against another student in violation of this rule will be subject to disciplinary action through the established [disciplinary procedures of the College](#).

**Rape, Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct:** *The College's policies concerning sexual misconduct by students are summarized here. The complete policies are set forth in the [Appendix](#).*

**The following are prohibited by the College's Code of Conduct:**

**Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse:** Any sexual intercourse (anal, oral or vaginal); however slight; with any object; by a man or a woman upon a man or a woman; without effective consent.

**Non-Consensual Sexual Contact:** Any sexual touching; however slight; with any object; by a man or a woman upon a man or woman; without effective consent.

**Mutual Incapacitated Sexual Intercourse:** Any sexual intercourse (anal, oral or vaginal); however slight; with any object; occurring between parties who are mutually incapacitated by the use of alcohol or other drugs.

**Sexual Exploitation:** Occurs when a student takes nonconsensual, unjust or abusive advantage of another; for his/her own advantage or benefit; or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited; and that behavior does not otherwise constitute rape, sexual assault, or sexual harassment. Examples of sexual exploitation include prostituting another student, nonconsensual video or audiotaping of sexual activity, going beyond the boundaries of consent (such as letting your

friends watch you have consensual sex), engaging in peeping tommery, knowingly transmitting STD or HIV to another student, and inducing incapacitation with the intent to rape or sexually assault another student.

Students charged with violations of the standards of conduct are subject to disciplinary action through the established disciplinary procedures of the College (see page 129). When violations are determined to have occurred, the College will impose disciplinary sanctions on students, consistent with local, state, and federal law. Depending upon the circumstances of the case, the sanctions available to the College include: warning, probation, suspension, up to expulsion, and referral for prosecution by public authorities. The College may also require satisfactory completion of an appropriate drug or alcohol rehabilitation program before reinstatement. Student employees participating in any federal grant or contract are subject to the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1989 and must notify the Provost within 5 days of any criminal drug conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace. The Provost is required to notify the funding agency within 10 days of receiving notification of the conviction.

**Sexual Harassment:** For claims of sexual harassment not involving sexual misconduct as defined above, see the [Sexual Harassment section](#) and the full Sexual Harassment Policy in the [Appendix](#).

### *Complaints About Grading*

Except in those cases where a grievance committee has found an assigned grade to have been the result of discrimination, nothing in the grievance procedure shall affect the responsibility and authority of individual members of the faculty to evaluate and grade the work of students in their courses. In the event of other allegations of improper or unfair grading, the Office of the Dean of the College may investigate and mediate, but final responsibility for grading rests with the instructor.

### *Computing Ethics and Responsibilities*

Williams College provides computing and networking resources to students, faculty, and staff for a wide variety of purposes. These resources, networked for the general benefit of the community, are continually updated and maintained to provide an academic environment that is consistent with the educational goals of the College. These resources are limited, and how each individual uses them may affect the work of other members of the community and beyond, as our campus network is connected (through the Internet) to other networks worldwide. It is important that everyone be aware of his or her individual obligations and what constitutes proper use and behavior.

A complete listing of current Williams College Computing Ethics and Responsibilities policies can be found at [oit.williams.edu/policies/ethics/](http://oit.williams.edu/policies/ethics/).

### *Disabilities*

The Williams community includes students with documented disabilities who may require accommodations. Although Williams operates no specially structured academic programs for individuals with disabilities, the College is committed to providing support services and accommodations to any students who need them.

Students with disabilities that affect their participation in academic life should contact Joyce Foster, Director of Academic Resources. Students are required to provide a recent professional evaluation which identifies the disability, describes the challenges faced due to this condition, and if possible, recommends modifications to be provided. Each term, the director works with the student and his or her professors to develop a plan of study that maintains the academic integrity of the individual courses, and the academic program as a whole, while attempting to meet assessed needs.

Students with disabilities that affect participation in other aspects of College life should contact the 504 compliance officer, Dean of the College Sarah Bolton, to discuss accommodations that may be appropriate. Disabilities for which accommodations may be provided include (but are not limited to) those that affect housing, dining, and mobility.

### *Disciplinary Proceedings*

The Office of the Dean of the College investigates alleged breaches of good conduct and of College laws and regulations. A student charged with such a breach will be informed by a dean of the alleged violation. Any student who is charged with an offense shall have a reasonable opportunity to make his or her defense in a respectful manner to a dean, or to the faculty-